

Name _____

Battle of Fort Sumter

Fort Sumter is located outside of the harbor in Charleston, South Carolina. The Battle of Fort Sumter was the first battle of the Civil War. It began when South Carolina seceded from the Union. The Confederate army and the Union army began to build up troops around the fort. Major Anderson, Union leader, moved his men to Fort Sumter. Since he was surrounded by Confederate forces, he began to run out of supplies and was unable to restock. The Confederate troops knew this and tried to wait them out. On April 12, 1861, General Beauregard, Confederate leader, sent Major Anderson a message. He had one hour to surrender. If he didn't surrender, then they would begin shooting. Major Anderson did not surrender and fighting began. After many hours of fighting, few supplies, and being badly outnumbered, General Anderson realized that he was going to lose this battle so he surrendered to the Confederate army. No one died during this battle, but it did cause four more states to secede. This battle marked the beginning of the Civil War.

Highlight the text to prove your answers.

1. Why would the Confederate troops want to wait out the Union troops in Fort Sumter? _____

2. Who won this battle? What allowed them to win?

3. Why did Major Anderson decide to surrender?

4. What was the significance of this battle?
