

MAIN IDEA: Native American life changed dramatically as a result of westward expansion

How did Westward Expansion impact Native Americans?

- 1. Forced to move to reservations and Government breaks treaties**
- 2. Lifestyle changes because of forced assimilation**
- 3. Killing the buffalo**

1. Forced to move to reservations

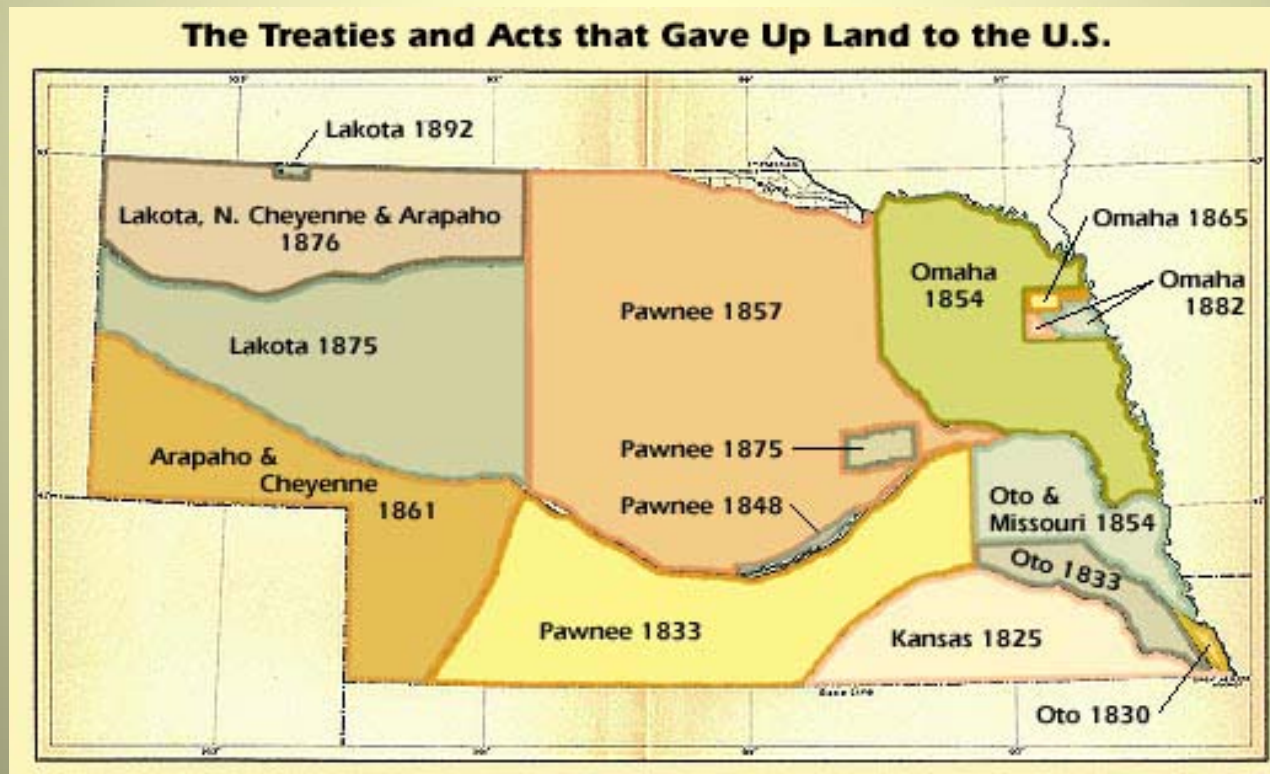
- Settlers felt justified in taking Native Americans land because they felt they were making the land more **productive**.

- Treaties forced millions of Native Americans onto **reservations**
- Reservation: small piece of **government land** set aside for Native Americans



Government Breaks Treaties

- After tribes made treaties that relocated them to reservations, the US government and settlers frequently broke these treaties and took even more land from Native Americans



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2. Killing of the Buffalo

- Deliberate **reduction of buffalo** herds to force them to move off their hunting grounds to **reservations**.



3. Forced Assimilation

Assimilation: to blend into another culture, to accept that culture as one's own.

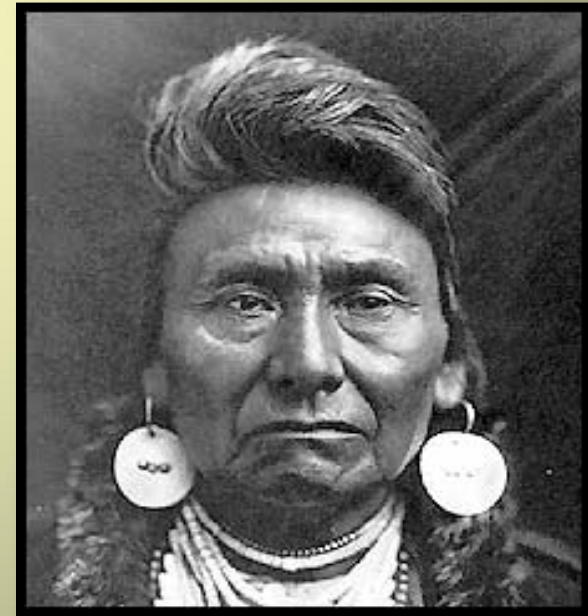
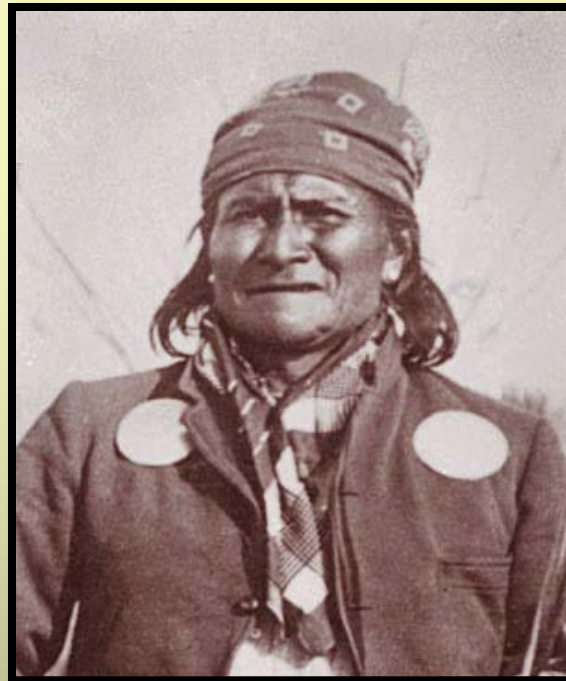
- Efforts to get Native Americans to become settled farmers – settlers wanted the land to be used more “productively”.
- Dawes Act – Reservation land was divided into 160 acre plots and given to individual families to farm for a profit.
- Missionaries attempted to convert Native Americans to Christianity.
- Indian Boarding Schools – Children were sent to schools to focus on skills such as carpentry and housekeeping.
- Native Americans were not considered citizens until 1924

