

King Phillip's War

Name _____

As the Puritans continued to colonize New England, localized Indian uprising were fairly common as they became displaced. In 1637, however, the Pequots of New England were massacred by Massachusetts and Connecticut troops, and most uprisings ceased.

Initially welcoming and peaceful toward the Puritans (see Plymouth Colony), the Massachusetts Native Americans were soon displaced from their land and were forced to accept missionaries interfering in their affairs. The Wampanoag chief, Massasoit, who helped the Plymouth colonists survive, died in 1661, leaving his son, Metacom in charge. Metacom was much less enthusiastic about the presence of the Puritan settlers than his father, and distrusted them greatly. In 1675, Metacom, known as King Phillip in England, launched a massive attack against the Puritans in an attempt to save his people's way of life. He organized a great army which included disgruntled members of other New England tribes. His armies obliterated White settlements near Plymouth and in western Massachusetts. In Rhode Island, the town of Providence was destroyed.

The White settlers responded with brutal force and more or less exterminated all of the original New England tribes. King Phillip's War unfolded in an all too familiar sequence of events - by White settlers provoking them to war by invading and stealing their land, and then annihilating them when the Indians responded with violence. The war was thought to be the deadliest 17th century war between Native Americans and colonists. The war ended when Metacom was tracked down and killed by Massachusetts militia. In all, over 5,000 Native Americans died in battle, or of disease during the war. At least 1,000 were sold into slavery.

In response to the Indian annihilation in Massachusetts, as well as various acts of insubordination, such as intolerance toward other sects, coining money without the crown's permission, and the failure to enforce the 1660 Navigation Act (certain goods such as Tobacco and Sugar could only be exported to European countries by way of England), King Charles II revoked the charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

1. Which of the following could be considered ironic about King Phillip's War?

- A. Massasoit supported the colonists while his son waged war against them.
- B. King Phillip was really named Metacom.
- C. Native uprisings became more common as the number of English settlers increased.
- D. King Phillip's War was the deadliest war between Native Americans and colonists of the 17th century.

2. Why did the Wampanoag people "turn" against the colonists?

- A. Because the colonists were leaving the Native Americans with few animals to hunt.
- B. Because Providence was destroyed.
- C. Metacom disagreed with Massasoit.
- D. The colonists were taking over their land.

3. Which of the following might be an example of someone "interfering in your affairs?"

- A. You are having a playdate with your friend, and your friend's parents pick him up early.
- B. You are having a playdate with your friend and your friend falls off of a swing and needs a band-aid.
- C. You are having a playdate with a friend, and your brother takes over the playdate.
- D. You are having a playdate and your parents tell you to "keep it down!"

4. What does "obliterated" mean in the following sentence?

His armies obliterated White settlements near Plymouth and in western Massachusetts.

- A. Displaced.
- B. Interfered with.
- C. Harmed.
- D. Totally destroyed.

5. Which of the following was NOT a reason the charter of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was revoked?

- A. Building settlements in lands not explicitly designated for settlers.
- B. Producing money without permission from the King.
- C. The destruction of the region's Native American tribes.
- D. Failure to follow the Navigation Acts.

6. What happened first?

- A. Pequot War
- B. Death of Massasoit
- C. Navigation Acts
- D. The Destruction of Providence

7. What paragraph discusses the effect of King Phillip's War on the future of the colony?

- A. Introductory
- B. First Body
- C. Second Body
- D. Concluding