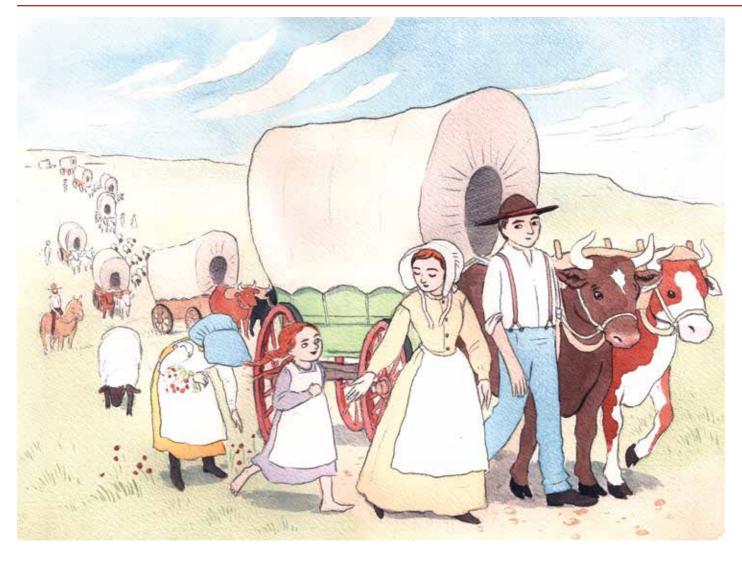




In 1804, Lewis and Clark set out to explore the Louisiana Territory.



In 1838–1839, thousands of Native Americans were forced to relocate west of the Mississippi River. Their migration became known as the Trail of Tears.

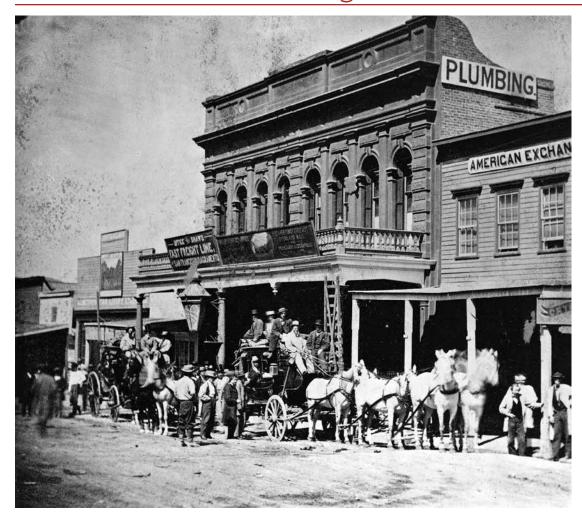


From the 1840s–1850s, more pioneers traveled across the plains to the Far West using the Oregon and California Trails.



The discovery of gold in California lured even more people to California in 1848–1849.

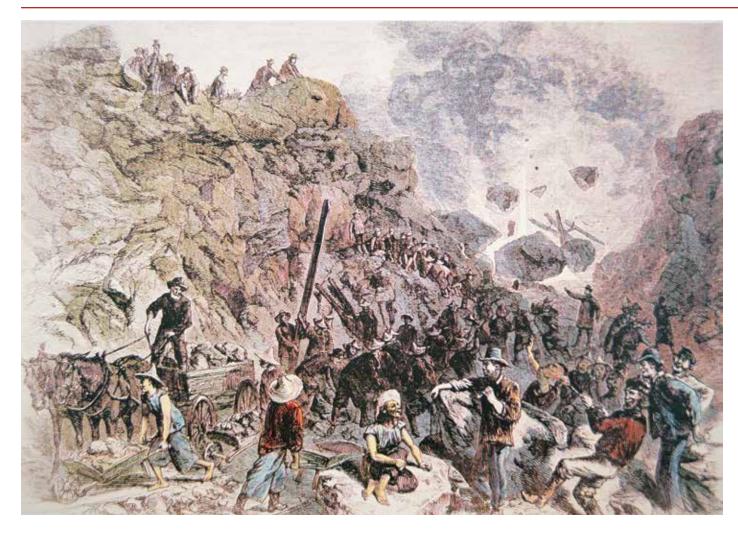
### CHAPTER 1: The Mining Frontier



The prospect of discovering gold or silver led to mining towns being established in the present-day states of Nevada, Colorado, Montana, Idaho, Arizona, Wyoming, and South Dakota from 1849–1879.

