

# CRAZY HORSE



# BIOGRAPHY

# CRAZY HORSE

Crazy Horse was a Lakota Sioux Native American, born in what is now South Dakota around 1840. He became a warrior chief who fought against settlers and U.S troops who threatened to take his people's land.

In 1865, Crazy Horse was at Platte Bridge on the Oregon Trail. Here he encouraged U.S soldiers to chase him into the open, so that they could be attacked and defeated more easily. He used a similar tactic to draw 80 soldiers into an ambush attack called the Fetterman Massacre.

As U.S settlers pushed westwards, they wanted to drive Native Americans out of their homes and onto reservations. Crazy Horse joined other Sioux leaders like Sitting Bull to resist this. In 1876, Crazy Horse defeated U.S soldiers at Rosebud Creek in Montana. This meant that reinforcements could not reach U.S General Custer at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. As a result, Custer and his men lost the battle and their lives.

But the tide eventually turned against the Native American warriors. U.S soldiers kept on attacking and driving them from their homes. Newcomers to the land were also cutting down the buffalo supply, which the Native Americans needed to survive.

In 1877, Crazy Horse surrendered in Nebraska. While he was being held captive, he was stabbed, possibly while trying to escape being put under closer guard.

# Understanding words

Before we can understand a story we have to know what all of the words mean. Let's try one...

a Write the sentence in which you found the word 'threatened'.

b From that sentence, suggest what 'threatened' means.

c Write a new sentence using the word 'threatened'.

d Use a dictionary to find words with a similar meaning (synonyms) to 'threatened'.

e Draw a small picture showing what you think 'threatened' means.

Try this for other words, too. 2

# Finding key words

Next, we need to find the key words that tell us what the story is about...

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list like the one below. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym). You don't have to use all the spaces, but you should not use more.

Key word	Synonym (similar word)
Example: reinforcements	help

# Sequencing

Sequencing means getting the events in the right order. Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense.

In 1876, Crazy Horse helped defeat General Custer at the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Then, Crazy Horse and his men took part in the Fetterman Massacre.

Crazy Horse was a Sioux Native American born in what is now South Dakota.

In the end, Crazy Horse surrendered in Nebraska, where he was killed in 1877.

When settlers threatened to take their homelands, Crazy Horse joined with other Sioux leaders to resist.

In 1865, Crazy Horse defeated U.S soldiers at Platte Bridge.

But U.S soldiers made it harder and harder for Native Americans to survive.

# Get to the facts

1 Which leader did Crazy Horse join forces with?

2 Which battle was Custer defeated at?

3 What did the Native Americans need to survive?

4 When did Crazy Horse surrender?

5 Where did Crazy Horse surrender?

# Make a story...

When you read a description it often gives you ideas about how the event might be described differently.

## Rosebud Creek

Defeat was nearly upon us in the battle at Rosebud Creek, so I rode away from the fighting. I felt like a coward. But I had to warn General Custer that no reinforcements would reach him...  
(now complete the story)

**Below is a plain text version for printing:**



## Understanding words:

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- b From that sentence, suggest what 'threatened' means.
- c Write a new sentence using the word 'threatened'.
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## Finding key words:

Read the story and underline the key words. Write the most important of these key words in a list. Write next to it a word that means a similar thing (a synonym).

For example:

Key word – reinforcements

Synonym – help

## Sequencing:

Write these sentences in the correct order, so they make sense:

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Then Crazy Horse and his men took part in the Fetterman Massacre.

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- 2 Which battle was Custer defeated at?
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# Crazy Horse

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