

# Battle Little Bighorn

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# WHY IS THE BATTLE OF LITTLE BIGHORN IMPORTANT? WHAT HAPPENED?



# Who was in the battle?

- Lakota Sioux and Cheyenne warriors
  - Leader sitting bull
  - crazy horse



- U.S army
  - George Armstrong Custer
  - Fredrick Benteen
  - Marcus Reno



# HOW DID IT START?

- U.S army wanted more land
  - cleared The Native Americans from the plains
  - located them in reservations
- Later on gold as found in the rocky mountains in montana
  - more reason to battle

# Before the battle: 1875

- Sitting Bull and his men won two victories over the United States
  - U.S army ignored treaty provisions and invaded the black hills
    - This caused the sioux and the cheyenne to abandon their reservation and join sitting bull and crazy horse (early 1875)
    - U.S Army ordered them to come back to their reservation or they will risk getting attacked

# The Beginning

- The US army spotted an indian campment around 15 miles away
  - U.S Army was seperated into 3 columns
- custer decided to fight without any back up
  - Berteen nor reno were aware
- custer was outnumbered
- Indians had around 1500 warriors on when custer only had 247 men
- Custers mistake was that he decided to take on the indians instead of waiting for his fellow company's

# The End

- US army was defeated in about 2 hours
- Native Americans were not allowed to reveal in the victory for long
- the massacre of the indians confirmed the image of the indians in their minds
- government became more determined to destroy/tame hostile indians
- within 5-6 years almost all the sioux & cheyenne would be confined to reservations

# Why is the battle important?

- The first battle Native Americans won against the U.S. Army and their greatest victory
- First time Custer was defeated
- Army's worst defeat
- It is the only battle where men are buried exactly where their bodies were after the battle.

