



Endpoints for History

Year 6 – Maafa



This topic will focus on learning about Africa past and present, with a focus on Benin. We will trace the development of the slave trade and explore Britain's role in it. We will also learn about the causes and consequences of the European colonisation of Africa.

What I know and can explain

Abstract historical terms include colonisation, empire, enslavement, rebellion and resistance

Britain played a key role in the trading of slaves

Britain transported over three million enslaved people across the Atlantic, more than any other country

The triangular slave trade consisted of three journeys: ships from Europe sailed to Africa and exchanged European goods for enslaved people, the enslaved people were transported to the Caribbean and the Americas where they worked on plantations, then the ships took the goods from the plantations back to Europe where they were sold at a profit

Campaigns, rebellions, protests and petitions, held over a period of around 100 years, led to the eventual abolition of slavery

Emancipated people settled in the country where they had been enslaved or travelled to other countries, which formed the worldwide African diaspora

Throughout the 20th century, black people from territories in the British Empire fought in both World Wars, helped to rebuild Britain after the Second World War and staffed the NHS, even though they suffered racial discrimination

Useful Vocabulary

Abolish - To end or ban something

Chattel - A word for enslaved people, which meant that they were other people's property and could be treated in the same way as animal

Emancipation - To be set free from legal, social or political restrictions, such as slavery

Enslavement - To have one's freedom taken away and be forced to work for no money

Maafa - A Swahili word meaning 'great catastrophe' that is used to describe the 'African Holocaust' and the history and effects of the transatlantic slave trade

Plantation - A large farm on which a particular type of crop is grown, such as sugar, tobacco, rum, rice or cotton