Transcontinental Railroad

*Answer the following questions and use them as a guide to complete your project.*

What was a main reason for building a transcontinental railroad?

When did the building of the railroad start? What were some of the initial problems?

What were the names of the railway companies who build the railroad?

Who were the “big four” in the building of the transcontinental railroad and why were they so important?

How much did it cost to build the railroad and where did the money come from?

What were some of the dangers and difficulties faced by the workers during its construction?

What group of immigrants was most responsible for the success of the Transcontinental Railroad?

What other ethnic groups contributed to the building of the railroad?

How much did the average worker make and what were the working conditions like?

What conflict did the building of the railroad create with Native American tribes?

How did it affect wildlife like the buffalo?

What is the most significant landmark of the transcontinental railroad?

How long is the railroad and where does it start and end?

When did travel on the new railroad begin? What was its first route?

What did the “golden spike” have engraved on it?

How did the Transcontinental Railroad affect Americans? What are some of the positive impacts and the implications?