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THE WILD WEST

Notorious Outlaws

Take a Stand

This book talks about how some newspapers made up facts about outlaws to make stories more exciting to their readers. Do you think it is important for newspapers to report the truth and check facts? Write a short essay explaining your opinion. Support your writing with facts and details.



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Why Do I Care?

The Wild West ended more than 150 years ago. People no longer ride in stagecoaches or rely on horses to travel. But that doesn't mean the Wild West doesn't affect your life today. How might your life be different if the United States had never expanded west?



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Another View

Most people believe vigilantes were wrong to take the law into their hands. But some people believe they served an important purpose at a time when there were few courts or lawmen. Ask an adult or a librarian to help you find information on Western vigilantes. Compare and contrast your new source with this book. What is each author's point of view? Explain how they are similar or different.



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You Are There

This book mentions that Black Bart posed as a gentleman. Imagine you have left your job selling papers in San Francisco to work as Black Bart's accomplice. You write a letter home telling your parents about San Francisco. You can't tell them the truth about Black Bart. So what will you say instead? Be sure to add plenty of detail to your letter.



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