

Horse Heroes

- 1** Look at the map on page 8. What is the purpose of this map? What was the importance of this journey?
- 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?
- 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?
- 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.
- 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?
- 6** Read about a horse called 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?

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

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

9 Turn to pages 44–45 and find the text in brackets: [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.

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.

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 colour 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 to relax or feel better.)
- 9** how to pronounce the word; into syllables; these syllables are emphasised when spoken; answers will vary
- 10** *Horse Heroes*; answers will vary