

# RUSSIAN ENSLAVEMENT OF SUGPIAT ON KODIAK

## LESSON PLAN FOR "THE ALASKA MYTH" PODCAST, EPISODE 2

Grade Level: adapt for  
9th - 12th grades

Subject: Alaska Studies  
/ Social Studies

Topic: Indigenous  
enslavement

### Objectives and Goals

Students:

- Understand that Russian enslavement of Sugpiat was ubiquitous, traumatic, & has present day impacts
- Know that enslavement of Indigenous people was wide-spread throughout the Americas
- Grasp the details of how Russian enslavement of Sugpiat functioned on Kodiak

### Materials

[The Alaska Myth Podcast, episode 2, "Kodiak Remembers"](#)

["Forgotten Slavery of Our Ancestors" film \(12 minutes\)](#)

[Coffee & Quaq podcast "Enslavement of the Sugpiat"](#)

### Assessment

Collect students notes to assess for understanding.

Give students the following questions at the end of class to write their answers. Give them the option to speak the answers as a voice memo:

- What three things did you learn about Russian enslavement of Sugpiat?
- Why do you think this history of Indigenous enslavement isn't commonly taught or talked about?
- What three things did you learn about the enslavement of Indigenous people throughout what is now known as North, Central & South America?

Activities (can be spread over several classes)

*Trigger warning: Be sensitive to your students and make sure to prepare them as a group & individually if needed for the violent history shared in this lesson.*

Opener: Ask students if anyone knows that Indigenous people were enslaved throughout what is now known as the Americas prior to and at the same time as the trans-Atlantic slave trade. If a student is familiar with this, have them share their knowledge.

Listen to "Kodiak Remembers" 7:13 - 14:16 (*if you can listen to more or have students listen beforehand, that's even better*). Have students take notes about all of the facts they hear. Ask students to share and write everything they share on the board.

Watch "Forgotten Slavery of Our Ancestors" & have students take notes.

In groups of ~3, have students discuss the following questions: 1) What did you learn about Russian enslavement of Sugpiat on Kodiak & 2) What is similar about Indigenous enslavement on Kodiak & in the rest of the Americas, & what is different?

One student from each group shares a reflection with the entire class.

Have students brainstorm the key moments in Russian enslavement of Sugpiat, and make a chronology of key events on the board.

Give students "assessment" questions to write about.

Close-out: Ask students to share about how they think / feel after this lesson. This is a good chance to make sure students are okay as they process this possibly new information.

# STUDENT NOTES

## RUSSIAN ENSLAVEMENT OF SUGPIAT ON KODIAK LESSON

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Write down the facts / events you hear about in the "Kodiak Remembers" podcast (9:15 - 15:37)

"Forgotten Slavery of Our Ancestors" film (write down 3 things that strike you):

Take notes from your small group discussion about: 1) What did you learn about Russian enslavement of Sugpiat on Kodiak & 2) What is similar about Indigenous enslavement on Kodiak & in the rest of the Americas, & what is different?

Write your response to the following:

- What three things did you learn about Russian enslavement of Sugpiat?
- Why do you think this history of Indigenous enslavement isn't commonly taught or talked about?
- What three things did you learn about the enslavement of Indigenous people throughout what is now known as North, Central & South America?