Member Project Guide

Project Background

This beginning level project is designed for 3rd to 12th grade 4-H members. Because of its unique workbook design this resource may be used by 4-H advisors with groups of members, or at home on an individual study basis. Younger members must take this project under the guidance of an adult. Horseless horse members should have access to a horse to complete this project and are expected to help out at a 4-H sponsored horse show, qualifying horse show, or county fair horse show to learn more about this aspect of the horse program. They must also be interviewed at a date specified in each county. When taking part in this interview, members are expected to bring their manual with the required number of activities completed for the year. There is no time limit to complete this project and it may be repeated.

General Project Guidelines

1. Complete the “Planning Your Project” section of this guide.
2. Explore four Interest Areas per year.
3. Complete all of the recommended activities in your selected Interest Areas.
4. Take part in at least two Organized Activities.
5. Become involved in at least two Leadership/Citizenship activities.
6. Write a one page report telling what was done and learned through this project.
Planning Your Project
Steps 1 & 2: Interest Areas and Activities

Plan to explore four Interest Areas per year. As you begin an area, place the current date (month/year) next to it. Once you have selected your Interest Areas, complete the recommended number of activities. Have a parent or advisor initial and date what you complete.

Date Started
month/year

1. History of the Horse, pages 6-7
2. Safety First, pages 8-11
3. Speaking the Horse’s Language, page 12
4. Parts of a Horse, pages 13-14
5. Colors of Horses, pages 15-21
6. Markings of Horses, pages 22-24
7. How Tall is a Horse?, pages 25-26
8. Breeds of Horses, pages 27-40
9. How Horses Talk, pages 41-42
10. Special Senses of the Horse, pages 43-44
11. General Care of the Horse, pages 45-47
12. Grooming a Horse, pages 48-50
13. Telling a Horse’s Age, page 51
14. Horse Nutrition, pages 52-53
15. The Gaits of a Horse, page 54-55
16. Riding a Horse, pages 56-57
17. The Horse Show, page 58

Step 3: Organized Activities

Select two of the following Organized Activities listed below and plan your involvement in the Report of Organized Activities chart below. Before starting your project, write your choices in the section labeled Plan to Do. Once you have taken part in an activity, record what you did and when. Organized Activities may be added or changed at any time.

Sample Organized Activities
Clinic • Demonstration • Exhibit • Field Trip • Illustrated Talk • Project Meeting • Project Judging • Radio/TV Presentation • Speech • Tour Training • Hippology Contest • Horse Bowl • Judging Team

Report of Organized Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan to Do</th>
<th>What I Did</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Meeting</td>
<td>Attended 9 of 10 4-H horse club meetings. Attended 4 hour county horse health care clinic.</td>
<td>1/15-9/30 5/23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Step 4: Leadership/Citizenship Activities

Check the activities you plan to do or plan your own in the space provided. Do at least two. Keep track of your progress by marking the date when you are through. You may add or change these at any time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan To Do</th>
<th>When I Finished</th>
<th>Leadership/Citizenship Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Encourage someone to take a horseless horse project.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Help someone with their horseless horse project.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Organize a horse information clinic for your club.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Invite someone to talk to your club on horses.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Teach someone something you learned about horses.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Encourage a friend to join a 4-H horse club.</td>
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<td>Help at a horse show.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Serve as an officer of your club.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Get sponsors for the 4-H horse show.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Help make up a show bill for a club show.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Help someone prepare for judging.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plan your own activity here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Project Review

Once you have completed your project as planned, arrange for a project review. This can take place with a parent, project advisor, or interested adult. It may also be part of a more comprehensive member evaluation at a time agreed upon by your club. Such evaluations are designed to help you evaluate what you learned as well as your growth as a 4-H member. Members who participate in this level of evaluation can receive special achievement awards like ribbons, pins, and certificates.

In addition, you may want to take part in county project judging. However, this level of evaluation determines “how well” you did on your project. You will also be compared against the achievements of others in order to determine the best in your project area, as well as possible state fair participation.
The first horse lived in America about 60 million years ago. He was about the size of a fox, and did not look like the horse as we know him today. He was called “Eohippus (e-o-hip’pus), the “Dawn Horse.” He had four toes on his front feet and three toes on his back feet, instead of hooves.

Over the millions of years, the Eohippus grew and changed through a process called “evolution.” His middle toe became a hoof, and the outside toes grew smaller and smaller until they disappeared from the foot. They became small splint bones and can be found on both sides of the cannon bone on today’s horses.

This first horse that looked more like our horses today was called “Equus.” Equus evolved about a million years ago. This was a half-million years before man. Equus was taller and more graceful. He grazed across the plains of America and spread over the existing land bridges to Europe and Asia.

About 10 thousand years ago the horse mysteriously disappeared from North America, after it had spent 60 million years there. Some scientists thought horses became extinct because the ice glaciers shifted and the land bridges disappeared. However, bison and some other animals survived the glaciation. During this time horses were not the only animals that became extinct, either. Therefore, this theory cannot be proven. Other scientists believed the disappearance of horses was caused by some contagious disease or fatal parasite. Some scientists theorized that their extinction was due to more than one cause: climatic changes, competition, and/or failure to adapt. Whatever the cause, the horse disappeared from America a few thousand years before Columbus arrived in America in 1492.

In 1519, about 500 years ago, Hernando Cortez, a Spanish explorer, brought about 16 horses to the New World from Spain. During the next 2 years, Cortez and two other Spanish explorers, deSoto and Coronado, brought 1000 more horses over from Spain.

Some historians believe that the first horses of the American Indians and the bands of wild horses, called Mustangs, came from the abandoned and stray horses of the expeditions of Cortez, deSoto, and Coronado. Others claim they came mainly from Santa Fe, an ancient Spanish mission founded in 1601, and from other Spanish missions built throughout the Southwest. Indian children who lived in these missions learned farming and breaking, training, and the use of horses. These Indians probably passed their skills and knowledge on to other Indians.

The century from 1650 to 1750 was when the great “horse culture” developed, when the Spanish horses spread across the plains of the “Wild West.”

When the pioneers settled in America they tamed the horses and used them for riding, pulling wagons, farming, and playing games on horseback. Horses were the pioneers’ only way of travel, whether they rode or used them to pull wagons or stagecoaches.

The name “horse” comes from the Anglo-Saxon, “Hors,” meaning “swift.” The word “horseman” comes from Hebrew meaning to “prick or spur.”

Activities

- Words to learn: Eohippus, evolution, splint bones, cannon bones, Equus, extinct, glacier, land bridge, Mustang, chestnuts.

- Find a picture of the Eohippus. Use an encyclopedia or horse book to do this. Look at the other kinds of early horses that evolved millions and thousands of years ago. Describe to your parent or advisor the similarities and differences in the ways they look.
Similarities

Differences
Safety First

Horses are a lot of fun, but it is very important to learn how to safely be around them. They are larger and stronger than you are. Horses can hurt you if they are not very tame or become frightened.

Rules to Follow When You Are Around Horses

1. No “horseplay” around horses.

2. Never run up behind a horse. This could scare the horse. Always walk toward the horse at an angle, never directly behind or in front of the horse. Because of where his eyes are in his head, a horse cannot see directly in front of or behind him.

