Colonization Vocabulary

**Colonization** was a bi-product of the Age of Exploration. Once European nations realized the wealth of newly explored territories, it became the mission of many European nations to claim the land as their own. The western coast of Africa and the southern tip of Africa were two of the first areas explored and colonized.

**Indigenous:** The native populations of a country are called indigenous people.

**Exploitation**: European nations took advantage of indigenous cultures for their labor and natural resources.

**Natural Resources**: Natural resources are items that come from nature. They are not manmade.

**Transatlantic Slave Trade**: The Transatlantic Slave Trade brought thousands of native Africans to North America to work as indentured servants on large farms.

**Triangular Trade Route**: A massive trading system was set up between Europe, Africa and North America. Europe provided luxury items, guns and alcohol to North America and Africa. Africa provided slaves to the Americas, and North America sent crops and furs to Europe; creating the Triangular Trade Routes.

**Middle Passage**: During the Transatlantic Slave Trade, ships had to cross the Atlantic Ocean. This journey was called the Middle Passage. Africans were crammed into the bottom hulls on a boat with little ventilation, sanitation or proper nutrition. Many Africans died before even making it to North America.

**Global:**the connections between countries, worldwide

**Human Rights**: everyone is legally and morally entitled to as a part of one’s existence.

**Government:** a system of rules or laws with leadership that a society follows.