**Big Question:** How did mining affect the development of the American West?

### CHAPTER 2: Railroads Come to the West



During the 1860s, Chinese, Irish, and other immigrants labored in difficult and dangerous conditions to construct the transcontinental railroad.

**Big Question:** What were the benefits and drawbacks of the transcontinental railroad?

### CHAPTER 3: The Cattle Frontier



From 1866–1886, cattle drivers spent months on the open range, keeping track of and steering thousands of head of cattle.

**Big Question:** How did the rise of the cattle industry shape the use of land?

### CHAPTER 4: Farmers Move West



Railroad companies encouraged people to settle in the Great Plains. In 1862, Congress passed the Homestead Act, making it easier for poor families to start farms out west.

**Big Question:** What attracted farmers to the Great Plains?

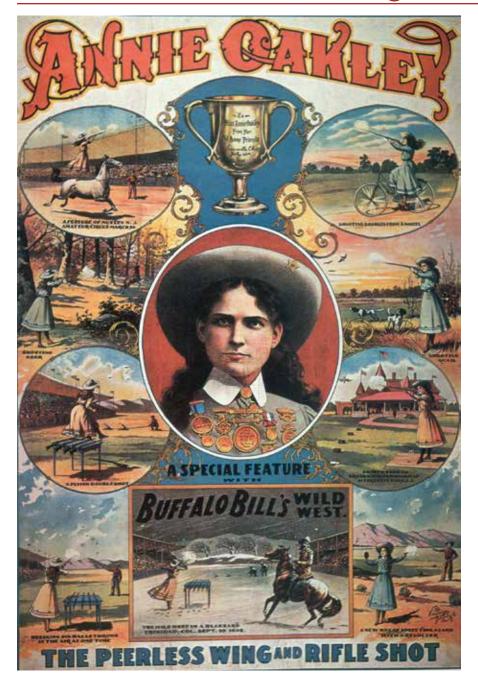
### CHAPTER 5: Adjusting to Life on the Plains



Settlers faced many challenges in adjusting to life on the plains, including the threat of damage to their crops by grasshoppers.

**Big Question:** How did farmers adjust to the hardships of the Great Plains?

### CHAPTER 6: Remembering the "Wild West"



Annie Oakley, born Phoebe Ann Moses (or Mosey), was one of the attractions in Buffalo Bill's Wild West show, which began in 1883.

**Big Question:** How did the legends of the Wild West come about?

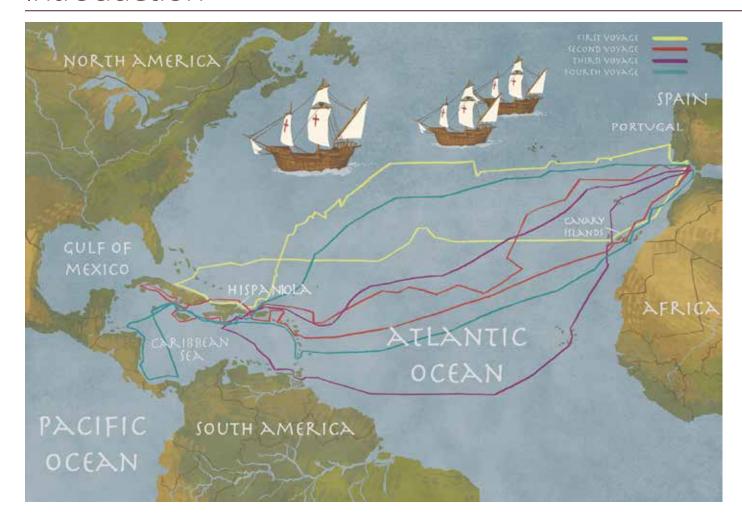
### CHAPTER 7: The United States Gains Alaska



In 1867, U.S. Secretary of State William Seward bought Alaska from the Russian czar for \$7.2 million.