3. If you have to yell, scream, jump, or run, DON’T do it around a horse. Avoid quick movements. It is important to be calm, collected, and confident around horses. They seem to sense if you are scared, which makes them more nervous.
4. When you walk around a horse, walk out of kicking range. Never walk under or step over the lead rope when a horse is tied or someone is holding the horse.

5. Do not tease a horse by poking at him, tempting him with treats such as sugar lumps or carrots, playing with his muzzle, and so forth. He will learn bad habits. It is best to never feed a horse from your hands. That's the only way to make sure you don't lose any fingers.

6. Wear boots that will protect your feet if the horse steps on you. It still may hurt, but won't hurt as bad as if you were wearing tennis shoes or, worse yet, barefoot. NEVER go barefoot or wear sandals around the barn or horses!
7. When you lead a horse, walk on his left side at his throat latch. This is called the “near” side of the horse. Always turn the horse away from you. That would be turning the horse to the right. NEVER wrap the lead rope or lead strap around your hand. You must be able to drop the lead if the horse is frightened, begins to run, and you can’t stop him. You can always catch the horse if you have to let go of him, but if your hand is caught wrapped in the rope, the horse may drag you and you can be seriously hurt.

8. If you ride a horse, make sure the saddle fits you properly. Do not put your feet through the stirrups. If you would happen to fall, you do not want your foot caught because you could be dragged. Make sure the girth is tightened properly so the saddle doesn’t slip causing the horse to be scared and run, and you to fall off.
9. Do not wrap the reins around your hand. If you have never ridden and are afraid of dropping the reins, tie them together until you get used to holding the reins.

10. Do not “cowboy” your horse, race your horse past somebody else’s horse, or run up behind someone else’s horse! Do not ride directly behind another horse as he may kick, which could hurt you or your horse. Stay a full horse’s length away from the horse in front of you, or you can ride side-by-side ( abreast) if space permits.

11. Never tie your horse with the reins. He may jump and break the reins or your bridle. There are many other safety rules in being around horses. You will learn these as you learn more about horses. Remember to use common sense or “horse” sense—NEVER “horseplay.”

Activity
Can you think of some other safety rules when you are around a horse?
Stallions are male (boy) horses used for breeding. A horse that is a father is called a sire. Male horses that have been castrated and cannot be used for breeding are called geldings. Female (girl) horses are called mares. A horse that is a mother is called a dam. A young mare is called a filly. A young stallion is called a colt. Baby horses are called foals.

A weanling is a filly or colt that has been weaned (taken away from its mother to grow up on its own). Foals are usually weaned between four and six months of age.

Colts and fillies one year old are called yearlings.

Activities
Visit a horse farm and see if they have a stallion, mare, gelding, filly, colt, weanling, and yearling. Which of these sexes and ages of horses did you see?

With the help of your family or advisor, write the people at the horse farm a thank you note for letting you see their horses.

Name of Farm Visited

Address

What did you like best about the farm you visited? Either draw a picture of or write what you liked best in the space below. If you need more space, add another sheet of paper.
Parts of a Horse

It is important to learn the parts of the horse. There are many, many reasons why you should learn the parts of a horse. When talking to someone about a horse it is important to use the correct terms. By knowing each of the parts you can tell a veterinarian where a horse is hurt.

Activity

Can you think of other reasons why you need to learn the parts of a horse?

It is hard to learn all the parts your first year, so start with the parts that are easiest for you to remember, and then keep adding to your list until you know all of them.

A horse has many body parts. They have two eyes just like you. Look at a picture of a horse or a live horse. How are a horse’s eyes different from yours?

▲ Size
▲ Color
▲ Position in head

Horses have two ears just like you. But look how different a horse’s ears are from yours. They are:

▲ Larger
▲ Longer
▲ Have lots of hair on them and inside of them
▲ Are at the top of the horse’s head

Horse body parts that are named the same as yours but look different are: face, forehead, jaw, nostril, chin, neck, back, thigh, elbow, buttock, leg, ankle, knee, arm, shoulder, upper lip, lower lip, ear, and eye.

Activities

Show your family member or 4-H advisor where those body parts are on you. Show them where they are on a picture of a horse.

If you have access to a 4-H member’s tame horse, show where these parts are.

A horse’s body is covered with hair. When it turns cold outside, horses grow longer, thicker hair. This is mother nature’s way of helping them keep warm. When it gets warm outside they shed their winter coat.

The long, flowing hair between their ears, hanging down on their forehead, is called the foretop. The long hair hanging down on their neck is called the mane. The long, silky hair that hangs from a horse’s back end is called a tail.

Activities

❑ Show your family or advisor where a horse’s foretop, mane, and tail are.

❑ Name 5 other animals that have tails.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

❑ On the next page is a drawing with the parts of a horse. Each year as a Horseless Horse 4-H member you can learn more parts of the horse.

❑ Fill in the correct parts of the horse on page 14.
HORSELESS HORSE

Answers on page 65
Colors of Horses

Horseless Horse

Horses and ponies come in many different colors and markings. They have different colors of hair, just like your hair is a different color than the color of some of your friend’s hair.

Some colors of horses for you to learn are listed below.

**Black**

The coat is pure black, like a broken piece of coal or a crow. True black horses look almost blue in the sunlight. The mane and tail are black. They almost always have black eyes, hooves, and skin.

**Brown**

Brown horses sometimes look black, but look at the hair around their muzzle or flank. It will be brown, if the horse is brown. Some brown horses are lighter than others. Brown horses will have dark manes and tails.

**Bay**

A bay horse is a mixture of red and yellow, like the color of a loaf of well-baked bread. A light bay is more of a golden red and a dark bay more of a reddish brown. The darkest bay is a mahogany bay. Bay horses will always have black points meaning a black mane, tail, and legs below the knees and hocks.

**Activity**

- New word to learn: points
- Ask your parents to show you the color of a piece of mahogany furniture.

**Chestnut**

A chestnut is a brownish-red color or dark red, with a brownish-red or dark red mane and tail. Sometimes the tail may be flaxen. A very dark brownish-red is called a liver chestnut. A lighter golden red is called a sorrel. Chestnuts never have black manes, tails, or legs.

**White**

White horses are born white. They have pink skin. They do not have dark hairs through their hair coat. They have brown or hazel colored eyes. White horses are often used in circuses or in movies as the “good guy’s” horse.

The colors black, brown, bay, chestnut, and white are called the five basic coat colors.
Color this horse BLACK
Color this horse BAY
What color(s) did you use to make a chestnut horse color? ___________________________

Gray
Gray horses have a mixture of white with any other colored hairs. They are often born another color and their hair turns gray as they get older. Gray horses have dark skin. Dappled grays look like someone has painted dark spots on their sides and backs.

Activity
☐ You can make dappled gray by taking a white crayon and color small spots close together on a piece of paper. Lightly color over the top of the white spots with a gray crayon. Now you have dappled gray.

Do you know an older person (like a grandmother or grandfather, uncle or aunt) with gray hair? Some people I know with gray hair are:

Palomino
A palomino horse’s body color is golden yellow, ranging from a bright copper to a light yellow. Palominos have white manes and tails.
Roan horses have a fairly even mixture of white and dark hairs throughout their entire body. Most roans have bay, chestnut, or black hairs mixed with their white hairs. When bay hairs are mixed with white hairs the horse is called a red roan. When chestnut hairs are mixed with white hairs the horse is called a strawberry roan. When black hairs are mixed with white hairs the horse is called a blue roan. Their heads and legs are usually darker in color.

