

Knowledge Organisers

Year 5 : The Abolition of Slavery and The American War of Independence

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Native American	a person born in America
Colonist	a settler in or inhabitant of a colony
Taxation	the levying of tax
Representation	The action of speaking or acting on behalf of someone or the state of being so represented. Debt - a sum of money that is owed or due
Boston tea party	The Boston Tea Party was a political protest by the Sons of Liberty
Massacre	an indiscriminate and brutal slaughter of many people
Resistance	the refusal to accept or comply with something

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Independence	the fact or state of being independent
Slavery	the state of being a slave
Atlantic passage	Africans were packed onto ships
Trade	the action of buying and selling goods and services
Branding	mark with a branding iron
Plantation	an estate on which crops such as coffee, sugar, and tobacco are grown
Barracoon	an enclosure in which black slaves were confined for a limited period

Until 1776, Britain owned 13 Colonies on the East Coast of America, which were governed by the King and Parliament in London.

The British colonies were home to two million inhabitants, many involved in farming tobacco and cotton.

States, towns and cities on the East Coast of America still have names which demonstrate their British origin, such as Virginia, Georgia, Carolina, Maryland, New York, Jamestown, Charlestown, Williamsburg, Pennsylvania.

British settlers in American Colonies were heavily taxed by the British government, but unable to vote and elect Members of Parliament.

Protests in the colonies led to the Boston Massacre, and the Boston Tea Party.

George III refused to listen to the demands of the American Colonists, and as a result, they declared independence from Great Britain on 4th July 1776.

The Declaration of Independence was written by a Virginia lawyer called Thomas Jefferson, and is often quoted to this day.

The Declaration of Independence led to an eight year war between the colonists and the British army, which America eventually won.

Once they arrived in the Americas, slaves would be bought at auction, braded by their owner, and sent to work on a plantation.

The treatment of slaves was extremely cruel. They would be split from their families, given no holiday, whipped for disobedience, and on average only lived for eight years.

The Atlantic Slave Trade was established to provide slave labour to work on plantations in the Americas.

Some slaves managed to save money earned through extra work, and buy their freedom from their owner, but this was very rare