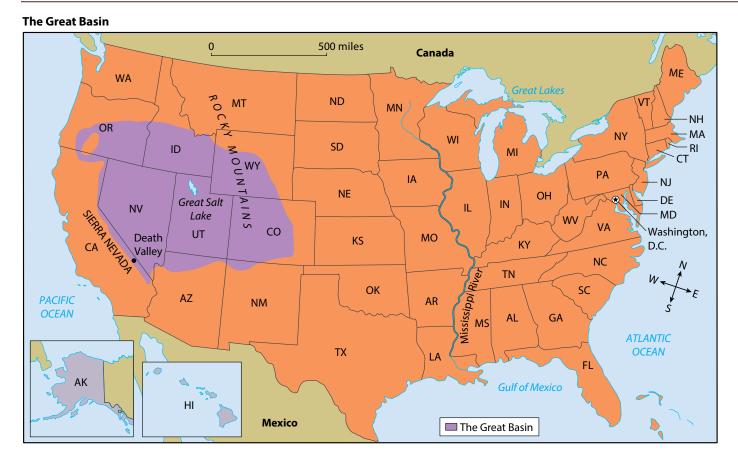
**Big Question:** What were the events leading to America's purchase of Alaska?





In 1492, when Columbus made his first voyage to North America, there were an estimated five million Native Americans in what today is considered the United States (minus Alaska).

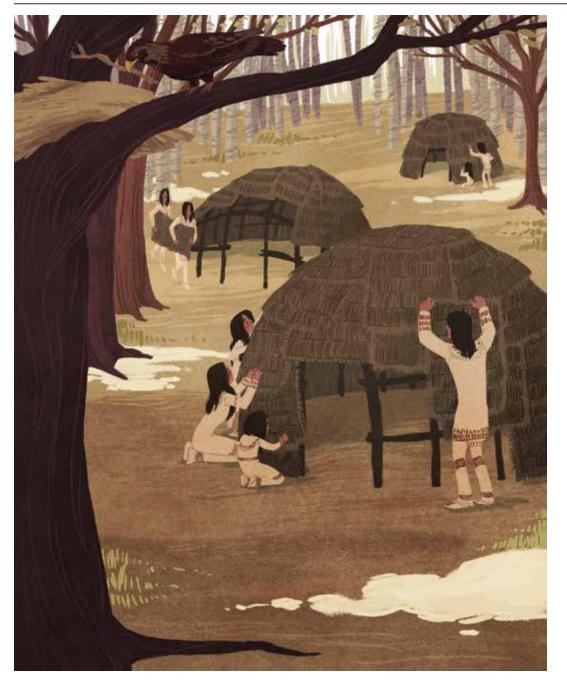
### CHAPTER 1: Native Americans of the Great Basin



Native Americans in the Great Basin lived in an area shaped like a big bowl, with the Rocky and Sierra Nevada mountains as its "sides," and a desert inside the bowl.

**Big Question:** How did the climate and physical landscape of the Great Basin shape life for the Native Americans who lived there?