Activity

❑ Which color of roan do you think you would like best? ________________________________

❑ Look in horse magazines for roan colored horses. Color the horse pictured below the color of roan that you like the best.

Dun

The main body color of a dun is some shade of yellow, ranging from a pale yellow to a dirty canvas color. The colors of their manes and tails range from white to black. Duns often have a stripe down their back called a dorsal stripe. A buckskin is a dun with black points. A grullo (grew yo) is a dun whose yellow hairs are mixed with brown or black looking like a mouse. Some almost seem purple. Grullos have black points and zebra stripes on their legs and withers.

Activity

❑ Words to learn:
  withers
dorsal stripe
grullo
Pinto or Paint

A Pinto is a spotted horse that has large, irregular spots or patches on his body. The main colors are black and white (called piebald) or a shade of chestnut and white. Pintos should have an equal color of white and another color or colors on their bodies.

A Pinto is called a Paint when it has a lot of Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred in its bloodlines.

Activity

Words to learn:
- piebald
- bloodlines

The colors dun, gray, palomino, pinto, and roan are the 5 major variations to the 5 basic coat colors you learned earlier.

Color the horse pictured below a Pinto.

Activities

Look in old horse magazines and cut out pictures of 5 different colors of horses or ponies. Glue these pictures on sheets of paper. Write the color of each horse under its picture or, tell the answers to your family member or advisor.

Visit a horse farm and see how many different colored horses are on the farm. Look for gray, dun, white, chestnut, black, bay, roan, palomino, brown, pinto. How many different colors of horses are on this horse farm? What colors did you see?

Did you see any colors that are not mentioned above? If so, what colors were they?

What breed(s) of horses were they?

Whose horse farm did you visit?

Did you write them a thank you note?

Look for the different colors of horses in horse books and magazines. With help from your family or advisor, how many colors can you name?

Which color is your favorite color?

Why do you like that color best?
Markings of Horses

Many horses have white markings on their faces and/or legs. These white markings have names. When you learn the names of the different kinds of markings, you can use these names in describing what a horse looks like.

White Markings on the Face

- Star
- Stripe
- Snip
- Stripe (Strip)
- Star and Stripe
- Star, Stripe, Snip
- Blaze
- Bald Face

Color the horses’ heads, but leave the markings WHITE.
White Markings on the Legs

Coronet
Pastern
Ankle
Sock (Half Stocking)
Stocking

Color the horses’ legs, but leave the markings WHITE.
Activity

Draw in the markings that are listed under each picture. You can color the horses’ heads or legs, but remember to leave the markings white.
How Tall is a Horse?

How tall is a horse? How tall are you? The height of a horse is measured in “hands.” A hand is 4 inches. This was taken from the width of a man’s hand. Look on a ruler and see how long 4 inches is.

Activities

- Draw a line 4 inches long in the space below. Put a mark at each inch.

Trace the outline of your hand below. Then, with the help of your family member or advisor, measure the width of your hand.

My hand is ___________ inches wide.
A horse is measured by using a measuring stick. The measuring stick is run from the ground to the horse’s withers as pictured below.

Activity

- With help, measure a tame horse or pony. First you will measure in inches and divide each inch by 4. Divide means to show how many times one number contains another number.

- For example: 56 inches ÷ 4 inches = ______

- The horse or pony I measured is___________ hands. Did you measure a horse or a pony?

- I measured a ___________________________________________________________________

- Have someone measure you. How many inches tall are you? I am __________ inches tall. If you were a horse, how many hands would you be?

  __________ inches ÷ 4 inches = __________
Breeds of Horses

A breed is a group of horses that are alike in many ways. They come from the same background and look a lot like their parents and ancestors. The offspring (foals) will look a lot like the parents.

Below is information about several of the more common breeds of horses. There are over 160 breeds of horses throughout the world. As you learn more about horses, you will learn about other breeds.

Light Horses

“Light” horses are horses that usually stand 14 or 14.2 hands to 17 hands high, and weigh 900 to 1400 pounds. They are used mainly for riding, driving, or racing, or for utility purposes on the farm. Light horses are generally more rangy and are capable of more action and greater speed than draft horses.

Arabian

▲ Originally from Arabia
▲ The oldest and purest of all breeds of horses
▲ Nearly all other breeds have some Arabian blood in them
▲ Their body colors are either black, bay, chestnut, or gray
▲ Their skin is black
▲ When Arabians move they seem to “float” over the ground, moving as though on springs
▲ Have small muzzles, dished faces, small ears, large eyes, large nostrils, a shield-shaped bulge between the eyes
▲ They have an arched neck and short back, and higher tail carriage
▲ Their stamina makes them excellent endurance or competitive trail riding horses

Thoroughbred

▲ Originally from England
▲ Developed by breeding Arabian stallions to English running horses
▲ Are race horses like those in the Kentucky Derby
▲ Are taller than most “light” horse breeds
▲ Are used for racing, hunting, jumping, steeple chases, hunt seat equitation, pleasure
▲ Have long legs and a very long stride
▲ Their body colors can be bay, brown, chestnut, or black

Morgan

▲ An American breed coming from Vermont in the late 1700s
▲ The first Morgan was named Justin Morgan after his owner, a school teacher
▲ Justin Morgan could out run, out plow, or out pull almost any other horse
▲ Has a short, broad and muscled back, large and round barrel, and deep and wide chest
▲ Medium-sized head with small muzzle and slight dish
▲ Bay, black, brown, or chestnut body colors

Quarter Horse

▲ Came from Virginia in the 1600s
▲ More Quarter Horses than any other breed
▲ Developed to run sprints very fast
▲ Were named Quarter Horses because they ran a “quarter” of a mile very fast
▲ Were used for ranch work in the West and still are today
▲ Used as a cutting horse, roping horse, pleasure horse, trail horse, English or western
▲ Were known for their heavy “bulldog” type muscling, but today many have smoother, moderate muscling
▲ Cannot have Appaloosa, Paint, or albino coloring
### Standardbred
- Developed in Eastern United States for road driving and racing
- Used in harness racing
- Traditionally are not ridden
- Trotters and pacers
- Longer and lower in build than the Thoroughbred
- Shoulders have a lot of strength

### American Saddlebred
- Came from Kentucky
- Flashy show horse with high head and tail carriage
- Three-gaited and five-gaited
- Shown in English or fine harness
- Moves with a lot of action and high stepping

### Tennessee Walking Horse
- Originated in Tennessee
- Were used on plantations in the South
- Famous for their running walk
- Most naturally good tempered of all horses
- Very comfortable riding horses
- Are ridden English
- Gaits are flat walk, running walk, and the high, smooth, rocking chair canter

### Palomino
- Is a “color type” not really a breed
- Quarter Horses and Saddlebreds are often of Palomino color; purebred Thoroughbreds and Arabians cannot be Palomino color
- Palominos, depending on the type, range in use from stock horses to showy “parade” horses, like the kind you might see in the Rose Bowl parade where the riders wear flashy outfits and ride in silver saddles

