

# **Transatlantic Enslavement**

School Session Overview October 2025

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Length of session: 3 ½ hours with a ½ hour lunch break

Learning objectives	Curriculum links	
<ul> <li>Learners will:</li> <li>Investigate what the Museum's collections reveal about the lives of enslaved people</li> <li>Understand that many enslaved people actively resisted and the many forms this took</li> <li>Be able to analyse the strengths and weaknesses of different sources</li> <li>Explore their own attitudes and responses to this history</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>KS3 History:</li> <li>Content—Ideas, political power, industry and empire: Britain 1745-1901</li> <li>Enquiry Skills—various, but especially 'understand how different types of historical sources are used rigorously to make historical claims'</li> </ul>	

#### Key words

enslaver, enslaved, resistance, archive, trade, traffic

#### Overview of the session

The session comprises 3 activities with an introduction and conclusion. These are:

# Looking at historical documents

Led by a member of the Library and Archive Team, learners will look closely at a range of different historical documents and work out what they can tell us about Transatlantic Enslavement. In groups, they will get a chance to analyse copies of a document.

## Object handling

In groups, learners will handle replica objects and consider what they can tell us about the lives enslaved people left behind in Africa, the realities of trading goods for people and the many types of resistance shown by enslaved people.

## **Gallery visit**

Learners will visit the Atlantic Worlds Gallery to look in detail at objects and artworks and what they tell us about the lives of enslaved people.

Suggested pre visit knowledge/activities	Suggested post visit activities
This session works best for learners if they have already talked about Transatlantic Enslavement in class. In particular the scale and scope and the Atlantic (Middle) passage, conditions for enslaved people and abolition.	We recommend you explore the legacies of Transatlantic Enslavement back in the classroom. We have produced a set of videos to support this. We also suggest looking at UCL's Legacies of British Slavery website and Slave Voyages—its timelapse
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#### Links to useful resources

Transatlantic Enslavement Enquiry Day Resource | Royal Museums Greenwich <u>Legacies of Transatlantic Slavery - Video Resource | Royal Museums Greenwich</u> Legacies of British Slavery

Slave Voyages

### Content guidance

This session deals sensitively with the horrors of Transatlantic Enslavement. We take time to discuss terminology and difficult language, and we also offer some scaffolding to support emotional wellbeing. However, due to the nature of Transatlantic Enslavement the day will include discussions of violence and trafficking along with racist ideas and terminology.