

Middle Passage and Enslavement Resources for Secondary Teachers

Secondary Print:

- Aptheker, Herbert. *American Negro Slave Revolts*. New York: International Publishing Company, 1983. Aptheker traces the history of slave revolts during the period of enslavement.
- Berlin, Ira and Barbara J. Fields, eds., and Steven F. Miller. *Free at Last: A Documentary History of Slavery, Freedom, and the Civil War*. New York: New Press, 1993. A collection of letters, personal testimony, transcripts, and various official records documents the effects of Emancipation on blacks and whites throughout the Union.
- Boles, John. *Black Southerners, 1619-1869*. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 1983. An exploration of the lives of African Americans during this early period of the country's history.
- Curtin, Phillip D. *The Atlantic Slave Trade: A Census*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1969. An examination of the slave trade in terms of numbers involved, sources of supply, and distribution in the New World.
- Douglass, Fredrick. *My Bondage and My Freedom (1817-1895)*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1988. One set of memoirs of the eloquent escaped slave, who in the nineteenth century shaped the abolitionist movement and became the most influential African-American of his era.
- DuBois, W.E.B. *Suppression of the African Slave Trade to the United States 1638-1870*. New York: Cornerhouse Pub., 1970. The significance of trade and the growth of capitalistic enterprise.
- Fox, Paula. *Slave Dancer*. New York: Dell, 1973. Young Jessie, a fife player, is kidnapped from the New Orleans waterfront in 1840 and put on board a ship, where he encounters the realities of the Middle Passage.
- Frey, Sylvia. *Water from the Rock: Black Resistance in a Revolutionary Age*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1993. Frey argues that the black liberation movement had a major impact on how the Revolution played out in the South. Although it failed during the Revolution, it successfully continued in the postwar period as a struggle for cultural power.
- Koger, Larry. *Black Slaveowners: Free Black Slavemasters in South Carolina*. Jefferson, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 1995. The subject is unique: free black slave masters in South Carolina from 1790-1860 are revealed in a study which tells how African Americans played slave master roles in South Carolina.
- Lester, Julius. *Long Journey Home: Stories from Black History*. New York: Dial Press, 1968. Six true short stories about slaves and slavery.
- _____. *To Be a Slave*. New York: Dial Books, 1998. The humiliation and ostracism of slavery is described in vivid and often painful detail by black men and women who were once slaves themselves.

- Nell, William C. *The Colored Patriots of the American Revolution*. New York: Ayer Press, 1968. The author traces the involvement of African Americans during fighting in the Revolutionary period.
- Northrup, Solomon, Sue Eakin, and Joseph Logsdon, ed. *Twelve Years a Slave*. Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1968. The book presents a true story of a freeman, Northrup, who was for 12 years a slave. Copious footnotes provide more information on people and plantations in Louisiana during the Civil War.
- Paulsen, Gary. *Nightjohn*. Illus. Jerry Pinkney. New York: Delacorte, 1993. This carefully researched story set in the 1850's brings to light a grim part of our nation's history through the personal history of two unforgettable characters.
- _____. *Sarny*. Illus. Jerry Pinkney. New York: Bantam, 1997. The sequel to *Nightjohn* brings a slave girl to freedom and a new life after the Civil War. Sarny's story spans 94 years.
- Quarles, Benjamin, and Thad W. Tate. *The Negro in the American Revolution*. Intro. Gary B. Nash. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996. Originally published in 1961, this classic work remains the most comprehensive history of the many and important roles played by African Americans during the American Revolution.
- Rinaldi, Ann. *Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons*. San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace, 1996. This biography of the first African American published poet shows Wheatley's efforts to define self and fight for freedom.
- Sterne, Emma Gelders. *The Long Black Schooner: The Voyage of the Amistad*. Chicago: Follett, 1968. The Amistad was a ship pirated by its slave passengers in 1839.
- Stowe, Harriet Beecher. *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1923. Harriet Beecher Stowe was appalled by slavery, and she took one of the few options open to nineteenth century women who wanted to affect public opinion: she wrote a novel, a huge, enthralling narrative that claimed the heart, soul, and politics of pre-Civil War Americans.