### Appaloosa
- Developed by the Nez Perce Indians along the Palouse River in the State of Washington
- Were first called “Palouse” horses and then became known as Appaloosa
- Have spotted coats; smaller spots than the Pinto
- Five spotted coat patterns: blanket, marble, snowflake, leopard, and frost
- Mane and tail were thin and short so when the Indians rode them they would not get caught in brush and thickets; many have thin manes and tails today
- The skin around their muzzle and under their tail is “mottled” or spotted
- They must have white around their eyeball called a “sclera”
- Their hooves are often black and white striped

### Pinto or Paint
- Descendants of the Spanish horses
- Was popular with the American Indians because of its spotted coloring
- Both Pinto and Paint mean spotted with body color of white and another color
- Called a Paint if of stock horse background—Quarter Horse or Thoroughbred
- Pinto refers to all types or breeds—ponies, Saddlebreds, parade and fine harness horses

### Ponies
Ponies stand under 14.2 or 14 hands, weighing from 500 to 900 pounds. Not every small horse is a pony, however. Some small horses are merely small animals of established light horse breeds. Others are runts. There is a distinct conformation in ponies. They are of draft horse, heavy harness horse, or saddle or harness horse type, only in miniature.
Shetland Pony
▲ One of the smallest breeds of ponies
▲ Came from the Shetland Island of Great Britain
▲ Were used as pack animals and for riding
▲ Were very strong and hardy ponies because of being in a cold climate
▲ Today are used as children’s mounts and for fine harness or roadster pony
▲ There are miniature Shetland ponies today
▲ Can be almost any color

Welsh Pony
▲ Another British breed, these ponies came from Wales
▲ Are larger than Shetland ponies
▲ Look a lot like small Arabians
▲ Can be any color but spotted

Pony of the Americas (POA)
▲ Came from the state of Iowa
▲ Was a cross between an Appaloosa and a Shetland pony
▲ POA’s look like small Appaloosas

Draft Horses
Large, heavy breeds of horses used in farming and pulling wagons are called draft horses. They were bred for power rather than speed. Draft horses should be blocky or compact, short legged, and heavy enough to enable them to move a heavy load and maintain secure footing. Draft horses stand between 16 and 17 hands tall and weigh between 1,600 and 2,200 pounds.

Shire
▲ Largest of all draft horses
▲ Came from England
▲ Weighs between 2,240 and 2,688 pounds
▲ Have heavy feathering on their legs that is silky and straight
▲ The first Shires were black with white feathering, but now there are bays, browns, and even grays

Clydesdale
▲ Breed is a little more than 150 years old
▲ Came from Scotland
▲ More elegant and flashier than other draft horse breeds
▲ Nationally known as the breed of horses that pull the Anheuser-Busch wagons
▲ Usually bay or brown, but can be gray, black, or roan

Percheron
▲ Came from France
▲ Usually dapple-gray or black
▲ Does not have feathers on legs
▲ Throughout history has been used as war horse, coach horse, farm horse, heavy artillery horse
▲ Was used in the battlefields during World War II

Belgian
▲ Came from Belgium
▲ Usually chestnut in color with flaxen mane and tail
▲ Tail is usually kept the shortest of all draft horses
▲ Very little feathering on legs

Suffolk
▲ Came from England
▲ Smaller than other draft horse breeds
▲ Are always chestnut in color
▲ Do not have feathers on legs
▲ The least popular draft horse breed in America

Activities
❑ Words to learn: light horse, pony, draft horse, type, mottled, sclera, feathering, flaxen
❑ How many pounds do you weigh?
_________ pounds

NOTE
If you don’t want to use your actual weight, use an arbitrary weight in pounds.
How many times heavier is a Shire weighing 2,240 pounds than you? Hint: Take your weight and divide it into 2,240 pounds.

Example: 1,800 pound horse ÷ 100 pound person = 18. This means the horse is 18 times heavier than the person.

Now, do your math in the space below. How many times heavier is the 2,240 pound Shire than you?

The Shire is ________times heavier than I am.

How many pounds heavier is this 2,240 pound Shire than you? Hint: Subtract your weight from the weight of the Shire.

Example: 1,990 pound horse
- 120 pound person

1,870 pounds heavier

Now, do your math in the space below. How many pounds heavier is this Shire than you?

The Shire is ________pounds heavier than I am.

Visit a horse farm and find out what breed or breeds of horses they have. Remember to write them a thank you note.

Look in a horse magazine for pictures of different breeds of horses. Cut out pictures of 4 breeds and glue them on poster board or pieces of paper. Write the name of the breed of horse under each picture. Looking at the pictures, which breed of horse do you like best?

Why?

From the 18 breeds of horses listed on pages 27-29, name five breeds. Tell your parent or advisor one thing about each breed you named.

1. _____________________________________________
2. _____________________________________________
3. _____________________________________________
4. _____________________________________________
5. _____________________________________________

You learned that horses within the same breed look alike in many ways. In what ways do you look like your parents or family?

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________

________________________________________________
On the next few pages are pictures of breeds of horses to color. Make sure you color them a color that the breed recognizes.

Refer to the information in this section about the breeds.
Saddlebred
Paints
Tennessee Walker
Morgan
Thoroughbred
Arabian
Quarter Horse
Welsh and Shetland Ponies
Clydesdales
How Horses Talk

Adapted from Horses and Horsemanship by: M. E. Ensminger

Horses cannot speak like we can, but they can communicate with other horses and people. When you are around horses it is important to listen to the sounds they make. It is also important to watch their “body language.” Body language is the term used for the nonverbal actions of the horse, like the movement of his ears and the switching of his tail.

Horses speak in a variety of ways, making several different sounds. Some of the more common sounds they make are as follows:

1. Snort—When horses snort they blow air out through their nostrils in quick, loud breaths. This is a warning signal used to alert other horses of something that might cause danger. Horses also snort when they are frightened or excited.

2. Neigh or Whinny—This sound is used by horses to express great concern, fear, and even terror. A whinny is a loud, piercing sound. If a horse is used to being with other horses and all of a sudden finds himself alone, he will neigh or whinny in hopes of hearing where the other horses are and letting them know he is alone.

3. Nicker—Horses nicker to greet other horses, other animal friends, getting to come into the barn, getting feed, and seeing their people friends. A nicker is a soft sound, the sound of pleasure.

4. Squeal—This is the sound of anger. Horses squeal when they see each other for the first time and when they are fighting. They may squeal when they are bucking. Stallions and mares also may squeal during breeding season.

5. Stallion or Mating Call—This is the loud, shrill, threatening sound of the stallion. He makes this sound to tell others to stay away from his territory and his mares. The stallion also makes this loud sound when he sees or hears another horse, and uses it as a mating call.

6. Mare Talk—This is the soft nickering of a mare when she is talking to her foal, assuring it that all is well. She also uses these soft nickers to let her foal know that she is close by and guide the foal to her side.

It is important to watch a horse’s visual signals. A horse communicates visually with his ears, tail, mouth and lips, eyes, and nostrils.

Ears

It is easiest to watch a horse’s ears to see what mood he is in or what he is thinking. The eyes and ears of a horse function together. In other words, the direction that a horse is looking can be determined by the direction his ears are pointing.

