

1. Read section aloud
2. Read again and highlight important facts/ideas
3. Select the most important facts from among those you highlighted
4. Create a good and descriptive title for the section/paragraph based on what you have read

The Battle of Fallen Timbers was the final battle of the Northwest Indian War (1785-1795). General Anthony Wayne's US forces defeated the Native American Western Confederacy led by Blue Jacket and his allies on August 20, 1794.

At the end of the American Revolution, Great Britain gave the new United States the lands over the Appalachian Mountains all the way to the Mississippi River.

In Ohio, several Native American tribes came together in 1785, to form a group called the Western Confederacy. The following year, The Western Confederacy decided that the Ohio River would serve as the border between their lands and the US. In the mid-1780s, the Confederacy began attacking Americans south of the Ohio River to discourage settlement.

To deal with attacks from the Native Americans, President George Washington told General Josiah Harmar to attack into their lands. Harmar marched west, with approximately 1,500 militia, to meet the Western Confederacy.

They fought two battles in October 1790. Harmar was defeated by Confederacy warriors led by Little Turtle and Blue Jacket. The following year on November 4, another battle happened between the US and the Western Confederacy: the Battle of the Wabash. US Major General Arthur St. Clair lost, 632 of his 920 men were killed.

In 1792, Washington turned to General Anthony Wayne and asked him to organize a military force capable of defeating the Confederacy.

Wayne immediately began creating a new force near Ambridge, Penn. Wayne realized that previous forces had lacked training and discipline. He spent much of 1793, drilling and instructing his men. He named his army the *Legion of the United States*, which included light and heavy infantry, as well as cavalry and artillery. The Legion of the US marched north to meet the Natives in 1793, On his way, Wayne built several forts to protect his supply lines and the settlers.

As Wayne's 3,000 men moved north, Little Turtle became concerned about the Confederacy's ability to fight the Legion of the United States and win. Little Turtle decided he wanted to negotiate with the US. The rest of the Confederacy did not agree and Blue Jacket became the new leader. In order to fight Wayne, Blue Jacket decided to defend his forces near an area full of fallen trees and close to the *British* Fort Miami. It was hoped that the fallen trees would slow down Wayne's men.

On August 20, 1794, the first groups of US soldiers came under fire from Confederacy forces. Quickly, Wayne decided to split his forces into three groups. Brigadier General James Wilkinson would take some infantry and the cavalry to the right, Colonel John Hamtramck would take some infantry and a brigade of mounted Kentuckians to the left. Wayne took his infantry through the center to attack with bayonets through the fallen trees.

When they attacked, the training of Wayne's troops paid off and the Confederacy was forced to retreat. The Native American soldiers began to flee the field when the American cavalry, charged over the fallen trees to attack. Defeated, the Confederacy's warriors fled towards Fort Miami hoping that the British would provide protection. Arriving there found the gates closed because the fort's commander did not wish to start a war with the Americans.

In the fighting at Fallen Timbers, Wayne's Legion lost 33 dead and 100 wounded. There are conflicting records about the Confederacy's casualties. Wayne claimed 30-40 dead enemies on the field but the British Indian Department stated there were only 19.

The victory at Fallen Timbers ultimately led to the signing of the Treaty of Greenville in 1795, which ended the war and removed all Native American claims to Ohio and the surrounding lands. However, some Confederacy leaders refused to sign the treaty. One of these was Tecumseh, who would restart the same fight ten years later.

Based on the article at

<http://militaryhistory.about.com/od/battleswars16011800/p/Northwest-Indian-War-Battle-Of-The-Wabash.htm>