

The *Battle of Little Bighorn?*

Today we will find out what happened at the battle and begin to decide whether Custer was a hero or a fool.



What do you think is going on in this picture?
Point to the winner of the battle.



Point to the winner of the battle.

Would it surprise you that this is a picture of the SAME battle as the last picture!





In what ways are these sources similar and different?

Both show a battle.

1 shows the Indians as winners

1 shows Custer as the winner

The Indians actually won this battle.

More and more white settlers
were travelling across the
plains.

Worse still, they wanted to dig up
the Black hills to find gold.

This was the Sioux's most
important and sacred land.

The US government had promised
the Sioux that people would not
be allowed to settle there.
They had broken their promise.

This meant war!



The Battle of the Little Bighorn - 1876



Meet George Armstrong Custer.

He was the leader of the 7th Cavalry.

He was ordered to help the US army to push the Indians back.

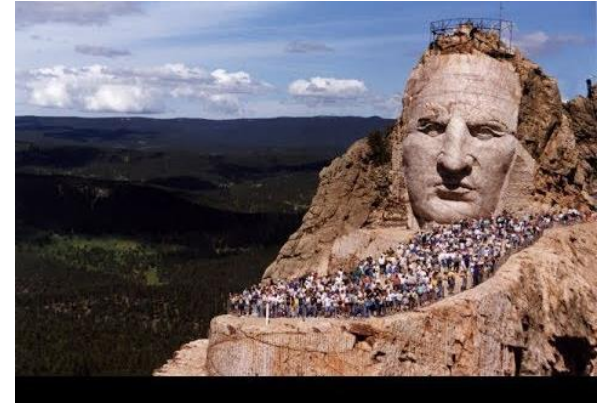
Result? This battle was the **worst defeat** of the US army by Indians. Custer and all 264 of his men were killed.

BUT... Artists and writers have turned it into a heroic last stand and made **Custer a great hero**.

Now many people think the defeat was **Custer's fault**.



Meet Chief Crazy Horse



Crazy Horse was Chief of the Lakota Sioux. He was good at battle tactics. He helped defeat General Custer. He has a mountain carving dedicated to him. It is in the Black Hills of South Dakota

What do you think?



Was Custer...

A brave hero for trying to win

OR

A fool for ignoring all orders and getting himself and 264 men killed!

Your task choices...

Task 1

Write an explanation of what happened at the battle.

You might include:

- The Plan
- What choices Custer made
- The result
- Do you think Custer was a hero or a fool?



Task 2



Watch the film clip

Task 3



Colour in the pictures

Task 4

- Set up the Battle of Little Bighorn using Lego or toy soldiers if you have them. Use the maps in the PPT. to help you