Horses can look and listen to the front with the ear and eye on one side and to the back with the ear and eye on the other side at the same time. When a horse is asleep his eyes are partially closed and ears are slightly pointed toward the back. When a horse shows interest in something and is curious, his ears point forward. When a horse is angry or upset his ears are laid farther back toward his crest.

When you are around horses, always watch their ears so you know what moods they are in.

Refer to the pictures on page 42.

Tail

Sometimes you can tell how a horse may act by watching his tail. On a cold morning if he has a kink in his tail, beware, he is feeling his oats and may test your riding ability.

A horse may hold his tail high when he is feeling good. When his tail is held high and he is snorting, that means that something has startled him or he is excited.

If a horse tucks his tail between his legs he is usually badly frightened or is getting ready to kick. If he switches his tail he is irritated at something—maybe flies or maybe his rider.
Mouth and Lips

Watch a foal approach another horse. He will extend his head and open and close his mouth rapidly. He is communicating his immaturity and letting the other horse know he's a baby.

When a horse that is eating raises his upper lip, he is usually saying he doesn’t like the taste or smell of the feed. When horses smell things that they do not necessarily like they many times raise their upper lip. Sometimes raising the upper lip may indicate pain in a horse’s digestive system.

Eyes

As we said before, the eyes and ears move the same direction. A sleepy horse may have his eyelids partly closed. A frightened horse has his eyelids wide open.

Nostrils

The nostrils will flair when a horse is excited or frightened. This allows more air to move into the lungs. The horse will also sometimes snort.

Activities

- When you are around a horse look at his ears, eyes, tail, nostrils, mouth, and lips. Can you tell what mood he is in? See what is being done to make him lay his ears back, or to cause him to put his ears forward. Listen to the sounds he is making when he sees another horse, or when it is feeding time.

- Look at pictures of horses in magazines and books and tell your family or advisor what mood the horse is in by his body language.

- Look at the drawings. Name the mood the horses might be in looking at their ears.

- Think of all the ways you communicate to others non-verbally or using visual signals. Name as many as you can in the space below.

Listening Ahead

Listening/Watching Both Directions

Interest or Listening Behind
Special Senses of the Horse

Sight

A horse has two eyes, just like you. However, a horse can see different things with each eye. He can look at one thing with his left eye, while at the same time look at something different with his right eye. Therefore, he can see to the sides, the front, and the back all at the same time. However, he cannot see directly behind him. We see the same picture with both eyes.

If a horse wants to see something very clearly he will face that object and use both eyes to focus on it at the same time.

Hearing

A horse has excellent hearing and can hear a lot better than we can. Horses can hear high frequency sounds, like dog whistles and insect repellers, that we can't hear. They can usually hear where a sound is coming from before they can see what is causing that sound.

It is difficult for a horse to judge distances accurately. The horse has good vision in the dark. It is not as good as a cat's night vision, but it is a lot better than a human's. If a horse is familiar with an area, he can be ridden at night fairly safely.

Of all our domestic animals, the horse has the poorest vision. He cannot see as accurately as a cat, dog, and other of our pets.

Is a horse color blind? That is, can he see only shades of and not true colors? This question has not been completely answered. One study indicates that horses can tell the difference between shades of yellow and green, but not red and blue. Other tests indicate they can tell between a color and gray of equal brightness.
Smell

Horses use smell to help them find food, and to identify each other and humans. Horses can associate the smell of medicine and veterinarians. If that smell is unpleasant they may become very nervous and hard to handle when a veterinarian is there. They can also smell if there are drugs and other items added to their feed. If their feed does not smell the same and that is an unpleasant smell, they may not eat.

A horse’s sense of smell is well developed and much better than our sense of smell.

Touch

Horses have a well-developed sense of touch. Certain areas of a horse’s body are more sensitive to touch than others. This is true for people also. Think which parts of your body are more “ticklish” than others. Some of a horse’s most sensitive areas are his nose, eyes and ears, legs, rear flank, the withers, and the frog.

Touch is the most important sense used in riding horses. Riders touch horses through the mouth and neck, with their legs in the rib area, and with their weight at the withers. It is important when cueing a horse to do so as lightly as possible, so the horse will respond to what you are asking him to do.

Activities

❑ Have someone show you where the horse’s frog is. Have them explain the purpose of the frog and why it is sensitive. Refer to picture on page 45.

How many frogs does a horse have?_______

Name five things that smell good to you.

1. ________________________
2. ________________________
3. ________________________
4. ________________________
5. ________________________

❑ Name five things that smell bad or unpleasant to you.

1. ________________________
2. ________________________
3. ________________________
4. ________________________
5. ________________________

❑ What two senses are this mare and foal pictured to the left using to recognize each other?

1. ________________________
2. ________________________
General Care of the Horse

Stalls
When the horses are in stalls the stalls are usually bedded with straw or some type of wood shavings. The stalls should be cleaned regularly so they do not get dirty, wet, and smelly.

Horses like to have clean stalls to stand and lay in, just like you like to have a clean bed to sleep in. Stalls should be picked daily, getting the manure and wet out of the stall.

Equipment used in cleaning stalls could include a pitch fork, sawdust fork, rake, shovel, broom, muck tub, or wheelbarrow.

It is important that stalls are checked regularly to make sure there are not wire, nails, loose boards, etc., on which a horse can get hurt.

Activity
❖ At a stable or horse farm, or farm store, identify the different tools used in cleaning stalls. Tools I learned about include:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

❖ The name of the horse farm or farm store I visited was:

Hooves
A horse shoer or “farrier” trims horses’ feet (hooves) every six to eight weeks. A farrier may also put shoes on horses’ feet every six to eight weeks. Shoes protect the horse’s feet against excessive wear when he is ridden a lot on rough ground or hard ground.

If you take your shoes off and walk barefoot over stones, it hurts your feet. It also hurts horse’s feet if they walk a lot over stones barefoot.

Activity
❖ Watch a farrier trim and put shoes on a horse’s hooves. Have the farrier tell you about a horse’s hooves and some of the tools he/she uses.

❖ Would you like to be a farrier when you grow up?
Diseases

Horses, just like humans, can get many different kinds of diseases. Horses should be vaccinated so they do not get certain diseases, just like you were vaccinated so you won’t get polio, rubella, and other childhood diseases. Some diseases that horses get can be caught by people. That makes it even more important to vaccinate horses.

A veterinarian is an animal doctor. He or she treats horses for diseases and injuries, and can help teach you how to take care of your horse’s health.

Four main diseases that can be prevented by vaccination are:

- **Encephalomyelitis**
- **Influenza**
- **Tetanus**
- **Rhinopneumonitis (Rhino)**

**Encephalomyelitis**

This is an inflammation of the central nervous system. The disease affects horses and humans. It can be spread from sick to healthy animals by mosquitoes, assassin bugs, or spotted fever ticks. Fifty to 90 percent of the horses that get this disease die.

**Influenza**

This is a respiratory disease of the horse. Influenza is caused by several viruses. Symptoms include high fevers, nasal discharge, loss of appetite, and general loss of usefulness. The horse becomes weak and if not treated by a veterinarian may get pneumonia and could die.