### CHAPTER 1: Native Americans of the Great Basin

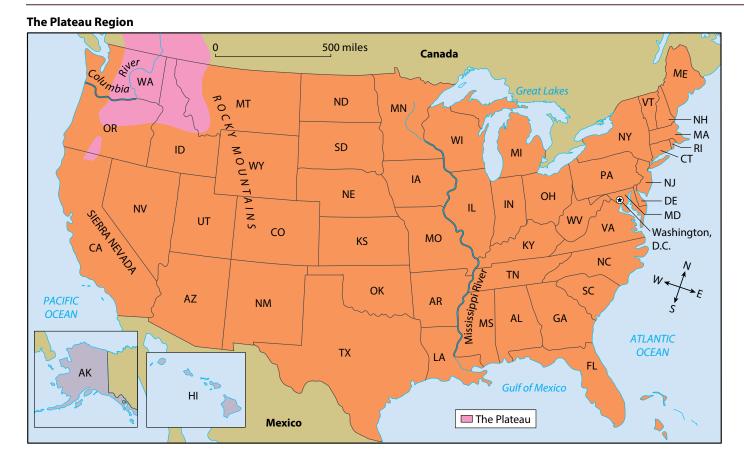


Groups of Great Basin Native Americans gathered in the fall.

Big Question: How did the climate and physical landscape of the Great Basin shape life for the Native Americans who lived there?

**NATIVE AMERICANS: CULTURES AND CONFLICTS** 

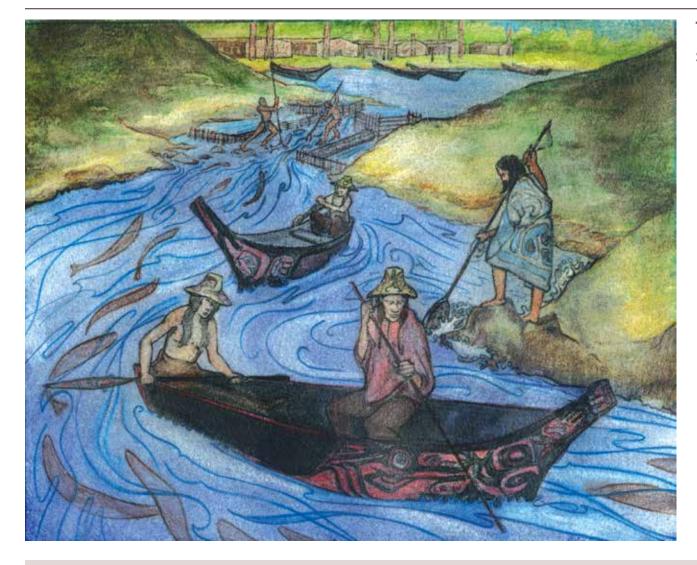
### CHAPTER 2: Native Americans of the Plateau



Native Americans of the Plateau lived in the area that includes parts of the present-day states of Idaho, Oregon, Washington, California, Montana, and areas in Canada.

**Big Question:** What does "living by the seasons" reveal about life in the Plateau region for Native Americans?

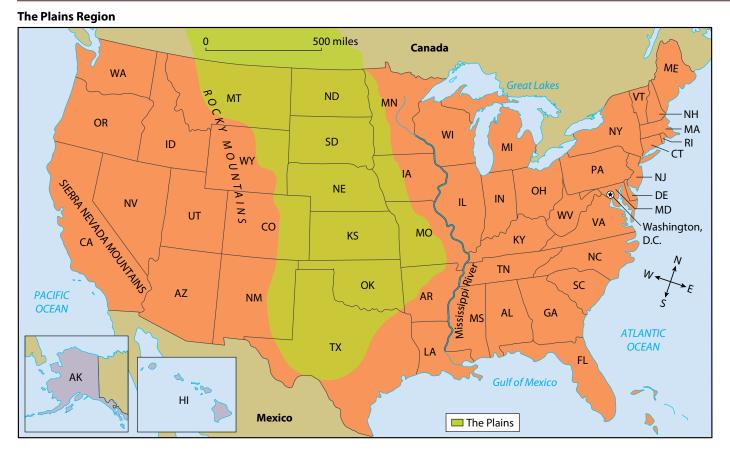
### CHAPTER 2: Native Americans of the Plateau



The Nez Perce depended on salmon to live.

