# Buffalo Bill’s People

## Lesson Overview:

Students will use the Virtual Tour, particularly the photographs displayed in the house and the barn, to match to descriptions.

## Grade Level:

Grades 4-8

## Objectives:

1. Students will develop skills in observation.
2. Students will gain an understanding of many of the people that were important in Buffalo Bill’s life.

## Nebraska State Standards:

## Social Studies

SS 4.4.3.b Identify key events in American history that shaped or were shaped by Nebraskans.

SS 8.4.5.c Gather, analyze, and communicate historical information about United States history from multiple sources.

SS HS.4.5 (US) Apply the inquiry process to construct and answer historical questions. SS HS.4.5.c (US) Select, organize, and corroborate relevant historical information about selected topics in U.S. History.

## Materials Needed:

Access to computers with internet

Handout: Buffalo Bill’s People

## Suggested Procedure:

1. Teacher introduces students to the Virtual Tour of Buffalo Bill’s Ranch. The teacher can take students through aspects of the tour or allow the students to “take the tour” on their own. Teacher tells the students that need to “walk” to through the house and the barn and find the photographs and descriptions of many people in William F. Cody’s life.
2. Teacher passes out the handout on Buffalo Bill’s People. Students could work individually or in pairs.
3. After the students have completed the handout. The teacher could lead a discussion about what students discovered in the photographs and descriptions. The teacher should have the students discuss how life and death might be different today with modern medicine than it was at the time of Cody. The teacher should ask the students if Cody lived a “magical life” or a “tragic life” and have them explain their answers.
4. After the completion of the handout and the discussion, the teacher could assign one of the tasks listed in extending the lesson.

## Extending the Lesson

1. Choose one of Buffalo Bill’s people, research the life of the person, and write a short biography.
2. Make an illustrated booklet of Buffalo Bill’s people with a short paragraph below the drawing.

## Assessment:

The completed handout and/or the completed biography or booklet.

## Suggested resources:

Online Biographies of William F. Cody:

[Biography of Buffalo Bill Cody](https://www.biography.com/performer/buffalo-bill-cody)

[William F. “Buffalo Bill” Cody Research from the Center of the West](https://centerofthewest.org/explore/buffalo-bill/research/buffalo-bill/)

[Britannica's Buffalo Bill the American showman](https://www.britannica.com/biography/William-F-Cody)

[Dime and Nickel Novels William Frederick Cody](https://www.ulib.niu.edu/badndp/cody_william.html)

Printed Biographies of William F. Cody

*Buffalo Bill’s Life Story: An Autobiography* by William F. Cody

*Buffalo Bill Cody, a Man of the West* by Sandra K. Sagala

*Buffalo Bill: Last of the Great Scouts* by Helen Cody Wetmore

**Buffalo Bill’s People** Match the description to the people in Buffalo Bill’s life.

1. Billed as “The Marvelous Marksman” and “The World’s Champion Crack Shot.” He was a foster son of Cody and often was the arena director for the Wild West Shows.

Answer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She was married to Alexander Lester and then later to Hugh Wetmore. When her first husband died she wrote a biography of her brother, William F. Cody. She entitled the book: “*Last of the Great Scouts.”*

Answer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. One of several women to perform at the Wild West Show. Her collector card reads: “Lady Rider of Colorado.”

Answer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. He had a long military career, serving in both World War I and World War II. He was 21 years old when his renowned grandfather, William F. Cody, died. Most of his family called him Cody. He was raised by his grandmother, Louisa, after the untimely death of his mother Arta Cody Boal.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She was born the same year that Buffalo Bill started “The Wild West Tours.” At the age of 20, she married Lt. Clarence Stott in the library of the Welcome Wigwam. Sadly, Lt. Stott died just four years later, but she was able to marry Fred Garlow. Her new husband managed ranch for a short time, then they moved to Cody, Wyoming.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. One of several Native Americans in Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show. In his photo he has a single feather and is wearing a medal.

Answer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She and her husband, Al Goodman, managed Scout’s Rest Ranch from 1884 to 1891. After the death of her husband, she moved to Cody, Wyoming and managed the Irma Hotel.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Probably the most famous of all the Native Americans in the Wild West Show. His Lakota (Sioux) name was Tutanka-Iyotanka. He dubbed Annie Oakley “Little Sure Shot.”

Answer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. With her first husband, Edward Bradford, she had two children. Her second husband, Louis Decker, was the manager of the Wild West Show for 20 years. Cody died at her home in Denver in 1917.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. He was the West’s first bronc riding champion. Not only was he good with horses, he was also one of the best at roping. He had the Nickname “Broncho” (sometimes recorded as “Bronco”) and could speak the Lakota (Sioux) language.”

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She called Buffalo Bill “Will” and his pet name for her was “Lulu”. She was raised in a strict Catholic home in St. Louis, Missouri. When she met Cody, she was enjoying life as a wealthy socialite.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She was known for her ability to shoot corks off bottles, split cards on their edges and shoot out the flame on candles. She was a headline performer on the Wild West Show.

Answer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Cody wrote that his son “was too good for this world.” This boy was adored by the whole family, but, sadly, died at the age of five and a half. Scarlet fever claimed his life while the family was visiting friends in Rochester, New York.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She was William and Louisa’s third child and was born at Fort McPherson. She was only eleven years old when she passed away from a prolonged fever.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She was one of Buffalo Bill’s four sisters. She lived with her husband in Leavenworth, Kansas for many years. She passed away in California at the age of 54.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Buffalo Bill’s daughter that married Horton Boal. She had a son (William Cody Boal) and a daughter (Arta Clara Boal). Her first husband died just six years after the birth of their second child. She married a medical doctor, Charles Thorp, two years later and they moved to Spokane, Washington.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Choose from the following:

Laura Ella (Helen) Cody Julia Cody Mary “May” Cody Eliza Cody

Little Bull Sitting Bull Annie Oakley Della Ferrell

Johnnie (Johnny) Baker Bill Irving Arta Cody Irma Cody

Kit Carson Cody William Cody Boal Louisa Maude Frederici Orra Maude Cody