Secondary Media:

- *Africans in America: America's Journey through Slavery*. Four 90-minute videos. Boston: WGBH for Public Broadcasting System, 1998. Filmed on location across twelve states and three continents, *Africans in America* is the first documentary series to examine fully the history of slavery in America using a combination of vivid first-person narratives, compelling interviews with historians and descendants, rich music, and cutting-edge scholarship. From the nation's early days as an English settlement to the start of the Civil War, each episode focuses on a different chapter in the historic struggle to define freedom.
- *A History of Slavery in America*. 30 minute video. Bala Cynwyd, PA: Schlessinger Video, 1994. This is part of the Black Americans of Achievement video collection and features interviews with leading scholars in African American studies.

- *Black Sugar: Slavery from an African Perspective*. 26 minute video. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University, 1989. An old man in West Africa tells his grandson how the Africans were seized from their daily lives.
- *Blind Tom: The Story of Thomas Bethune*. 30 minutes video. Twindale, CA: Barr Films, 1987. The true story of a slave during the Civil War who was discovered to be a music prodigy. It received various awards.
- *Charlotte Forten's Mission*. 113 minute video. Botsford CT: Filmic Archives, 1996. This is the story of a young black woman who led 8,000 slaves in their transition from slavery to freedom.
- *Cinque: Freedom Fighter*. 50 minute video. Scottsdale, AZ: Teacher's Video, 1999. The documentary about Cinque, leader of the 1839 Amistad uprising, describes his life and subsequent trial.
- *Digging for Slaves*. 50 minute video. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities and Sciences, 1990. This provides details of excavations of 18th century slave quarters in the south.
- *Middle Passage*. Simulation. El Cajon, CA: Interact, 1998. Students reenact the voyage of Africans enslaved and transported across the Atlantic during this period in history.
- *Nightjohn*. 96 minute videodisc. Chatsworth, CA: Image Entertainment, 1997. In this life on an 1830's cotton plantation, a proud slave teaches 12-year-old Sarny how to read.
- *Roots of Resistance: A Story of the Underground Railroad*. 60 minute video. Scottsdale, AZ: Teacher's Video, 1999. This program offers a historically accurate and compelling account of turbulent issues and events in this country prior to the Civil War. Available through the Arkansas Humanities Resource Center.
- *Roots: The Triumph of an American Family*. 6 two hour videos. New York: ABC-TV, nd. The struggle of black Americans for freedom and dignity is illustrated through the telling of one family's odyssey. Accompanying paperback available.
- *The Sellin' of Jamie Thomas: Parts I and II*. 24 minute video each. Chicago, IL: Empak Publishing, nd. In a slave auction, Jamie, his mother, and father are purchased by different masters. Jamie is comforted by his father's promise to rescue him.
- *Slave Ship*. 50 minute video. Bethesda, MD: Discovery Channel, 1997. The true story of the Amistad mutiny depicts a revolt on a slave ship.
- *Slavery: America's Peculiar Institution*. Video. No time. Culver City, GA: Zenger Productions, 1968. The two part video traces the history of slavery from the arrival of Africans through Emancipation.
- *Slavery's Buried Past*. 60 minute video. Botsford, CT: Filmic Archives, 1996. While digging a foundation for a skyscraper, New York City construction workers unearthed a centuries-old slave graveyard.
- *Slavery in the United States*. Documents portfolio. New York: Golden Owl, nd. Students are introduced to issues that dominated 18th and 19th century debates about slavery in this collection of reproductions of authentic documents.
- *Trading in Africans*. 60 minute video. Princeton, NJ: Films for the Humanities, 1990. The video depicts the Portuguese and Dutch intrusion into West Africa and consequently the slave trade during the 15th century.

