

Scavenger Hunt Heroes of Western Movies

Can you find these objects in the Imagination Gallery?

Before Western movies became popular, Wild West shows gave audiences a taste of Western adventure. Buffalo Bill Cody, who always wore the costume of a frontier scout, created one of the biggest Wild West shows ever. Look at this beaded buckskin jacket worn by Buffalo Bill. **Do you think real frontier scouts dressed like this?**



Sioux man's jacket, buckskin with beaded decorations, worn by Buffalo Bill Cody during Wild West shows, circa 1900. Acquisition made possible in part by John E. Bianchi Jr. Autry Museum; 851.517



Gene Autry was one of the first "singing cowboys." He rode a well-trained horse named Champion and lived by his own cowboy code. Best known as "America's Favorite Singing Cowboy," Gene often sang and played his guitar in his movies and television shows. Look carefully at Gene's horse, Champion. **Can you see the special decorations on Champion's halter?**



In the early 1900s, movies about the West usually focused on cowboys, gunslingers, and other male roles, with women taking minor parts. Some early films, however, did offer a view of the West from the women's perspective. Dell Jones got her start as a trick rider in a Wild West show in the 1920s when she was only 13 years old! When her husband, Buck Jones, became a movie star they moved to Hollywood, where she worked as a stunt double on many movies. **Did you know that women stunt riders like Dell Jones sometimes doubled for male actors?**

When *The Lone Ranger* series premiered on September 15, 1949, it was the first Western program to air on television. **Did you know that the Lone Ranger always wore a mask to hide his identity as he traveled throughout the West fighting for law and order?**



Lone Ranger shirt, pants, and mask, circa 1950s. Donated by Palladium Entertainment, Inc., in memory of Jack Wrather. Autry Museum; 87.173.28.1, 87.173.28.2, 87.173.18

Do you see the children's cowboy and cowgirl clothes? Do you like to dress up like your favorite TV heroes?



Annie Oakley child's costume, 1950s.

Now that you've learned all about movie Westerns, take a ride on our green screen saddle and become the hero of your own Western movie!