

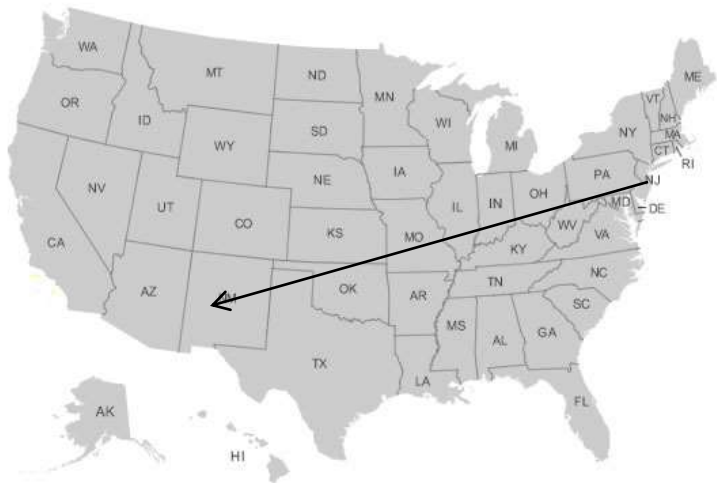
**Billy the Kid**



**Billy the Kid**

## Childhood

Henry McCarty, known as Billy the Kid, was born in 1859 in New York City. He moved west with his mother, to New Mexico in 1873.



When he was 15 years old he began stealing things from people in his town. To keep from being arrested he **fled** to the state of Arizona.

## AMERICAN WEST



While he was in his new home, he got into a fight and shot another man sending him running back to New Mexico.

## Billy's Life of Crime

He was hired to be a security guard and participated in many more gunfights. During

this time he became known as a fearless man with an excellent **aim**.



Later on he started **rustling cattle** and during this time he killed many men including a **sheriff**. Billy the Kid was arrested for killing the sheriff and was going to be **hanged** but he escaped from jail.



On July 14, 1881, Billy the Kid was shot and killed by a **lawman**. He was only 21 years old.

## The Kid's Legacy

Stories of Billy the Kid's crimes and adventures were popular in the Wild West. Over the years many books and movies have been made about his life.



## Glossary

**fled** - ran away or away from

**aim** - to point a weapon toward an object

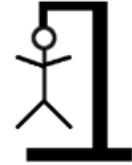
**rustling cattle** - the act of stealing cows, bulls and calves from others



**sheriff** - the officer of a county who is in charge of enforcing the law



**hanged** - to punish someone for a crime, ending their life by hanging them



**lawman** - the person who enforces the law

