

**Source:** [KBhHIST201LittleIceAge](#)

## 1 | Why the Little Ice Age Happened

While the cause of [KBhHIST201LittleIceAge](#) The Little Ice Age is still unknown, there are some theories as to how this happened...

### Maunder Minimum

- Decreased sun spots causes less sun energy output
- Hence, the earth is cooled

### Volcano

- Earlier in the period, there had been volcanic activity
- Filipino volcanoes thought to deposit smoke, in which water droplets could have cooled the earth for ~3yrs

### Slash-and-burn theory

- Native Americans had a habit of clearing — whether through burning or slashing — forestland that could be used for farming. This reduces forests, so more  $CO_2$  could be in the air
- The Europeans' influence of NA habit causes less of this to happen, making it be rather more Carbon Dioxide in the air