Slavery: The Middle Passage

- West Africans were captured and sent to the Americas beginning in the 1600s.
- The voyage across the Atlantic Ocean was called the Middle Passage.
- Ship owners used every available space for their human cargo to maximize profits.

Hi-lite:
What was the slave voyage across the Atlantic called?
Slavery: The Triangular Trade

- The Triangular Trade transported goods to and from Africa to the Americas to Europe.
- Slaves moved as a part of the continental trade system.

What continents were involved in the Triangular Trade?
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[Map showing routes of the Triangular Trade]
The Slave Market

• Once slaves arrived in the USA they were sold in markets in the cities.

• Slave buyers examined slaves to see how healthy they were.
Cotton Plantations

- Cotton was the most important cash crop in the South.
- Large plantations could have hundreds of slaves working their fields.
- The invention of the cotton gin increased the need for slaves in the south.

Hi-lite:
What invention increased the need for slaves?
Controlling Slaves

- Slaves were often punished by whipping.
- Slaves were made to feel dependent on their masters for everything.
- Slave life was harsh.
The Underground Railroad

- Many slaves attempted to run away to the north and freedom.
- A series of safe houses going north helped to hide slaves.
- The secret houses were on the underground railroad
- People who helped slaves escape on the Underground Railroad were called conductors
- Harriet Tubman was a famous and brave conductor.

Hi-lite:
What was the Underground Railroad?