

# Readers' Theater

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## The Pony Express



GRL: I  
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Each reader's part is highlighted in color.

### List of Characters

(in order of appearance)

Group 1: Green

Group 2: Blue

Group 3: Orange

All: Red

When the characters speak in unison,  
it is noted as **All**.



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**Group 2:** Airplanes, trains, trucks, and cars deliver the mail today.

**Group 3:** But don't you wish that you lived during the times of the Pony Express?

**All:** Run, pony, run! Run like the wind!  
Take my mail across the Wild West!



# The Pony Express

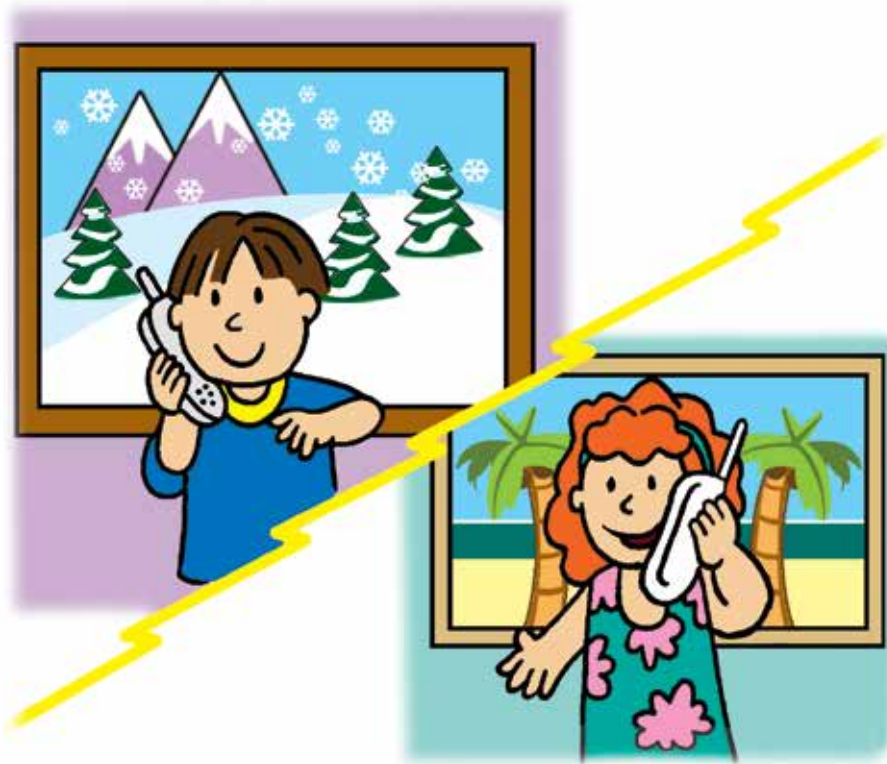


**Group 1:** Mail is one way people stay in touch. You can write a letter and put it in a mailbox. Then the post office delivers the letter a few days later.

