



Horse Heroes

1 Look at the map on page 8. What is the purpose of this map? What was the importance of this journey?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

2 Read pages 12–13. Why did Tschiffely choose two Criollo horses for his journey to Washington, D.C.? How did one of the horses save Tschiffely's life?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1

3 On pages 16–17, the author describes a moment when Tschiffely's "heart rose in his mouth." What does this expression mean? How do you think Tschiffely felt at that moment?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.4, RI.5.4

4 Read about a Hollywood horse on pages 20–21. How does the author describe Golden Cloud? Why was the horse renamed Trigger? Name two tricks that Trigger could do.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1

5 Do you know the difference between a "foal" and a "colt"? If not, turn to page 22 and the glossary to find out. What name is given to a farm where horses are bred?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.4, RI.5.4

6 Read about a horse named Favory on pages 24–25. Explain what the rider meant when he said, “We’ve got our work cut out with that one.” What did Favory do to make the rider say this?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1, RI.5.1

7 Turn to pages 28–29. What is the purpose of the pictures? How do they help you understand the different actions that the horses are trained to do?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

8 Read pages 38–41 about a horse named Petie. In your own words, explain what a “therapeutic horse” is. What evidence does the author give to help you understand this?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.2, RI.4.8

9 Turn to pages 44–45 and find the text in parentheses: [ECK-wid] and [perz-uh-VOL-skee]. What does this text show you? How is it divided up? Why do you think “ECK” and “VOL” are in capital letters? (Say the words out loud and listen carefully.) Now try writing your own version for another word in this book.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.7

10 What is the title of this book? Now that you have read the book, do you think this was a good title for the author to choose? Explain why or why not.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.3

Answers

- 1** To show Johnny Fry's journey from Missouri to California; it was the first ever Pony Express.
- 2** Any answer from the following: They are very tough; they can carry heavy weights over long distances; they are resourceful; they know how to survive in the wild.
- 3** when someone feels extremely nervous; nervous / worried that Mancha would not reach the other side
- 4** a beautiful golden color with a white, flowing mane and tail; because he was so quick; walk 150 steps on his hind legs and stamp his hoof to count
- 5** A foal is a young horse; a colt is a young male horse; stud farm.
- 6** They thought it was going to be difficult to train Favory how to perform; he galloped around the hall, showing off.
- 7** to show what each of the actions looks like; answers will vary
- 8** Answers will vary. (Therapeutic in this context is something to help someone who is unwell relax or feel better.)
- 9** how to pronounce the word; into syllables; these syllables are emphasized when spoken; answers will vary
- 10** *Horse Heroes*; answers will vary