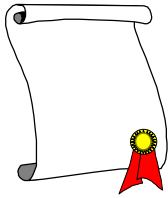


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Mrs. Taylor's Fifth Grade Class
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Pony Express



I chose the Pony Express for my report because it used fast running horses and I like animals. Also because it delivered mail and I like to get mail, especially e-mail. Now I would like to answer the question, what was the Pony Express?

The Pony Express was a relay system of horse riders. The pony would go as fast as it could to get from one place to another. The rider would stop every ten to fifteen miles for a fresh horse. When the rider goes seventy-five miles he stops at the station to pass the mail on to the next rider.

The Pony Express started April 3rd, 1860 and ended October 24th, 1861. The first person who rode the Pony Express westward was Johnny Fry. He rode from St. Joseph, Missouri westward. The first rider eastbound was Billy Hamilton and he rode from Sacramento, California. The Pony Express traveled through the present day states: Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California.

It took six to eight weeks to deliver a letter. This was too long for important news to wait, especially news about the gold rush. The government was offering a million-dollar contract to the fastest form of delivery of communications. The Pony Express took on the challenge. The Pony Express lasted eighteen months before it ended. It ended the day the telegraph was completed.

The Pony Express was at the time the fastest way to have mail delivered. Ships lost mail and news of the gold rush could have been forgotten. The Pony Express lasted less than two years and was replaced by the telegraph. I enjoyed reading and studying about the Pony Express and who rode the Pony Express. I hope you enjoyed reading my report about the history of the Pony Express.

The End

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