**Tetanus**

This disease of the central nervous system is almost always fatal. The bacteria that causes it enters the body through wounds. This organism (bacteria) also commonly lives in the horse’s digestive system. Because of this the bacteria is always present and a danger to the horse or to you if you have an open wound. Both horses and people should be vaccinated regularly against tetanus. If people are not vaccinated and should get tetanus, they can die from this disease.

**Rhinopneumonitis (Rhino)**

This is a virus that causes an upper respiratory infection in horses. It also causes mares to lose (abort) their foals during their pregnancy. Horses on breeding farms should be vaccinated against rhino. Horses that are shown should also be vaccinated to keep them healthy.

**Activities**

- Ask your parent or advisor to pronounce these words and tell you about each disease. As you get older and become more involved with horses you will become familiar with these terms and learn about more diseases of the horse.

- Which of these four diseases can you get?
  1. __________________________________
  2. __________________________________

- Which disease should you regularly be vaccinated against?

- Ask your parents what childhood diseases you have been vaccinated against. Name at least three of these.
  1. __________________________________
  2. __________________________________
  3. __________________________________
  4. __________________________________
Parasites

Horses also can get different types of worms inside their stomachs and intestines. These are called internal parasites. The worms make horses lose weight, look and act tired, have dull hair coats, and generally make them not feel well.

The three major kinds of parasites found in the horse are:

- **Strongyles (blood worms)**
- **Ascarids (round worms)**
- **Bots**

There are drugs called wormers, including paste drugs, that are given to the horses at regular intervals to remove the worms from their bodies. Most of these wormers are given by mouth. You should never swallow any worm medicine or drugs given to horses.

Some horses get bugs that are on the outside of their body. These are called external parasites. The main external parasites horses get are lice and ticks. Special medicines are used to treat these.

Flies also bother horses, and people. There are many kinds of fly sprays that can be bought at farm stores. Make sure they can be used on horses because a horse’s skin is more sensitive than some animals. Keeping stalls and the barn clean helps reduce the number of flies.

Activities

- Watch somebody give a horse a shot.
- Watch someone worm a horse.
- Find pictures of the three main kinds of internal parasites.
- Find a picture of a bot fly.
- Have someone show you what bot eggs look like on a horse’s coat, and show you how to remove them. Describe what they did to remove the bot eggs.

- Find a picture of horse lice.
- Find a picture of a tick. What other animals commonly get ticks?

- Do people sometimes get ticks on them?

- How should someone remove a tick from an animal or person?

- Name two diseases ticks carry.
  1. 
  2. 
Grooming a Horse

It is very important to groom horses daily. Groom means to clean and brush a horse, including cleaning out his hooves.

Grooming gets the horse's coat clean and the dirt free from the pores of the skin so the skin can “breath.” Good grooming, along with proper nutrition, makes the horse's coat shine, just like your hair shines when you brush it every day and eat nutritious foods every day.

The following grooming tools can be used to groom a horse:

- Rubber Curry Comb
- Plastic Curry Comb
- Dandy Brush
- Body Brush
- Mane and Tail Comb
The following steps are used in grooming.

**The Body**

Start grooming on the horse’s left (near) side because this is the side you walk when you lead him and the side you mount (get on) on.

1. Use a rubber, plastic, or metal curry comb and rub the coat using a circular motion to loosen the dirt and dead hair. Begin on the left side and finish on the right side. Do not use a metal curry comb on the head or legs because it hurts the horse.

2. Then using the rubber curry again, begin on the neck (left side first), then work to the chest, shoulder, side, belly, croup, hind leg. Move to the right side and do the same thing. Be easy using a rubber curry on the head and legs below the knees and hocks because it may hurt the horse.

3. Next use the dandy brush (the stiff brush) and brush the horse beginning on the left side. Brush in the direction the hair lays using short strokes.

4. Go over the coat next with the softer body brush.

5. Use a grooming cloth for a final shine.

**The Head and Legs**

1. Very carefully, if needed, use a rubber curry to loosen dirt on the head and legs. Then use a dandy brush carefully, followed by a body brush. Finish by using a grooming cloth. You can use a damp cloth to wipe the corners of the eyes, the ears, and the nostrils.

**The Mane and Tail**

1. Use the dandy brush to clean the mane and tail. Use your fingers to remove tangles, just like you would if your own hair gets tangled.

2. Do not use a mane and tail comb on horses like Arabians and Saddlebreds where the mane and tail must be left full and long. Using a comb can pull hair out or break hair off. Only use the comb on breeds where short manes and tails are accepted.

**The Feet**

1. Using a hoof pick, start with the front left hoof (near forefoot). Have your parent or advisor show how to properly pick up a horse’s foot. Pick out all the dirt. Next move to the left hind hoof. Then clean the right hind hoof. The last hoof cleaned is the right forefoot.
The sweat scraper is used to wipe the sweat off a horse after he has been exercised, or the water off after he has been rinsed from his bath.

For show, people use clippers to clip the horse’s bridle path, the hair from the muzzle, inside of the ears, and fetlocks.

It is important to groom a horse before he is worked or ridden and after he has been exercised.

Activities

☐ With the help of a parent or advisor, groom a horse or pony.

☐ Watch somebody clip a horse. Do you think it looks better before or after the horse was clipped? ____________________________

☐ Match the grooming equipment with the pictures. Draw a line from the name to the correct grooming tool.

Rubber Curry Comb

Plastic Curry Comb

Dandy Brush

Body Brush

Mane and Tail Comb

Sweat Scraper

Hoof Pick

Grooming Cloth
Telling a Horse’s Age

Did you know that you can tell about how old a horse is by looking at his teeth? A horse has two sets of teeth during his lifetime, just like you do. These are his temporary or milk teeth, and his permanent teeth. The milk teeth are small in size and pearly white in color. The permanent teeth are much larger, stronger, and darker.

A foal gets his first teeth when he is two to four days old. At 10 months all of his milk teeth have usually erupted through the gum. At 2 1/2 years of age he begins to lose his milk teeth. At three years he begins to get his permanent teeth and usually has all of his permanent teeth at the age of 5. When he gets all of his permanent teeth he is said to have a “full mouth.”

After a horse reaches 5 years old and acquires a full mouth, telling his age by his teeth must be based on the wear and changes of shape and angle of the teeth.

Other ways to determine the age of a horse include the change in the appearance of the muzzle and face, depressions above the eyes, appearance of gray hairs about the eyes and temples, and the appearance of the legs. However, many outside factors can influence these traits. Only by looking at a horse’s teeth can you tell about how old the horse really is.

If you have a horse that is a registered breed, you can look on his registration papers to see when he was born. This is the most accurate method of knowing how old a horse is. You can also find out the age of a horse if the person who raised the horse from a foal recorded the date when the horse was born.
Horse Nutrition

It is very important that a horse is fed a balanced ration. This means that horses need proper nutrition fed in the right amounts each day.

You also need to eat nutritious foods every day. You should eat the right number of servings from each of the food groups daily.

**Water**

Horses need to drink plenty of clean, fresh water. Clean water should be kept in front of them all the time except when they are hot and overheated. If they drink water then, they can get very sick.

You should drink plenty of water each day also.

**Hay**

Horses need hay (roughage) just as you need fiber in your diet. Pastures can supply the horse with grass or roughage. Hay can also be fed to horses when pasture is not available. There are many types of hay that can be fed to horses: timothy, blue grass, white clover, orchard grass, alfalfa.

