Key Facts about The Transatlantic Slave Trade

When did it start?

The slave trade began in the 15th century, after the Portuguese started exploring the coast of West Africa. At first the number of enslaved Africans taken was small. In about 1650, however, trade grew.

Where did it start?

The slave trade began with Portugal when they started to kidnap Africans from the West Coast of Africa and take them back to Europe. Soon after America and Britain also started to enslave Africans.

What were the slaves used for?
70% of Slaves worked on plantations
growing tobacco, sugar, coffee and
cotton. They had to clear land, plant,
tend and harvest all crops.

How were the slaved treated?

The slaves suffered physical abuse. Treatment was usually harsher on large plantations.

When did it end?

In 1807 the slavery act was abolished in Britain. However, slavery continued in other countries until

Discrimination

Important People in the Slave Trade

Abolitionists: The abolitionist movement continued across decades. Many protested and fought to free slaves. These were key people in the abolition act.



Important People in later years

Martin Luther King Jr and Rosa Parks: They were important to equal rights in America. They fought against racism and prejudice.





Liverpool

By the 1690s, the English were shipping the most slaves from West Africa. At first the leading port for shipping slaves into Britain was London. In 1740 the leading port became Liverpool. This meant that lots of Africans were enslaved and shipped to Liverpool. Liverpool grew richer as a result.

In 1807 slave trade banned in Britain.

Today, Liverpool have a museum that teaches about the History of the Slave Trade.

Timeline

1619 Slave trade begins. 1650

Plantations grew, trade grew and so the amount of slaves needed grew

1672 Britain becomes one of the leading

slave nations.

1760
People started
protesting against
Slave trade.

1787
A Group called he abolitionists formed.

1807
The slavery act
was abolished in
Britain.

Slave Trade Triangle



Key Words

Captured	To take and control.
Imprisoned	To keep locked up or kept somewhere (can be a prison).
Abolition	The act of ending or stopping something.
Slavery	When people are owned by other people and control the things they do.
Suffering	To be in pain, hurt, or distressed.
Racism	A belief that some races are better than others.
Prejudice	Judging someone or having an idea about something before knowing about them.
Plantation	A large area that grows plants and crops.