**Big Question:** What does "living by the seasons" reveal about life in the Plateau region for Native Americans?

### CHAPTER 3: Native Americans of the Plains



Native Americans of the Plains lived in the area that extended from central Canada south to Mexico and from the midwestern United States westward to the Rockies.

**Big Question:** What impact did the introduction of the horse have on the way of life for the people of the Plains?

### CHAPTER 3: Native Americans of the Plains



Horses changed the way Native Americans of the Plains lived.

**Big Question:** What impact did the introduction of the horse have on the way of life for the people of the Plains?

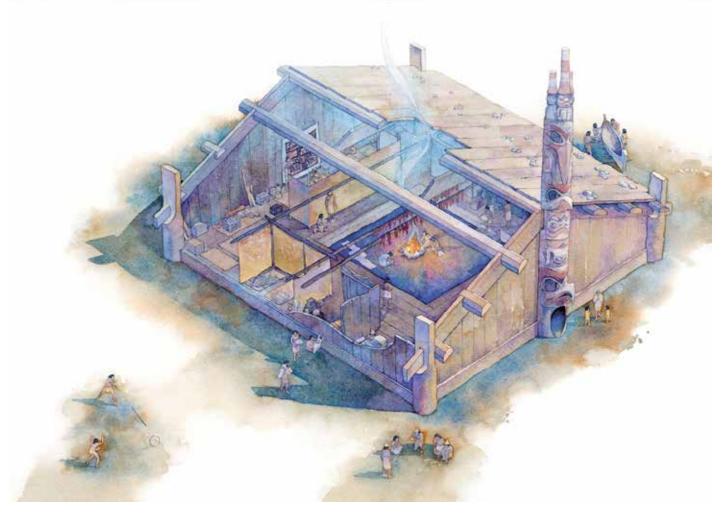
### CHAPTER 4: Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest



Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest lived in the area that extends from southern Alaska along Canada's coastline to Washington, Oregon, and northern California.

**Big Question:** How would you describe life for the Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest?

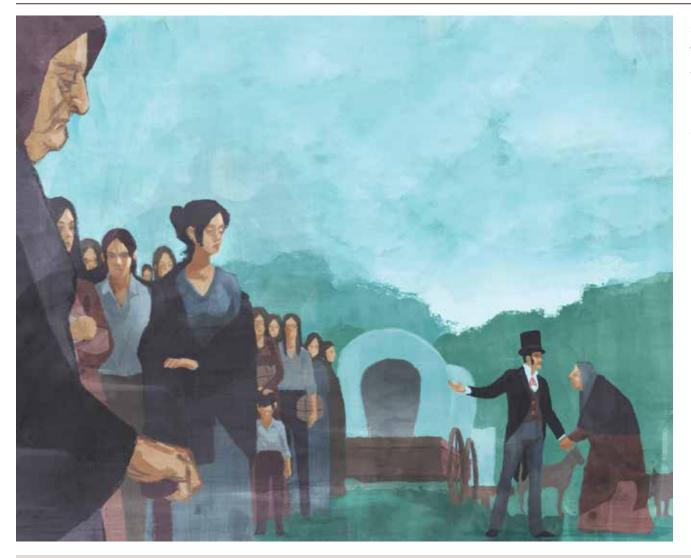
### CHAPTER 4: Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest



Totem poles tell the legends and histories of Pacific Northwest Native Americans.

**Big Question:** How would you describe life for the Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest?

### CHAPTER 5: Broken Promises



As European settlers moved farther west, Native Americans were forced to leave their homelands. Eventually, Native Americans were forced to relocate to reservations.

**Big Question:** What challenges did Native Americans face as America developed and expanded?

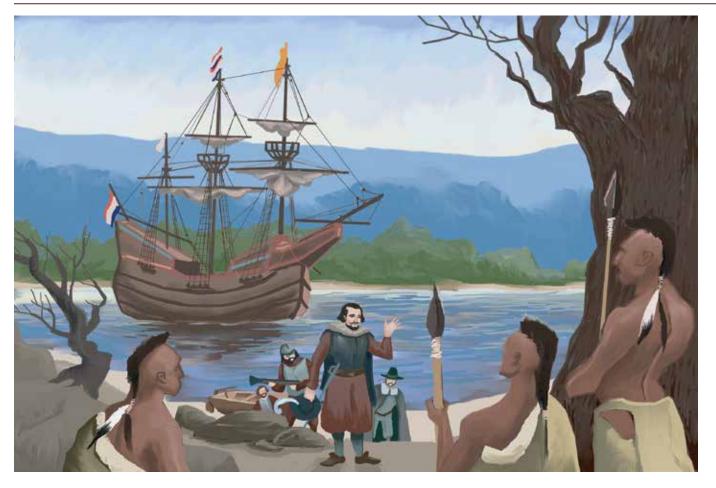
### CHAPTER 5: Broken Promises



Native American children were taken from their homes to live in boarding schools, where they learned the Europeans' way of life. One of the schools was the Carlisle School, founded in 1879.

**Big Question:** What challenges did Native Americans face as America developed and expanded?

### CHAPTER 6: Tensions Mount



As a result of contact with the Europeans, many Native Americans died from deadly diseases. Between 1780 and 1820, half of the Native Americans living in the northern Rockies died.

**Big Question:** What factors made it increasingly difficult for Native Americans to live according to their own traditions?

### CHAPTER 6: Tensions Mount



Demand for sport hunting of bison by American settlers drove the bison almost to extinction.

**Big Question:** What factors made it increasingly difficult for Native Americans to live according to their own traditions?

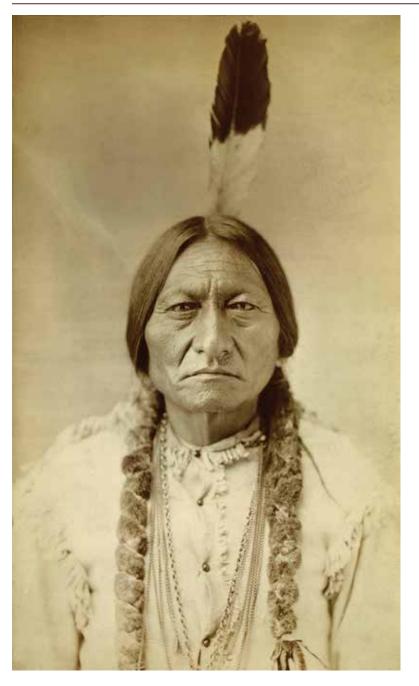
### CHAPTER 6: Tensions Mount



This painting shows an artist's version of the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre, an event that shocked the nation. Colonel Chivington ordered the brutal killing of the Native Americans.

**Big Question:** What factors made it increasingly difficult for Native Americans to live according to their own traditions?

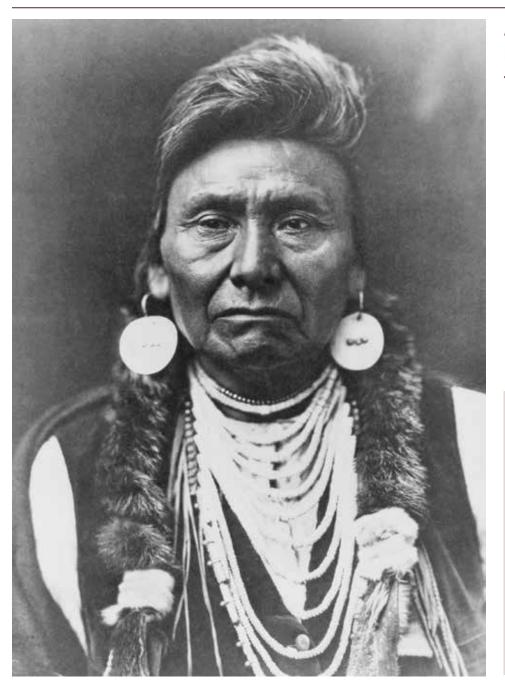
### CHAPTER 7: The Indian Wars



Sitting Bull and other Native American leaders led their men to victory against General Custer and his U.S. troops at the Battle of Little Bighorn, also known as Custer's Last Stand, in 1876.

**Big Question:** What factors made it increasingly impossible for Native Americans to resist the settlement of their land?

### CHAPTER 7: The Indian Wars

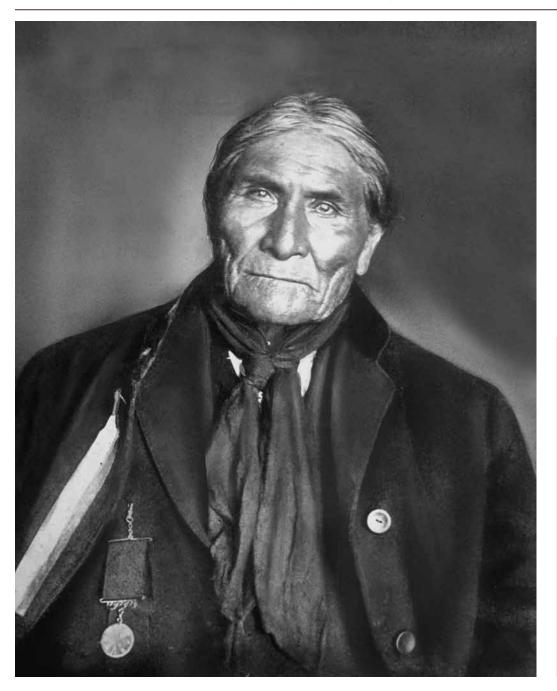


At his surrender in 1877, Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce said, "My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

Big Question: What factors made it increasingly impossible for Native Americans to resist the settlement of their land?

**NATIVE AMERICANS: CULTURES AND CONFLICTS** 

### CHAPTER 7: The Indian Wars

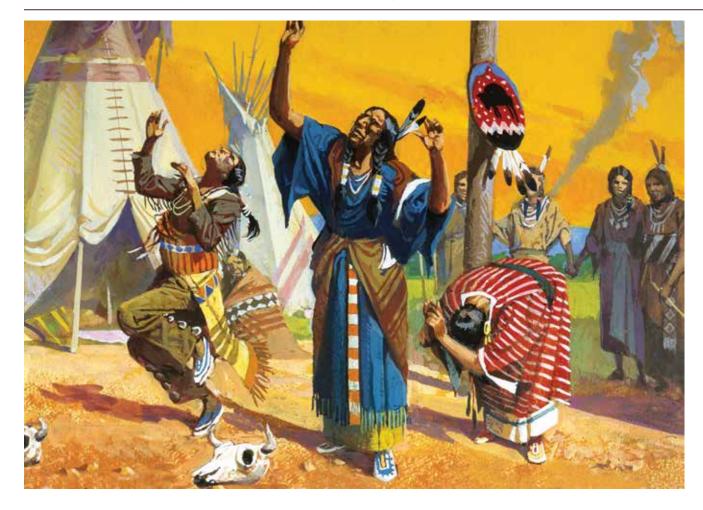


In the 1880s, Geronimo led the Apache against U.S. troops.

### **Big Question:**

What factors made it increasingly impossible for Native Americans to resist the settlement of their land?

### CHAPTER 8: The Ghost Dance



Introduced in 1889, the Ghost Dance became a symbol of hope and resistance for many Native Americans.

**Big Question:** How did the Ghost Dance come about, and what did it represent for Native Americans?

### CHAPTER 8: The Ghost Dance



Hundreds of Native Americans, including women and children, were killed at the Battle of Wounded Knee in 1890.

**Big Question:** How did the Ghost Dance come about, and what did it represent for Native Americans?

### **Westward Expansion After the Civil War Subject Matter Experts**

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Department of History, James Madison University

Tony Williams, Senior Teaching Fellow, Bill of Rights Institute

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