When hay fields are planted, many times the types of seeds are mixed so different kinds of hay grow together. This type of hay mixture is called “mixed hay.” Orchard grass and alfalfa mixture is an example. There are some kinds of hays not suitable for horses such as fescue or red clover.

When feeding hay make sure it is free from dust, mold, and decay. Good hay is bright, clean, leafy, and free from dust, mold, decay.

**Grain**

Grain or concentrates provide the horse with food high in nutrients and low in fiber. Corn and oats are the most common grains fed to horses. Corn supplies a lot of energy to the horse. Horses like the taste of oats better than corn. Oats provide more protein than corn.

Corn and oats are usually fed to horses mixed in commercial horse feeds. Commercial horse feeds are feeds you buy at the feed store already mixed and bagged.

Usually protein supplement such as soybean oil meal is added to the commercial feed as well as vitamins and minerals.

**Salt**

It is also important to keep a trace mineral salt block where the horse can lick it so he will get the extra minerals he needs.

The amount of hay and grain horses eat depend on their weight, age, general health, and how much exercise they get. When they are younger they need more protein, just like you do. Also when they are being ridden and getting a lot of exercise they need to be fed more than if they are just standing in a stall. Don’t you eat more and get hungrier when you run and play?

It is also important that horses are fed at least twice a day at about the same time each day. It is important that you eat three balanced meals a day.
Activities

☐ Words to learn: roughage, concentrate, fiber

☐ Visit a farm or feed store that has hay. Look at the hay. Find out what kind it is. Look at it and smell it to see if it is bright and clean. What kind(s) of hay did you see?

☐ Name two kinds of food you eat that add fiber to your diet.

1. ___________________________

2. ___________________________

☐ Name two kinds of food you eat that give you energy and two kinds of food you eat that give you protein.

Energy ___________________________

Protein ___________________________

☐ Visit a feed store and look at an ear of corn and some oats. Look at some commercial horse feed. Identify the corn and oats in it. Can you identify anything else? Ask your feed store dealer to help you. Other nutrients identified include:

☐ Name 2 kinds of food you eat that is made from corn.

☐ Name 2 kinds of food you eat that is made from oats.

☐ Do you like corn or oats better?
The Gaits of a Horse

Gaits are the movement of a horse’s feet and legs. The natural gaits of a horse are the walk, trot, canter, and gallop.

The walk is a slow and natural gait. The horse lifts one foot and strikes the ground with it while the other three are on the ground. It is called a four-beat gait.

The trot is a two-beat, diagonal gait. When the horse picks up his feet, the forefoot on one side and the opposite hind foot lift off the ground and strikes the ground at the same time. People who ride western often call the trot a jog.

The canter is an easy three-beat gait. The canter is faster than the trot with the horse cantering with either a left or right “lead.” The term lead means the front leg which moves independently at a canter. If a horse canters in a circle to the left, his left front leg should “lead.”

When a horse canters in a circle to the right, his right front leg should “lead.” People who ride western call the canter a lope.

The gallop is faster than a canter resulting in a four-beat gait. A fast gallop is called running.

Activities

❖ Words to learn: gait, jog, lead, lope
❖ Watch a horse walk, trot, canter, and gallop. Watch someone canter a horse in a circle each direction. Can you see which front leg “leads”?
❖ Now you “walk,” “trot,” “canter,” and “gallop” using your two feet.
❖ How many feet does a horse have? If you are able, get down on your hands and knees and show your parents the left lead and the right lead.
❖ Color the pictures below and on the next pages. Each horse is doing one of the four natural gaits.
THE GAITS OF A HORSE

Canter

Gallop
Riding a Horse

Basically, horses are ridden either Western or English. There are different types of English riding depending on the breed or type of horse. Some people ride using either an English or western side saddle. People that contest, running horses around barrels or weaving poles, use a contest saddle. People who trail ride many times use an Australian saddle. People who trail ride competitively or endurance ride usually use an endurance saddle.

Horsemanship is the proper way in which a horse is ridden according to the style of riding.

Tack

Tack is the term used for equipment used in haltering, riding, or driving a horse. Saddles are used for the rider to sit on, and by using the natural riding aids (hands, legs, voice, and weight) help a rider use proper horsemanship.

The bridle is used to control and guide a horse. It is very important to have the proper bridle for that style of riding and a bit that is suitable for the horse and rider. An inexperienced rider can hurt a horse’s mouth by improper use of the reins and bit.

It is also important to ride with a saddle blanket and/or pad underneath the saddle to keep the horse’s back from getting sore.

Showmanship is how a person leads and shows a horse in halter.

Below is a picture of a halter, lead rope, lead strap, and lunge line.

It is best to use nylon halters and rope leads for everyday use at home and when hauling a horse, but in the showring a leather halter and leather lead strap should be used.

Activities

- Look in a tack catalog and find the different types of saddles, bridles, and other equipment.

- Go to a horse show and watch the different styles of riding. Tell who you are with some of the differences you notice between English and western.

- Watch contest classes of barrel racing and pole bending. These are timed events where riders race against a clock. The fastest horse wins provided the horse and rider do not break any of the rules.

- Watch someone properly mount (get on) and dismount (get off) a horse, both western and English. Which side of the horse do they mount and dismount from?

- Watch someone put a halter on a horse. Now you put a halter on a horse.
Activities

☐ Find a 4-H member who shows western. Look at his or her attire... hat, shirt, pants, belt, boots, chaps, spurs.

☐ Find a 4-H member who shows English saddle seat and one who shows English hunt seat. Look at their attire. Can you tell how they are similar and how they are different?

☐ Notice the difference in styles between English and western attire. List five of those differences below.

1. _____________________________
2. _____________________________
3. _____________________________
4. _____________________________
5. _____________________________

☐ Look in a clothing and tack catalog and find the different styles of English and western clothing. Which do you like best and why?

If you have not yet begun riding or showing, you should still have a pair of jeans and boots to wear when you are around horses.

Below are pictures of western and English saddles. Look at their similarities and differences.

Look in tack catalog for similarities and differences in western and English bridles.
The Horse Show

When people show horses at horse shows, judges look at the classes and in their opinion place the classes first, second, third, and so forth. The riders can win many kinds of awards. In some shows, especially breed shows, the horses receive points for winning or placing. In other shows winners may receive a trophy or other prizes for first place and rosettes (nice ribbons) for other placings. They may also receive money. Awards are one way of recognizing people and their horses for doing good. However, the most important thing is how much the rider has learned about horses and how well he/she can handle the horse. Good sportsmanship is also an important part of showing horses. Only a few people can win in each class. It is very important not to be a sore loser, or a cocky winner. Four-H members should always practice good sportsmanship.

