

Lesson 4: Slavery in the Colonies

Vocabulary

Stono Rebellion event in 1739 in which enslaved people fought with slave owners

Slavery, North and South

Most slaves in the North worked in towns and cities. They worked in stores, inns, and in people's homes. Slaves in the North could not travel without permission. Yet these slaves had more chances to improve their lives than slaves in the South. They could earn money by working at night. They could also buy their freedom.

Slavery in the South

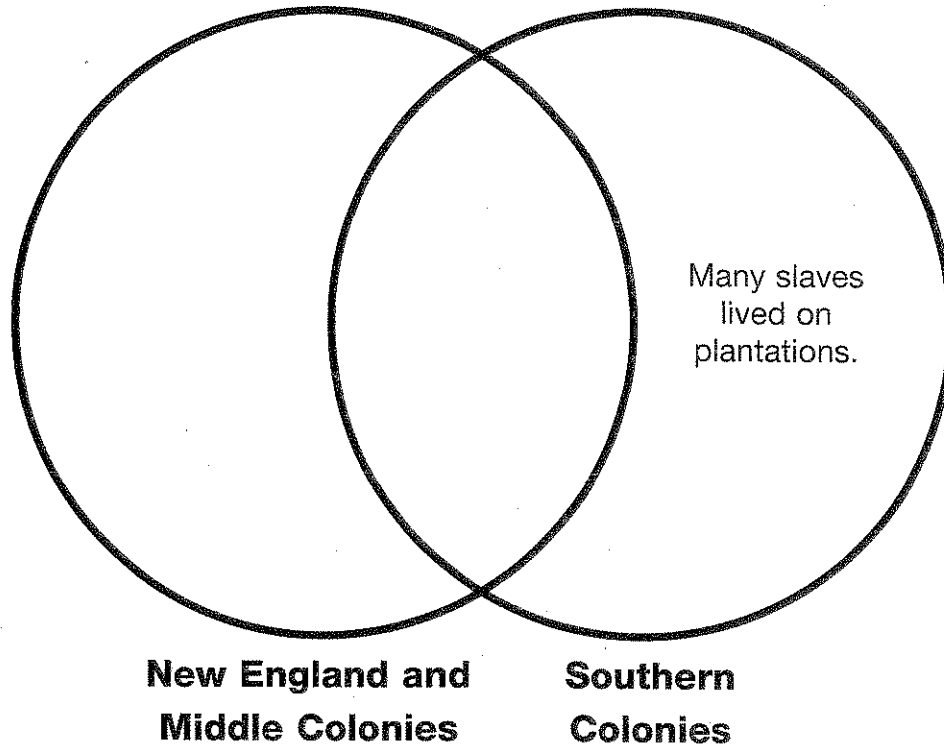
In the 1700s the number of slaves in the Southern Colonies grew quickly. This region had more slaves there than in other parts of the colonies. Most slaves in the Southern Colonies worked on plantations. Most enslaved people were taken from West Africa. They brought many skills to the colonies. Some could grow rice. Others were expert carpenters, blacksmiths, or tailors. Slaves had to work very long hours. Their families were often split apart. Many slaves kept African culture alive on the plantations. Family members got together whenever they could. They made musical instruments like those in Africa.

Resisting Slavery

Slaves found many ways to show that they hated slavery. Many tried to escape. Some slaves attacked slave owners. In the **Stono Rebellion**, slaves fought against slave owners in South Carolina in 1739. About 25 white colonists were killed. The slaves were then captured and killed. Olaudah Equiano became a slave when he was a child. He wrote a book in 1789 about how slavery was wrong. Of slavery Equiano said, "Surely this . . . violates [breaks] that first natural right of mankind, equality and independency."

Lesson 4: Review

1. **Compare and Contrast** Complete the diagram comparing and contrasting slavery in the different regions of the colonies.



2. In which region of the 13 Colonies did slavery expand most rapidly during the 1700s?

3. What are some skills that enslaved people brought to Southern plantations?

4. How were enslaved Africans able to keep their traditions alive on plantations?

5. **Critical Thinking: Analyze Primary Sources** Based on the quote by Olaudah Equiano on page 227, how would you describe his opinion of slavery?
