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## THE WILD WEST

# The Pony Express

### Take a Stand

When hiring riders for the Pony Express, ads noted that the job was possibly deadly. Would you want to apply for a job like that? Why or why not?



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### Why Do I Care?

You might think that because the Pony Express only lasted 18 months, it was not that important. But think about how people worked to solve a big problem at that time. Think about what the Pony Express accomplished in those 18 months. How does that change your opinion?



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### Another View

This book includes the story of Wild Bill Hickok and how he told some tall tales about being in the Pony Express. As you know, every source is different. Ask a librarian or another adult to help you find a source about Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show and Hickok's Pony Express stories. Write a short essay comparing and contrasting the new source's point of view with that of this book's author. What is the point of view of each author? How are they similar and why? How are they different and why?



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### **You Are There**

This book talks about how excited people were when the Pony Express started. Think about being in Saint Joseph, Missouri, on April 3, 1860. Write a letter home telling your friends about the first rider. What did he carry? How did people show they were excited about the Pony Express? Be sure to add plenty of detail to your notes.



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