



Y6 – Transatlantic Slave Trade

Key vocabulary

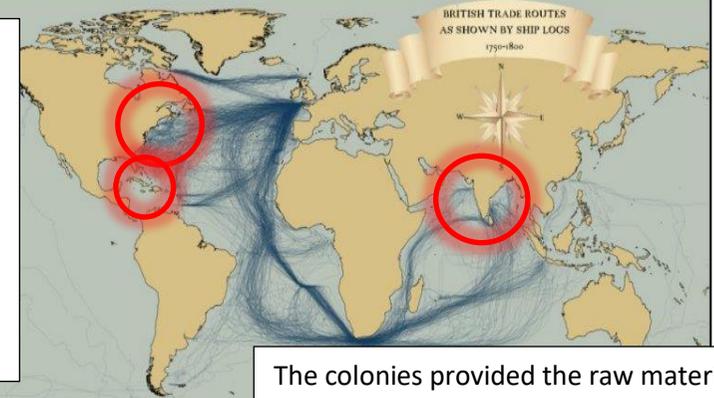
Slavery	Being forced to work without payment.
Slave Trade	Ownership, transporting and selling of slaves from Africa and Europe.
Raw materials	Basic materials from which other products are made e.g. cotton
Manufactured goods	Products made from raw materials e.g. guns made from metal
British Empire	Territories ruled over by Britain.
Transatlantic	Crossing the Atlantic Ocean.
Branding	Burning a mark into the skin to show ownership and stop slaves being able to escape.
Middle Passage	Route between Africa and America, the middle part of the triangle.
Auction	Where people bid money for an item, in this case slaves.

Important People

Sir John Hawkins	William Wilberforce
In 1562 he was given permission to begin transporting captured Africans and he is therefore known as the 'Father of the slave trade'	By the end of the 19 th Century, some people were starting to believe that slavery was wrong; one of the loudest voices against was William Wilberforce.

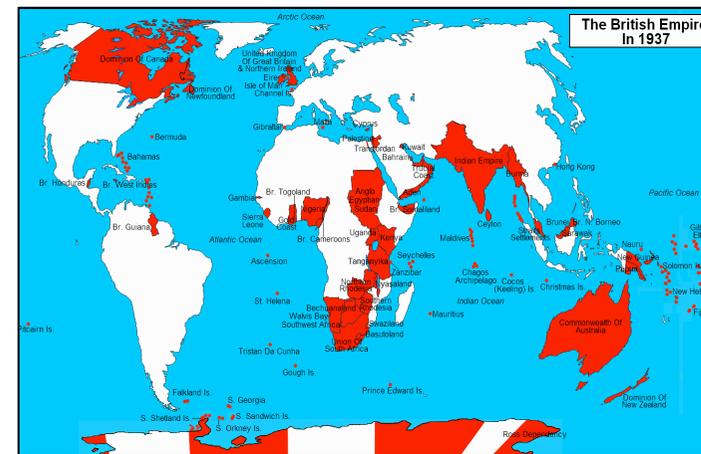
British Empire

By 1750, Britain held lands in North America, the West Indies and India.



These places were known as **colonies** and **together they made up the British Empire.**

The colonies provided the raw materials needed to make finished products in Britain (like cotton for materials, spices for food, tobacco to smoke) – and then the *finished goods* were sold back to the colonies – **AT A PROFIT!**

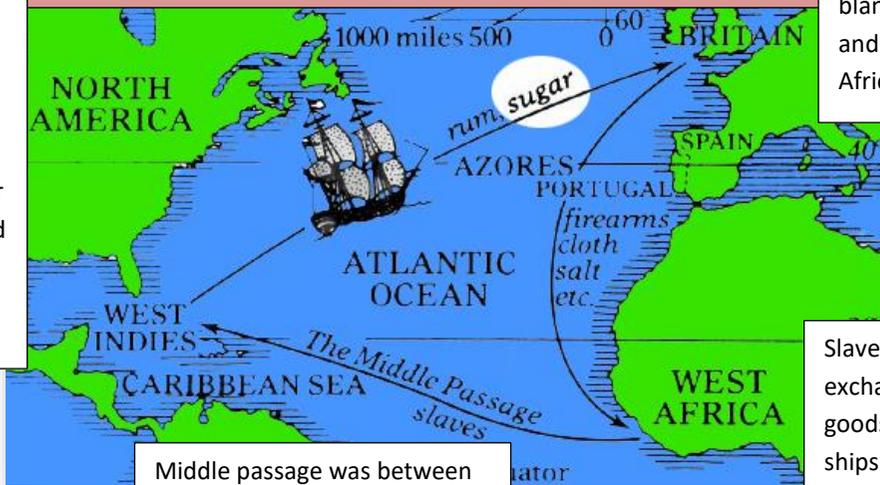


By the end of the 19th Century (the 1800s) Britain ruled more than 33.5 million square kilometres of territory and about 370 million people of different languages, cultures and religions!

Reasons 18th Century Britain wanted an Empire

For money!	For power!	For trade!
For protection!	For raw materials!	For selling goods!

Map of Atlantic Slave Trade



Middle passage was between Africa and America.

Materials e.g. cotton, tobacco were traded for slaves and sent back to Europe

Europe traded blankets, metal and guns with Africa for Slaves

Slaves were exchanged for goods and put on ships.

Did you know?

- Slavery had existed long before the Atlantic slave trade – slaves were first recorded as far back as 1760
- Approximately 12 million people were enslaved as a result of the Atlantic slave trade.
- The 'middle passage' of the journey took an average of 7 weeks to complete.
- Approximately 15% of slaves died whilst being transported to America.
- Life as a slave varied but generally lived in very bad conditions, most worked at least 18 hour days and worked in the hot sun, controlled by the owners using violence.
- Liverpool was a major slave port from the second half of the 18th Century. Britain exported goods such as cloth, guns, iron pots and gained sugar, cotton wool and tobacco from America.
- The **Underground Railroad** grew during the 1800s. 'Free' slaves, both those who escaped and those who were set free, joined together to help other slaves escape. It was a dangerous and illegal action, but it offered hope to those who had no other way of escape.

