Slavery in the Americas

More than 11 million Africans were sold into slavery in the Americas. Most were put to work on plantations in the West Indies and Brazil.

★ In North America, the Southern Colonies copied the plantation system, which relied on slave labor.

★ By 1760 slaves were held in all 13 colonies, but slavery remained concentrated on plantations and in large cities.

★ Although far outnumbered by slaves, many people of African descent gained their freedom and continued to live in the colonies.

**Triangles of Trade 1505-1770**
- Ships sailed to Africa or the West Indies to trade manufactured goods for enslaved Africans. Next the slaves were taken to ports near plantations. Then ships completed their routes by carrying plantation crops to their home ports.

**Sugar and Slavery 1505-1763**
- Areas of Sugar Cultivation
  - British
  - French
  - Spanish
  - Dutch
  - Danish
- CARIB Native peoples
- 1505 First sugar plantations in West Indies are established.
- 1522 First slave revolt in the New World.
- 1550 Most Caribbean Indians are gone—killed by disease and brutal slave labor.
Colonization and Settlement 1585-1763

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Rice was a familiar crop to many of the African farmers brought directly to Southern slave markets. Most slaves in Northern colonies arrived by way of the West Indies.

Slavery in the British Colonies 1750

Where Slaves Worked
- Household
- Workshop
- Rice plantation
- Tobacco plantation
- Indigo plantation
- Slave trade route

Slave ships carried nearly 13 million people across the Atlantic Ocean. One in eight died during the terrible journey.

Destinations of Atlantic Slave Trade
- Slave trade mid-1400s to mid-1800s

Slave Trade at Charles Town
The demand for slave labor in the 13 colonies grew with the demand for the plantation crops of rice, indigo, and tobacco.