

History KS3

Year 9

Unit 15: Black peoples of America: from slavery to equality?

LHI project: Black History Achievement Project - www.lhi.org.uk/blackhistory

Olaudah Equiano was a slave who bought his own freedom and became an author and abolitionist. His autobiography was published in 1789. The Black History Achievement Project aims to raise and maintain awareness of African-Caribbean history and culture.

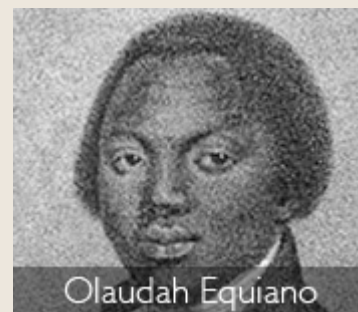
Learning objectives:

To find out about the experiences of Black Africans sold into slavery, to investigate the arguments for and against the slave trade, and to discuss sources of evidence.

Book review

Using the [article](#) about Olaudah Equiano, ask pupils to write a review of Equiano's book for the *Morning Chronicle* of 1789.

Pupils should describe what's in the book and why people should read it. Could the book persuade the general public that slavery should be abolished? Less able students could draw a cover for Equiano's book illustrating his different experiences.



Who said what?

Before the lesson collect quotes about the slave trade reflecting a variety of opinions of those for and against slavery. Write each quote on a card but don't say where it comes from. Ask the pupils to work in pairs, and give each a card.

The children must decide who is being quoted, eg a former slave, politician, or slave owner. As a class discuss which clues in each quote might reveal their source or bias. At the end of the lesson disclose the source of each quote.



Evidence of a slave's life

Ask pupils to write down five important events in Equiano's life (you could use the article as a source).

Pupils must then list other sources of evidence that would help them to discover more about Equiano. These could include his autobiography, slave auction and census records as well as secondary accounts.

Finally the children must decide which of these are primary and which secondary sources of evidence.

For more information about this and other LHI projects visit www.lhi.org.uk