

## Ten Principles for Teaching About Slavery in a Context

1. Ensure that every child in your class can maintain their dignity and self-esteem during the teaching of this topic. This includes the developmental readiness of students to understand and critique information according to their age.
2. Ensure that pupils understand about great African civilizations. Never start with African people as slaves.
3. Include the stories of African heritage leaders of rebellion and opposition in the Caribbean.
4. Include the stories of freed African heritage slaves and servants who took part in the fight for abolition.
5. Ensure that the resources you use do not compound a deficit model.
6. Include the stories of white abolitionists as role models in the fight against injustice and racism, but do not imply that only white people were responsible for the abolition.
7. Do not approach the topic from a deficit model of 'poor, helpless black people in Africa and the Caribbean.'
8. Place the topic in a context of human rights.
9. Teach pupils the complex nature of cruelty in the Atlantic slave trade and plantation life.
10. Take care of your own professional development beforehand; this is a sensitive issue.