

Modern Slavery

Sadly, slavery did not end with Abolition in the 19th century. In countries all around the world, people are still being harmed by slavery today.

Someone is in slavery if they are:

- Threatened and forced to work.
- Owned or controlled by someone who claims to be their 'employer'.
- Not treated with respect for human rights, or are bought and sold as 'property'.
- Restricted from living and moving freely.

Two examples of modern slavery are:

Forced Labour

Forced labour is any type of work that people are made to do against their will, and if they refuse they are punished. It is the most common element of modern slavery, and is most often found in industries like agriculture, construction, manufacturing and domestic work.

Debt Bondage

In countries where there is a lot of poverty, the need to survive forces people to work in exchange for a loan. Debt bondage is when someone is forced to work to pay off a debt. They are tricked into working, get little or no pay and all of the money they earn goes to pay off their loan. The value of their work will always be worth more than the original amount of money that they borrowed.

Modern slavery in supply chains

40 million people around the world are victims of modern slavery today. Many products that we can buy in shops are made by, or include ingredients grown, harvested or mined by, people affected by slavery.

There are many different stages involving making the finished products that we buy in shops. This makes it difficult to be sure a product has not been made using slavery. For example, coffee has to be planted, harvested, processed, dried, sorted, exported, roasted and packaged before it ends up on shop shelves. At any of these stages it could become a product of modern slave labour, and it is extremely hard to be sure there has been no slave labour involved at all.

You are going to look at three products that are affected by modern slavery and then, using the art work by South Atlantic Souvenirs and Trouble as inspiration, design your own packaging and card for products. You can then use these designs to discuss the importance of putting a stop to modern slavery.