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## How to Use this Book

- Help the child enjoy this best-loved classic. If the reading level is above the child's present level, read to him or her.
- After reading, have a discussion about the story. Ask some or all of the following questions.
  - 1. Why did Pecos Bill's father want to move farther west?
  - 2. What caused Baby Bill to fall from the wagon?
  - 3. How did Pecos Bill get his name?
  - 4. After Bill fell from the wagon, why didn't his parents miss him right away?
  - 5. Who found Baby Bill and took him to her home?
  - 6. How long did Bill live with the coyote family?
  - 7. What did the coyotes teach Bill?
  - 8. When did Bill discover he was not a coyote?
  - 9. What crawled into Bill's boots when he was resting near a forty-foot cactus?
  - 10. What did Bill do to the snakes?
  - 11. What pounced on Bill as he was walking along the trail after his horse died?
  - 12. What did Bill do after he tamed the mountain lion?
  - 13. How did Bill become the boss of the cowboys he met?
  - 14. What did Bill and the cowboys do in New Mexico?
  - 15. Which cowboy was Pecos Bill's best pal?
  - 16. What did Curley Joe want to do that Bill did not want him to do?
  - 17. What happened when Curley Joe got on Widow-maker?
  - 18. How did Bill rescue Curley Joe from Pike's Peak?
  - 19. How did Pecos Bill die?
- Ask: What might be another way this story could have ended?
- Encourage the child to color the delightful illustrations. Taking a hand in the creation of the story may result in increased enthusiasm for reading.
- Use the skill-based activities on pages 21, 22, and inside the back cover to extend learning.

We hope you and your child or student enjoy and learn from this book!

- Follow-up questions:
  - 1. It was becoming too crowded where they were.
  - 2. The wagon hit a bump in the river bed.
  - 3. He was lost in Pecos country, so when he was older, he was called Pecos Bill.
  - 4. There were so many children in the family, they didn't know he was gone.
  - 5. Mrs. Coyote
  - 6. 10 years
  - 7. how to hunt rabbits and how to howl at the moon
  - 8. A cowboy came along and told him he was not a coyote.
  - 9. two big rattlesnakes
  - 10. He whipped one until it stretched out like a thirty-foot rope. He wrapped one around his neck and used the other for a quirt.
  - 11. a big mountain lion
  - 12. saddled it and rode it
  - 13. He showed he was tougher than any of them; ate hot beans and drank boiling coffee.
  - 14. They rounded up cattle, rode the ranges together, and dealt out death to bad men.
  - 15. Curley Joe
  - 16. ride his horse Widow-maker
  - 17. The horse threw him so high he landed on top of Pike's Peak in Colorado.
  - 18. threw a rope around Curley Joe's shoulders and dragged him down
  - 19. He saw a funny dude from the East and laughed himself to death.
- Page 21: Alphabetical Order: burrow, coyote, enormous, hitched, kettle, pack, quirt, river, saddle, wrestling

APHITCHEDUIKJIUNMBBTRSADDLNPAKCYTOPACKTREDFNCOYOTEPPKSCVFBURPNCOYOTEPFKSCVFBURRCOYOTEPFKSCVFBURRCVODTEFDVCDFFDVTDDCNNCCNNN

- Page 22: Across: 4) tell 8) mine 9) loud 10) together 12) false 13) stranger 15) yell Down: 1) hot 2) summer 3) none 5) light 6) always 7) aunt 11) early 13) sell 14) give
- Inside Back Cover: **Furniture Words**: chair, bed, table, couch **Job Words**: doctor, model, writer, farmer **Quiet Words**: sleep, whisper, calm, peace