Assimilation

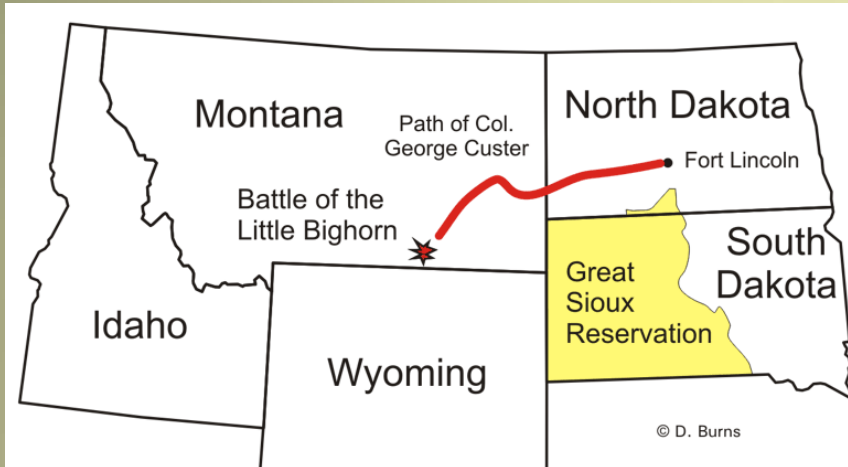


How did Native Americans respond to Westward Settlement?

- American Indians previously occupied the west and viewed settlers as invaders.
 - Many heroic American Indians made courageous efforts to save their people.

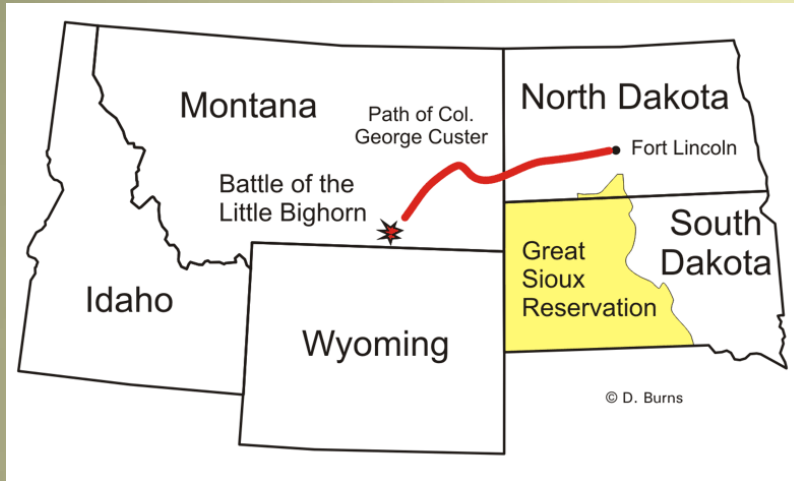


Battle of Little Bighorn



- **Gold** was discovered on the Sioux Reservation in South Dakota.
- Many **Sioux (Lakota)**, including Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse, refused to go to a reservation to Montana.
- General George Custer and U.S. troops were sent to drive the Native Americans back to their reservation.
- They met 2,000+ warriors (largest Indian force ever gathered in the Plains)
- Custer was killed

Massacre at Wounded Knee



- After Col. Custer was defeated at Little Bighorn, U.S. Army was sent in
- **Sitting Bull** was killed along with **120 men**, 230 women and children at a creek call **Wounded Knee**
- Massacre at Wounded Knee was the last major episode of violence in Native American wars



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Chief Joseph, Nez Percé

- Nez Percé were forced onto a reservation in Idaho
- Chief Joseph led a group of 750 Native Americans out of Idaho and escaped toward **Canada**.
- US troops were ordered to bring Native Americans back to the reservation.
- Chief Joseph and other were caught and surrendered at Bear's Paw Mountain.



Chief Joseph, Nez Percé

“Here me, my chiefs. I am tired. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands I will fight no more forever.”
- Chief Joseph



Geronimo and Apache Raids

- Geronimo, leader of the **Apache Native Americans** in Southwest U.S.
- Geronimo fought against Mexico and the **United States**

- Geronimo, a tribal leader, in the **Southwest** region.
- Geronimo fought against Mexico and the United States settlers.
- Apache believed he had special powers - walk without leaving tracks
- After many battles, Apache were forced to surrender to U.S. in 1886 in Arizona.
- His name is a synonym for **bravery**.

