

# Kid Scoop .com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE  
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## Kid Scoop Together: Funny Filler

Have a friend give you each type of word to fill in the blanks. Then read the story aloud!

For about as long as folks can remember, cowboys have been telling tall tales about the greatest cowboy ever known ...

# PECOS BILL

How many cactus plants can you find on this page?

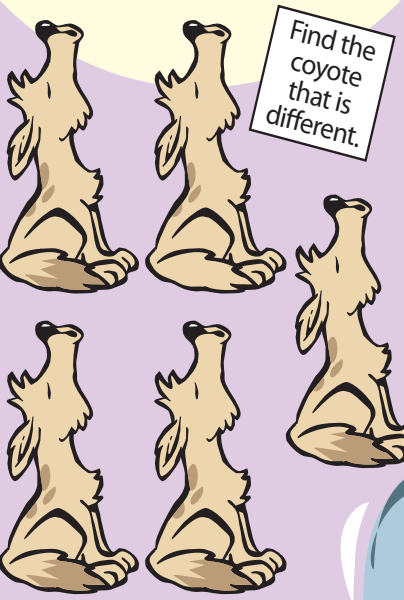
Now, you won't find Pecos Bill in history books ...



No, to find out about ol' Bill, you just have to sit around a campfire and listen as someone tells you the tale.

## Baby Bill

Bill was the youngest of 17 kids. When Bill was just a baby, he fell out of his folks' wagon out on the Texas prairie. And, naturally, he began to cry and howl as the wagon traveled out of sight. His howling attracted a pack of coyotes. They joined in howling with Bill, but after a few hours, their voices were gone. They decided that Bill must be a coyote at heart, and they adopted him into their pack.



## Bill and the Cyclone

It was said Bill could ride anything. No horse could throw him. He even rode a mountain lion once. So when

the biggest cyclone anyone had ever seen blew into town one day, Pecos Bill jumped right on it, riding it for days and days. The cyclone got frustrated and started crying big, salty tears around Utah. Today that pool of tears is known as the:



That poor cyclone had never met a cowboy like Pecos Bill and after trying to shake him loose from Texas to Arizona, it gave up and decided to turn to rain. That rain flowed and flowed and created one of the wonders of the natural world: The Grand Canyon!

The cyclone mixed up the letters. Unscramble them to reveal the name of this famous body of water.

## Soggy Solution

During a drought, Pecos Bill needed to get water to his \_\_\_\_\_. There wasn't a cloud in the sky, so he got himself a big ol' stick and \_\_\_\_\_ it across the Texas desert to the Gulf of \_\_\_\_\_. And that's how the \_\_\_\_\_ called the Rio Grande was born!

## Widowmaker

Pecos Bill's horse was named Widowmaker because no cowboy could survive an attempt to ride him. But Pecos Bill could, of course, and Widowmaker and Bill became the best of friends.



## Pecos Bill Invents the Lasso

Lots of cowboys know how to make a lasso out of a rope. But Pecos Bill invented the first lasso and he did not use a rope. Lasso every other letter to see what he used.

**R D A P T Y T N L G E C S B N Z A T K P E**

## Create a Tall Tale

The fun of a tall tale, like Pecos Bill, is that the story gets a little taller and more outrageous with each telling. Find a sports story in the newspaper and start adding silly, strange and larger-than-life details to it to create a new tall tale.

Standards Link: Writing Applications: Write stories with a setting, main characters, beginning, middle and end.

Pecos Bill once traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ to help build an \_\_\_\_\_ ADJECTIVE NOUN. People came from miles around to see this \_\_\_\_\_ ADJECTIVE cowboy in person.

Bill picked up a huge stack of \_\_\_\_\_ and some \_\_\_\_\_ PLURAL NOUN. \_\_\_\_\_ and got to \_\_\_\_\_ PLURAL NOUN right to work. Widowmaker carried \_\_\_\_\_ ADJECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_ PLURAL NOUN.

At lunchtime, Pecos Bill poured \_\_\_\_\_ and black \_\_\_\_\_ PLURAL NOUN pepper on his chili. Suddenly, he felt a sneeze coming on, so everyone began to \_\_\_\_\_ VERB!

Pecos Bill sneezed so hard that \_\_\_\_\_ ended up in \_\_\_\_\_ PLURAL NOUN \_\_\_\_\_ NAME OF STATE. Houses rolled like tumbleweeds, and a large \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN landed in a \_\_\_\_\_ NOUN.

It took Pecos Bill more than a \_\_\_\_\_ year to \_\_\_\_\_ VERB everything back to where it belonged.

Standards Link: Grammar: Use nouns, adjectives and verbs correctly in writing; understand the meaning of words from context clues.

## Kid Scoop-doku™

Complete the grid by using all the letters in the word PECOS in each vertical and horizontal row. Each letter should only be used once in each row. Some spaces have been filled in for you.

P	E	O	
E		O	C
C	O	P	
O	C		
S			O

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Widowmaker was no ordinary horse. Instead of apples or carrots, he used to chomp on this unusual treat that Pecos Bill gave him. Cross out every other apple to reveal it.



Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Follow simple written directions.

## Double Double Word Search

WIDOWMAKER Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

PECOS

COWBOY

DROUGHT

CYCLONE

TEARS

RANCH

HORSE

EXAGGERATE

TEXAS

PACK

WONDERS

WILD

HOWL

RAIN

E	T	A	R	E	G	G	A	X	E
R	S	A	X	E	T	D	W	H	Y
I	A	P	L	T	H	L	D	O	C
H	O	I	E	C	G	I	B	W	P
O	W	A	N	C	U	W	B	L	A
R	R	A	E	N	O	L	C	Y	C
S	R	O	Y	C	R	S	B	I	K
E	L	S	R	E	D	N	O	W	L
R	E	K	A	M	W	O	D	I	W

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

## Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **OUTRAGEOUS**  
 The adjective **outrageous** means going far beyond what is correct or true.

Tall tales contain **outrageous** characters and details.

Try to use the word **outrageous** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

### Action Language

Read today's newspaper and highlight each of the following examples of active writing:

- A sentence that commands or directs action
- One or more exciting verbs
- The shortest sentence you can find

Standards Link: Grammar: Identify different kinds of sentences.

## What kind of cowboy steals teapots?

ANSWER: A kettle rustler!

## Write On!

### All About Mom

Write about a special day or a special experience you had with your mom (or a special lady in your life).

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