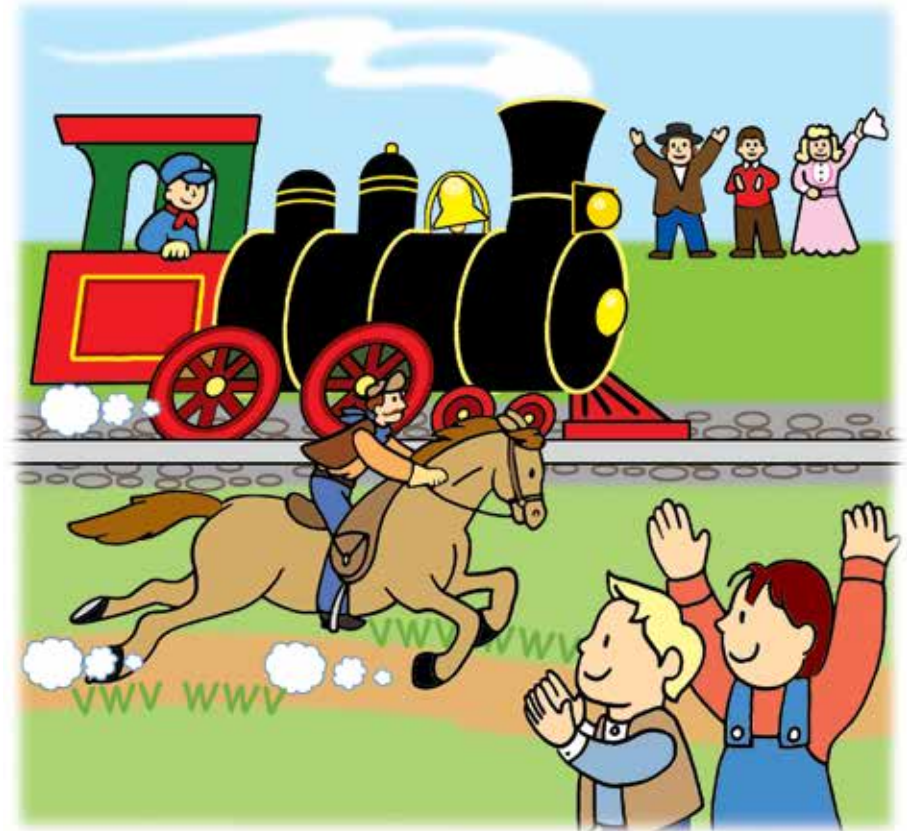
**Group 2:** Or you can send mail with a computer. And your e-mail arrives in the blink of an eye!

**Group 3:** You can also call a friend who lives far away on the telephone!

**All:** Today, it is easy to stay in touch with people you care about!



**Group 1:** Then people began to build railroads. Trains ran across the Wild West faster than ponies. So the Pony Express stopped working.





**Group 1:** It took the men and their ponies 10 days to bring Billy's letter to Sally.

**Group 2:** Sally was happy to hear from Billy. "Dear Billy," she wrote, "I am sending you a letter, too. I am sending it by Pony Express."

**Group 3:** Did Billy get Sally's letter 10 days later? You know he did! The Pony Express never failed!

**All:** Run, pony, run! Run like the wind! Take my mail across the Wild West!

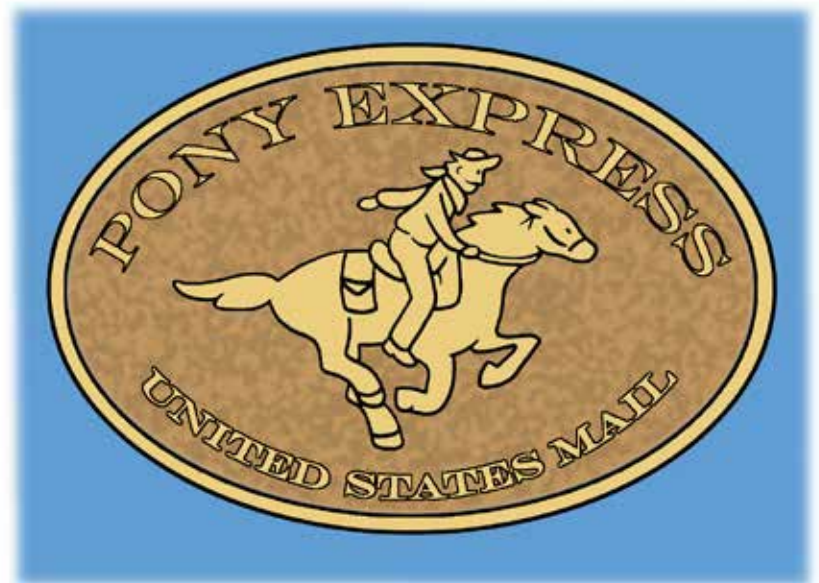


**Group 1:** A long time ago, it wasn't so easy to stay in touch. There were no phones and no computers.

**Group 2:** There were no airplanes, no cars, no trucks, and no trains to carry the mail.

**Group 3:** How did the mail go from one place to another in America? People used animals that could run fast.

**All:** They used the Pony Express. This is how it worked.



**Group 1:** One day, Billy wrote a letter to his cousin Sally. Billy lived in Missouri. Sally lived in California.

**Group 2:** Billy gave his letter to a man who put it in a bag. The man put the bag on his pony. Then he rode away.



**Group 3:** The ponies ran through Kansas and Nebraska. They ran through Colorado and Wyoming. They ran through Utah and Nevada. They ran all the way to California!

