

Globe Lesson 7 - The Slave Trade - Grade 4-5

Skills used Latitude & Longitude
Using scale to measure distance
Using directions
Tracing routes on maps
Solving problems

Vocabulary immigrants. Triangular trade route

Materials Needed Globe in Horizon Ring Mounting

Lesson

Not everyone who came to the English colonies came by choice. Africans were forcibly taken to the Americas from their African homelands during the slave trade. Like all *immigrants* that came to America, Africans brought with them their culture and language. The following globe activity shows how well the African culture has endured in a particular part of the United States.

On your globe, find and circle the country of Sierra Leone in western Africa. Sierra Leone's location is 8°N/12°W. Next, place a small "X" on the east coast of Georgia at 31°N/81°W. Your X should be on the coast about half way between Jacksonville, FL and the Georgia/South Carolina border. Use the globe mounting ring as a straight edge to draw a line connecting these two locations.

Near the Georgia location that you marked on your globe, are some coastal islands called the Barrier Islands. In the 1700s African slaves were brought to these islands to work on large rice plantations. People who are descendants of these slaves still live there today. When the recording of a song that had been passed down in one of these families for generations was recently played in a remote village in Sierra Leone, the villagers recognized it and sang along with the recording. They could not believe that the song had been recorded in the United States. The song is thought to be over 2,000 years old, but it is still being sung in the United States today.

Look again at the line that you drew between Sierra Leone and Georgia. This line is close to the sea routes that many slave ships followed from Africa to the colonies. This route made up one segment of the **triangular trade route** and was often referred to as the Middle Passage. What is the distance of this route? (1.) _____ If a ship averaged about 70 miles per day over the entire route of a Middle Passage, how long would it take to make such a voyage? (2.) _____