

PONY EXPRESS



DIGITAL



PRINT

PONY EXPRESS

In 1848, gold was discovered in California. This discovery led many people to pack up and head to California for their own success in gold mining. With all the miners making California their home, there was a population boom. California had only been a territory belonging to the United States for two years when it became the 31st state to join the Union in 1850.

In its place on the West coast of the United States, California was the first official state West of the Missouri River. That meant it was over 1,500 miles from its nearest neighbor, Missouri. There were territories owned by the United States in between the two states, but California was the only official state with its own government.

With California so far away from everyone else, there was a small problem. There wasn't a good way to communicate with them. The covered wagon would take months to make the journey and a stagecoach was much faster but would still have taken 15-17 days. The Transcontinental Railroad hadn't been built yet, so there was no train route that went between California and the Eastern United States. They needed a way to communicate more quickly.

The Pony Express solved the problem. The Pony Express was founded on the idea that a single rider on a horse could deliver messages faster than any other way available at the time. The Pony Express could get messages from St. Joseph, Missouri to Sacramento, California in just 10 days. The owners of the Pony Express were William H. Russell, William Waddell, and Alexander Majors. The Pony Express began in April 1860, but it only lasted about one and half years.

There were over 100 stations across the states of Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California. With stations about ten miles apart, riders would stop, eat, and get water. They would also change tired horses for fresh.

What was discovered in California in 1848? *

- Bears
- Uranium
- Gold
- Wheat

What year did the Pony Express begin? *

- 1840
- 1860
- 1850
- None of the above

What name was William Cody more well known by? *

- Buffalo Bill
- Caravan Cody
- Wyoming William
- Jesse James



READING PASSAGE

15 QUESTIONS

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TRUE OR FALSE

California was the 31st state to join the Union. TRUE FALSE

MULTIPLE CHOICE

2. What year did the Pony Express begin?
A. 1850
B. 1840
C. 1860
D. None of the above

3. What name was William Cody more well known by?
A. Buffalo Bill
B. Caravan Cody
C. Wyoming William
D. Jesse James

4. How much was each rider paid per month?
A. \$1,000
B. \$100
C. \$10
D. \$250

5. What invention ended the Pony Express?
A. Morse Code
B. Telephone
C. Camel
D. Telegraph

6. How many horses were used in the Pony Express?
A. 400
B. 4,000
C. 200
D. 250

8. The knapsack that riders carried was called a chinchilla. TRUE FALSE

9. California was the 31st state to join the Union. TRUE FALSE

DIGITAL OR PRINT

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THINK TANK

INCLUDED

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ TEACHER DIRECTIONS
 - ✓ ANSWER KEY
 - ✓ 15 QUESTIONS
 - ✓ SELF-GRADING
- ✓ PRINTABLE VERSION
- ✓ DIGITAL VERSION



QUESTION TYPES

-  **MULTIPLE CHOICE (6)**
-  **TRUE OR FALSE (9)**
-  **EDITABLE QUESTIONS
(FOR DIGITAL VERSION)**

True

False



STUDENTS NEED

✓ ACCESS TO GOOGLE CLASSROOM™
(IF USING THE DIGITAL FORMAT)

✓ GOOGLE™ ACCOUNTS

✓ KNOW HOW TO ZOOM IN AND ZOOM OUT TO
ENLARGE OR SHRINK THE SCREEN

True

False



BENEFITS

-  SELF-GRADING
-  IMMEDIATE STUDENT FEEDBACK
-  PAPERLESS
-  NO PREP
-  SAVES YOU TIME
-  COMPREHENSION PRACTICE



OPTIONS



FRONT-LOADING



GROUP STATIONS



SUB PLANS



UNIT REVIEW



ENRICHMENT ACTIVITY



DIGITAL



PRINTABLE