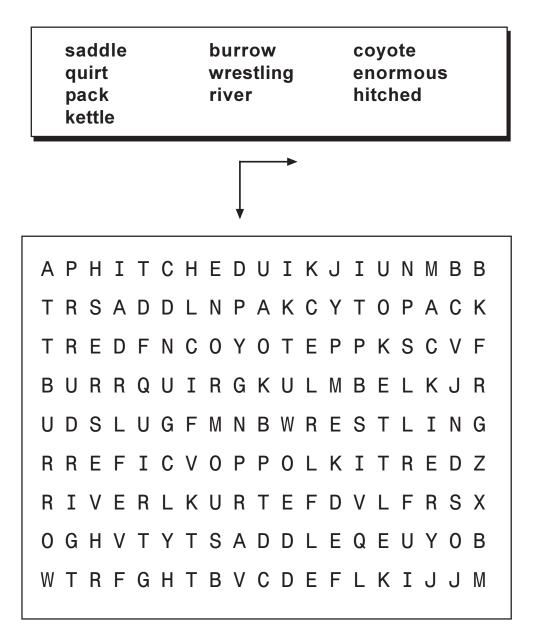


Pecos Bill was a cowboy in the wild, wild west. He was born in Texas, the youngest of sixteen children. When Bill's father found out they had neighbors just a two days' journey away, he declared, "This country is getting too crowded. We've got to move farther west."

So he loaded up his wagon with their household goods and all the children and headed westward. In a few days, they came to the Pecos River.



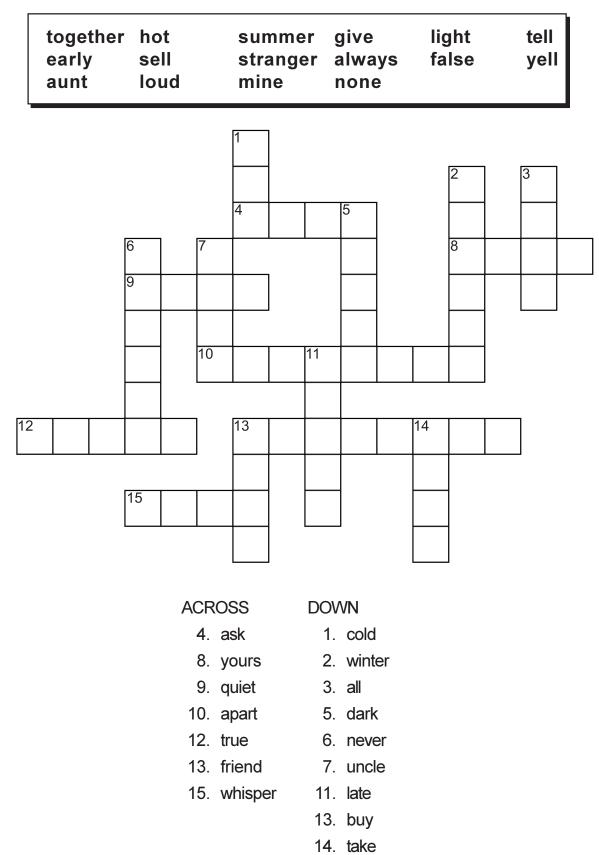
One day Bill met a dude from the East riding a tired old plug, and wearing a huge Stetson hat. He looked so out of place and so funny that Bill began to laugh. He laughed and laughed 'til he laughed himself to death, and that was a proper end for a man like Pecos Bill. Find the Pecos Bill words in the word search.



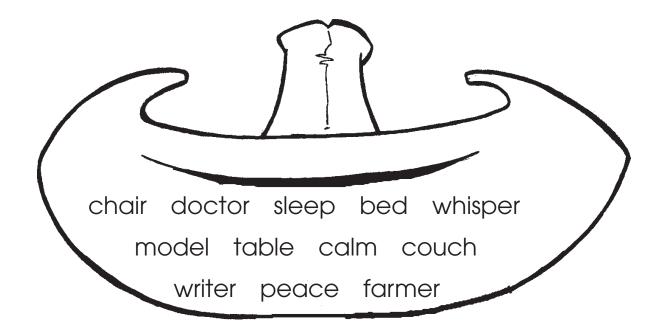
Write the words in abc order.

Words that have opposite meanings are called **antonyms**.

Complete the crossword puzzle using antonyms from the box.



22



Read the words on the cowboy hat. Write each word in the right box.

**JOB WORDS** 

**FURNITURE WORDS** 

## **QUIET WORDS**