**The Life of the Plains Indians:**

* Eastern settlers changed the lives of N. A. on the Great Plains
* Indians & French traded buffalo hides for guns, making hunting \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Horses made N. A. warfare much more intense and violent
* Many N. A. became nomad’s b/c of the horse. Became more mobile to follow food sources
* Warrior societies led to much more violence and instability

**Indian Wars and Government Policy:**

* N.A. lived on traditional lands \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. of Mississippi
* N. A. viewed settlers as invaders, Settlers took land from N. A.
  + (Settlers vs. N.A. = invaders vs. owners)
* Gov’t treaties \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ N. A. onto reservations
* Settlers ignored treaties
* Acts of violence led to cycles of revenge. Both sides guilty.

**Brutality, Unfulfilled Promises, and Butchery:**

* Treaties:
  + Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867
  + Fort Laramie Treaty (1868)
* Most Indians angered by the treaties
  + By 1868, war parties were raiding cities in Kansas and Colorado
  + In response, army troops killed any Indians who refused to stay on reservations

**Medicine Lodge Treaty of 1867**

* The Medicine Lodge Treaty is the overall name for three treaties signed between the United States government and southern Plains Indian tribes in October 1867
* Under the Medicine Lodge Treaty, the tribes were assigned \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of diminished size compared to territories defined in an 1865 treaty
* the Congress effectively further reduced their reservation territory

**Treaty of Fort Laramie (1868)**

* In the treaty, as part of the U.S. vendetta to "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_", the U.S. included all Ponca lands in the Great Sioux Reservation.
* Conflict between the Ponca and the Sioux/Lakota, who now claimed the land as their own by U.S. law, forced the U.S. to remove the Ponca from their own ancestral lands in Nebraska to poor land in Oklahoma.
* The treaty includes an article intended to "ensure the civilization“…
  + *minors should be provided with an "English education" at a "mission building."*

**Warring Sioux:**

* Several Sioux tribes fought to stay on their land and protect their hunting grounds
  + Raided settlements and harassed miners
  + Sitting Bull
    - Leader of non-treaty Sioux
    - Strong fighting expertise

**Rising Tensions in the West**

**Sand Creek (1864):**

**•**US army massacred Cheyenne, Arapahoe Older men, women, and children.

•Eastern Colorado

**General George Armstrong Custer:**

* General in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ War
* Infamous Indian fighter during the Sioux Wars
* Wanted to find gold in Black Hills
* Defeated in the Battle at Little Bighorn (1876)

**The Sioux Wars**

* The Sioux Wars were a series of conflicts between the United States and various subgroups of the Sioux people that occurred in the latter half of the 19th century.

**Sitting Bull:**

* Was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ man who led his people as a tribal chief during years of resistance to United States government policies.
* Sitting Bull's leadership motivated his people to a major victory.
* He was killed by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on the Standing Rock Indian Reservation during an attempt to arrest him

**Little Bighorn**

* Army moved to assault roaming Sioux in 1876
* 600 troops marched on Little Bighorn River
  + Custer separated his men and sent half of his forces straight into battle
  + This group and the rest were wiped out by Cheyenne and Sioux
* Defeat angered the army who became even more ruthless

**Wounded Knee Creek:**

* The Ghost Dance
  + In honor of Wovoka
* December 29, 1890
  + Seventh cavalry was sent to round up a group of Indians at Wounded Knee when an ‘excited’ Indian fired a shot
  + The soldiers then open fired
    - More than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Indians killed in minutes

**“Saving” the Indians:**

* More and more Americans disagreed with Government Indian policies
  + The Women’s National Indian Rights Association
  + *Century of Dishonor* by Helen Hunt Jackson
* They thought breaking up the reservations and assimilating the Indians into society was the best thing
  + Dawes Severalty Act
    - Gave individuals acreage of land and made them citizens of the U.S.

**Attempts to Change Native American Culture:**

* Many people believed that Native Americans needed to give up their traditions and culture, learn English, become Christians, adopt white dress and customs, and support themselves by farming and trades.
* This policy is called assimilation, the process by which one society becomes a part of another, more dominant society by adopting its culture.
* In 1887 the Dawes Act divided reservation land into individual plots. Each family headed by a man received 160 acres.
* Many Native Americans did not believe in the concept of individual property, nor did they want to farm the land. For some, the practices of farming went against their notion of ecology. Some had no experience in agriculture.
* Between 1887 and 1932, some \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of this land became white owned.

**Assimilation and the Indian Schools:**

* Carlisle, PA, other sites around the U.S.
* Genoa, Nebraska
* Attempted to ‘\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_’ by making them assimilate into American culture, manners and customs
* Formed by people who empathized with the plight of the Indians and wanted a “humanitarian” solution

**The Opening of Indian Territory:**

* Fifty five Indian nations were forced into Indian Territory, the largest unsettled farmland in the United States.
* During the 1880s, squatters overran the land, and Congress agreed to buy out the Indian claims to the region.
* On April 22, 1889, tens of thousands of homesteaders lined up at the territory’s borders to stake claims on the land.
* By sundown, settlers called boomers had staked claims on almost 2 million acres.
* Many boomers discovered that some of the best lands had been grabbed by sooners, people who had sneaked past the government officials earlier to mark their claims.
* Under continued pressure from settlers, Congress created Oklahoma Territory in 1890. In the following years, the remainder of Indian Territory was open to settlement.

**Oklahoma Land Rush (1889)**

* Oklahoma was “Indian Territory” given to the Five Civilized Tribes.
* They sided with the Confederacy, the government took land as punishment
* 2 million acres free for settlement
* Free land was considered instant prosperity, but droughts would make many farms fail

**By 1900:**

* Most Indians had been driven onto reservations
* Reduced from 1/4 million to 1 hundred \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The culture still survives