

Transatlantic Slave Trade

Lesson Map: <http://esriaustralia.com.au/education/SpatialActivity21>

Engage

What is the Transatlantic Slave Trade?

- ☐ The Transatlantic Slave Trade refers to the forced migration of an estimated 15 million people to Western countries from the 16th to 19th century.
- ☐ This was a triangular trade between Africa, the Americas and Europe.
- ☐ This was one of the biggest crimes against humanity ever committed.

Explore

Where was the Transatlantic Slave Trade?

- ➔ Click on the Lesson Map URL above to open the map. In the 'details' pane, under 'content', tick the first checkbox to turn on the layer 'Classic Model of Triangular Slave Trade.' Turn off all other layers.
- ➔ Investigate by clicking on each arrow to see what was traded between these continents.
- ? Complete the table below by listed what was traded.

Africa to the Americas	The Americas to Europe	Europe to Africa
[Slaves]	[Sugar, tobacco and cotton]	[Textiles, rum and manufactured goods]

Explain

Where were the slaves sent to?

- ➔ Tick the checkbox to turn on the layer 'African Slave Ports.' Turn off the previous layer.
- ➔ Through the kidnapping, warfare and other violent methods, innocent Africans would be captured. They would be marched long distances to the Slave Coast to spend up to 30 days in the port holding facilities. These would usually be inhumane, windowless concrete cells.
- ? Where are most of the ports located in Africa? [On the West Coast. This was known as the Slave Coast]

Download student worksheet [here](#).

Time
15 minutes

Activity

Investigate the triangular Transatlantic Slave Trade.

Learning Outcome

Students will be able to:

- Investigate the major empires involved in the slave trade
- Identify the largest importers of slaves
- Consider the long term effect of the slave trade on Africa

ACARA Curriculum Link

Year 9 History: The making of the modern world

[ACDSEH018](#) | [ACDSEH085](#)

Teacher Feedback:

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- ➔ Each fort was run by a different trading group (represented by the flags). What country had the largest presences of forts? *[The Dutch, followed by the Portuguese and the English]*
- ➔ Turn on the layer 'Total number slaves'. Don't forget to take into consideration that in the New World, the Americas were mainly controlled by the English and the Portuguese.
- ? By clicking on each circle, investigate the extent of slavery in the New World. How many slaves were estimated to be trafficked to each region of the New World?

Country/Empires	Number of Slaves
USA (the British)	<i>[305326]</i>
South America (the Portugese)	<i>[5848266]</i>
France (the French)	<i>[1381404]</i>
Netherlands (the Dutch)	<i>[554336]</i>
Spain (the Spanish)	<i>[1061524]</i>
Denmark (the Baltic)	<i>[111040]</i>

- Despite misconceptions, north America was not the biggest importer of slaves. Their southern counterparts imported a large number of slaves.

Extend

What was the impact on these countries?

- Imagine if all the fit and strong males were stolen from your area, what impact this would have on the local economy? The impact of the Transatlantic Slave Trade is like no other.
- One of the key ways to measure a country's development is to measure their GDP (although this is just one: education, health, environment and political stability are also major indicators).
- ? Click on the layer 'World Bank – Gross Domestic Product'. Which continent has the lowest GDP? *[Africa]*
- ? How could the Transatlantic Slave Trade have any long-term effects on a country or continent? *[Students own answer]*

Next Steps:

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