

Wilberforce Support Materials

LESSON PLAN:

What is Slavery?

Context: Pre-visit activity

Suggested Visit Link: Transatlantic Slave Trade

Timing: 1 Hour

Learning Objectives:

- To define freedom
- to investigate the question 'What does it mean to be free?'

Resources:

'What is Slavery?' resource cards.

Large paper for brainstorming and note taking.

Acknowledgements: This lesson plan and the resource cards have been designed around the 'Freedom: introductory activity' from the National Maritime Museum's Freedom resource pack.

a) Introduction

Discuss the learning objectives with your pupils.

b) What does it mean to be Free?

- Ask your pupils to brainstorm their idea of rights. These can be at school, at home, in their communities etc.
- Can they identify three which are the most important?
- Introduce 'freedom' if it didn't already come and ask them to a) define freedom and b) consider why freedom is important.

c) What does slavery mean?

Ask your pupils to brainstorm 'slavery'

Compare to the following definition:

Slavery: the state of being a slave, person owned and kept as property; a person who is kept submissive under domination.

Allow your pupils time to discuss the question: how would it feel to lose your freedom?

d) Ask your students to use the resource cards 'different types of slavery' to explore and complete the activity sheet Different Types of Slavery.

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Plenary

Review the activity. Discuss the question 'how would you feel if your freedom was taken away from you?'.

EXTENSION/DEVELOPMENT

After a visit to Wilberforce House, the activity 'What Rights do You Have?' follows up the theme of rights by asking pupils to explore how their rights are protected by the United Nations.