Social Studies

Topic: *Slavery*

Vocabulary Words

Slaves - People who are denied their personal rights and freedom.

Middle Passage - The voyage of enslaved Africans across the Atlantic Ocean from West Africa to America.

Slave Trade -The business of procuring, transporting and selling black Africans as slaves from the 16th to 19th centuries.

In The Bahamas about 85% of the population's ancestors were brought to The Bahamas as slaves across the Atlantic Ocean from Western or Central Africa. From the 16th to 19th centuries, free Africans were enslaved by Europeans and shipped to the New World as part of the Atlantic **slave trade**.

The Europeans took the strong men, the beautiful women and children. They tied the Africans together with chains and herded off like animals. The Africans did not go meekly. Many Africans resisted. Some chose death rather than being captured.

Ships departed Europe for African markets with manufactured goods, which were traded for purchased or kidnapped Africans, who were transported across the Atlantic as **slaves**. The slaves were then sold or traded for raw materials, which would be transported back to Europe to complete the voyage. Slaves in The Bahamas came via different routes. Some came direct from Africa enduring the **middle passage**. The middle passage was a perilous part of the voyage. Some slaves also came with the Loyalists from America. Freed slaves from America came and settled in The Bahamas, while others arrived here by accident after being shipwrecked. Slaves brought new ethnic groups and traditions to The Bahamas.

When the Africans arrived in Nassau, they were taken to Vendue House where they were put up for sale. In The Bahamas, they grew cotton, which was shipped to other countries. They also grew crops for them to eat. It was a very hard life for the slaves.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Later, people in other parts of the world heard about the "Middle Passage" and tried to stop the slave trade. They also called for **emancipation,** which means freedom for enslaved people. In 1804, the trade in African slaves across the Atlantic was forbidden. But slaves in The Bahamas were not yet free.

Even after the English stopped their ships carrying enslaved people, other countries continued the trade. The British navy captured some of these slave ships and set the Africans free. Many of these people were brought to The Bahamas. They settled in Adelaide and Carmichael in New Providence, on Grand Bahama and on Andros.

On 1st August 1834, a new law called the Emancipation Act came into effect. This meant that every slave in The Bahamas was now free.

Instructions: Use the words from the box to complete the sentences below. (10 points)

forbidden	captured	Carmichael	Nassau Village	Emancipation
slaves	slave trade	ancestors	middle passage	Vendue House
		free	chained	

1. In The Bahamas, about 85% of the population's _____were brought to The Bahamas as slaves.
2. _____ are people who were denied their rights and freedom.
3. The voyage of enslaved Africans across the Atlantic Ocean from West Africa to America was known as the _____.
4. The business of procuring, transporting and selling black Africans as slaves from the 16th to 19th centuries was known as the _____.
5. When the Africans arrived in Nassau, they were taken to _____ where they were put up for sale.
6. In 1804, the trade in African slaves across the Atlantic was _____.
7. The British navy _____ some of these slave ships and set the Africans free.
8. They settled in Adelaide and _____ in New Providence, on Grand Bahama and on Andros.
9. On 1st August 1834, a new law called the _____ Act came into effect. This meant that every slave in The Bahamas was now _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS