

A Teacher's Guide to
Getting to Know Buffalo Bill (Grades K-5)
Guided Tour Experience



Buffalo Bill Historical Center
720 Sheridan Avenue
Cody, WY 82414

Tour Description

William F. Cody (1846-1917) embodied the adventurous spirit of the American West. Explore the life and times of the scout, buffalo hunter, town-builder, entertainer, and family man known as Buffalo Bill.

Objectives

- To become familiar with the life of "Buffalo Bill" Cody.
- To gain appreciation for the time periods surrounding Cody's life.
- For grades 3-5, to learn the process of settling the West using the town of Cody, Wyoming as a model.

Suggested Activities To Do Before Your Tour

- Discuss your upcoming trip to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center. Have your class brainstorm a list of good rules to follow while at the museum.
- Visit the Buffalo Bill Historical Center's Web site: www.bbhc.org. Follow the links to Buffalo Bill's biography on the Buffalo Bill Museum's main page. Using the biography as a reference, make a simple timeline of the order of major events that happened in Cody's life.
- Look at the pictures of Buffalo Bill on the BBHC Web site. What are some trademarks of his appearance? Discuss how his looks made him recognizable all around the world.
- Discuss the following vocabulary words:

scout

entrepreneur

irrigation

entertainer

marksman

cowboy

Suggested Activities To Do After Your Tour

- Research the decline of the buffalo from the plains in the 19th century. Did Buffalo Bill *really* kill all the buffalo?
- Download the Buffalo Bill worksheet available on the museum's Web site and review with your class. (Grades 3-5)
- Imagine Buffalo Bill's Wild West show is coming to your town. Draw a poster advertising the types of events audiences might see when they attend.