**All:** Run, pony, run! Run like the wind!  
Take my mail across the Wild West!



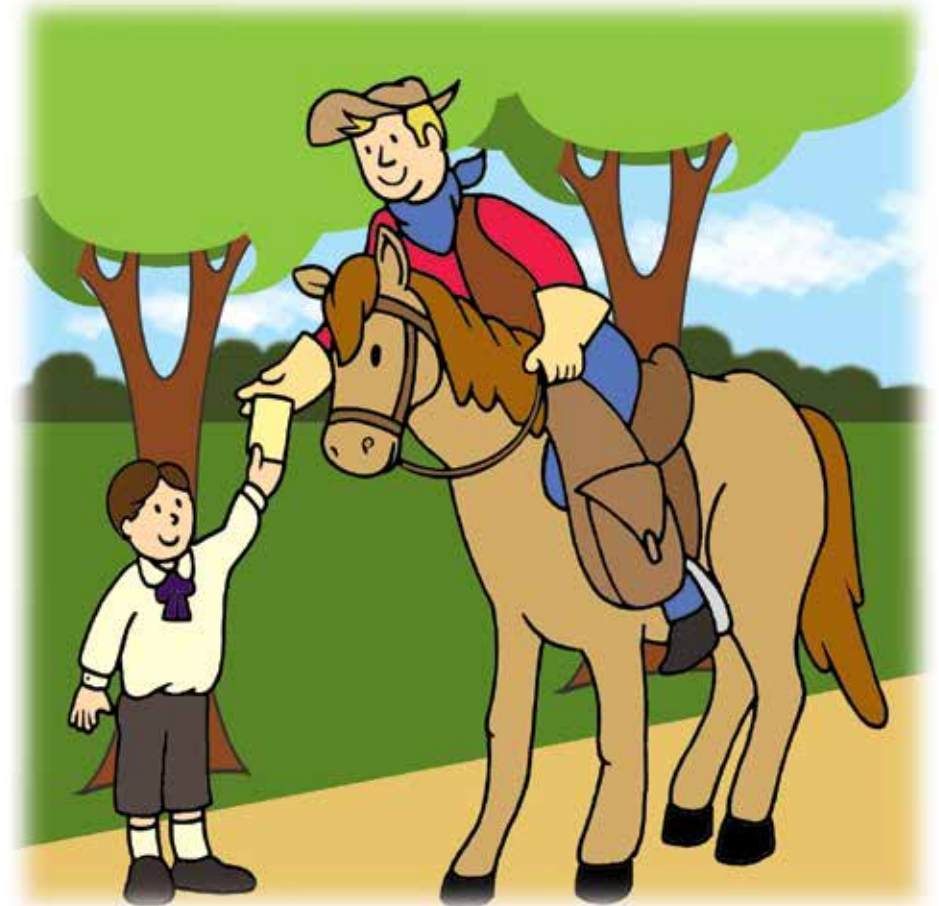
**Group 1:** Day and night, ponies carried the mail across America.  
They ran past mountains.  
They ran past rivers.  
They ran in the desert!

**Group 2:** Winter, spring, summer, and fall, through rain, snow, sleet, and hail, the Pony Express carried the mail.



**Group 3:** The man worked for the Pony Express, and his pony ran very fast.

**All:** Run, pony, run! Run like the wind!  
Take my mail across the Wild West!



**Group 1:** The man and his pony rode day and night across the land. They saw people in towns. They saw people on farms.

**Group 2:** When the pony became tired, the man let the pony rest. He put his mailbag on another pony. Then he rode away.

**Group 3:** The rider did this again and again. Every time his pony became tired, the man got a new one. He traveled miles and miles.

**Group 1:** Then the rider became tired, too. So he gave his mailbag to another man with a pony. And that man rode away!

**All:** Run, pony, run! Run like the wind!  
Take my mail across the Wild West!