Activities

☐ There are horse shows in your area many weekends. Have your parents or advisor take you to a horse show. At most open horse shows (not specific breed shows) there are several different breeds represented with different styles of riding. How many different breeds of horses did you see at a horse show? __________

☐ Have your parents or advisor explain the differences among the classes. Which class or classes did you like the best? ______________

Why? __________________

______________________

______________________

______________________

______________________

What were they? __________________

______________________

______________________

______________________

______________________
Horse Crossword Puzzle

Across
1. Spotted horse ridden by Nez Perce Indians
5. To barrel race or pole bend
9. Foreign to a horse’s body
10. Mouthpiece
12. A lasso
13. Alfalfa is a type of this
14. What a horse uses to swat flies
15. Abbreviation for Pony of the Americas
17. Type of horse from British Isles that is stocky, big bodied, with short powerful legs
19. Easy three-beat gait
22. A western canter
24. Wild horse of the western plains
28. Used to clean stalls
29. A young mare
30. Horses should always have plenty of clean, fresh ______.
31. What you hold onto when riding
32. Type of grain high in energy
33. Largest breed of draft horse
34. Also called a Paint

Down
2. Golden colored horse
3. To exercise a horse on a long nylon strap
4. Clothing
6. Part of a horse where the mane grows
7. Trail riding judged mostly on speed of horse
8. Name for saddles and bridles
10. Draft horse coming from Belgium
11. Term used in measuring horses
15. Horse usually measuring under 14.2 hands
16. A horse’s foot
18. Dun with black points
20. What you might sleep in during overnight trail ride
21. Horse with fairly even mix of white and dark hairs throughout body
23. A concentrate
25. Mineral often given free choice
26. Fast, four beat gait
27. Horses of this color look almost blue in sunlight
29. Water and salt should be given ______ choice.

Answers on page 65
Horse Word Game

Fit the words listed below into the puzzle grid located above. The word “lead” has already been put in for you.

3 Letter Words | 4 Letter Words | 5 Letter Words | 6 Letter Words
---|---|---|---
Bot | Arab | Lead | Attire
Cob | Bald | Rear | Energy
Dun | Burn | Ride | Halter
Ear | Colt | Roan | Morgan
Fly | Corn | Room | Nicker
Fun | Dust | Salt | Saddle
Jog | Gray | Star | Sclera
POA | Hoof | Paint | Yellow
Run | Lead | Tack | Wormer
Mare | Type | Snort | Oats
Neck | Worm | Train | Summer 2020

Answers on page 65
### Horse Breed and Color Word Search

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

**Breeds**

- Breed
- Mustang*
- Appaloosa
- Arabian
- Percheron
- Belgian
- Paso Fino*
- Clydesdale
- Tennessee Walker
- Hackney*
- Thoroughbred
- Lipizzan*
- Buckskin
- Morgan
- Quarter Horse
- Palomino

**Colors**

- Bay
- Pinto
- Brown
- Roan
- Black
- White
- Chestnut
- Dun
- Gray
- Palomino

What four new breeds are listed here? Find out information about one of these breeds. What colors are also registered breeds?

**Answers on page 65**
Help Clover and his rider find their way home.
Ohio 4-H Horse Publications

Ohio 4-H offers many horse projects, including some for beginners. The program also requires 4-H members and their families to read a book about safety called *Horses, Safety, and You*. You can learn more in the Family Guide and online at [ohio4h.org/horse](http://ohio4h.org/horse).
Resources

Selected Breed Registry Associations
American Saddlebred Horse Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 960
3 Bostwick Road
Shelburne, Vermont 05482

American Morgan Horse Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 200
Amarillo, Texas 79168

American Paint Horse Association
P.O. Box 18519
Ft. Worth, Texas 76118

Palomino Horse Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 324
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

American Quarter Horse Association
P.O. Box 200
Amarillo, Texas 79168

United States Trotting Association (Standardbreds)
750 Michigan Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders’ and Exhibitors Association
P.O. Box 286
Lewisburg, Tennessee 37091

The Jockey Club (Thoroughbreds)
380 Madison Ave.
New York, New York 10017

Pony of the Americas, Inc.
5240 Elmwood Ave.
Indianapolis, Indiana 46203

American Shetland Pony Club
P.O. Box 3415
Peoria, Illinois 61614

Welsh Pony and Cob Society of America
P.O. Box 2977
Winchester, Virginia 22601

Belgian Draft Horse Corporation of America
P.O. Box 335
Wabash, Indiana 46992

Clydesdale Breeders Association of the United States
Route 3
Waverly, Iowa 50677

Percheron Horse Association of America
P.O. Box 141
Fredericktown, Ohio 43819

American Shire Horse Association
Route 1, Box 10
Adel, Iowa 50003-9702

American Suffolk Horse Association, Inc.
Route 1, Box 212
Leddbetter, Texas 78946

Selected Horse Magazines
Bridle & Bit
P.O. Box 54520
Phoenix, Arizona 85078-4520

Carriage Journal, The
R.D. 1, Box 115
Salem, New Jersey 08079

Corral, The
Box 151
Medina, Ohio 44256

For The Love of Horses
Shea Ryan
Horsey Source, Inc.
Washington, Illinois 61571
c. 1987

Horses and Horsemanship
M. E. Ensminger
Interstate Publishers, Inc.

Horse Safety Guidelines
Extension Service, USDA
Washington, D.C. 20250
1973

The Horse
Evans, Borton, Hintz, Van Vleck
W. H. Freeman & Co., N. Y.

The Ultimate Horse Book
Elwyn Hartley Edwards
Dorling Kindersley, Inc.
New York, 1991

References

Basic 4-H Horsemanship, Circular
171

Basic 4-H Horse Science, Circular
172

Light Horse Selection, Circular 174
Ohio State University Extension
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Cloverbuds on Horseback, Pilot
Project
Rita Ambrose, 4-H Volunteer
Medina County, Ohio

Horse Illustrated
P.O. Box 57549
Boulder, Colorado 80322-7549

Horse Show
220 E. 42nd St.
New York, New York 10017-5806

Horse World
P.O. Box 1007
Shelbyville, Tennessee 37160

Horseplay
P.O. Box 130
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20884

Horse Illustrated
P.O. Box 57549
Boulder, Colorado 80322-7549

Horse Rider
P.O. Box 529
Mt. Morris, Illinois 61054-0529

Horse Illustrated
P.O. Box 57549
Boulder, Colorado 80322-7549

Palomino Horse Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 324
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

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Route 1, Box 212
Leddbetter, Texas 78946

Bridle & Bit
P.O. Box 54520
Phoenix, Arizona 85078-4520

Carriage Journal, The
R.D. 1, Box 115
Salem, New Jersey 08079

Corral, The
Box 151
Medina, Ohio 44256

For The Love of Horses
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W. H. Freeman & Co., N. Y.

The Ultimate Horse Book
Elwyn Hartley Edwards
Dorling Kindersley, Inc.
New York, 1991
## Answers

**Horseless Horse**

<table>
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**Horse Diagram**

- **Head**
  - Forehead
  - Bridge and Nose
  - Nostril
  - Muzzle
  - Upper Lip
  - Lower Lip
- **Neck**
  - Ear
  - Chin
  - Throat Latch
- **Shoulder**
  - Point and Shoulder
- **Legs**
  - Leg
  - Arm
  - Hock
  - Ankle
- **Hindquarters**
  - Point of Hip
  - Thigh
  - Flank
  - Croup
  - Buttock
  - Groin
  - Gaskin
  - Cannon
  - Fetlock
  - Pastern
  - Hoof
- **Body**
  - Neck
  - Withers
  - Back
  - Abdomen
### Example of a Breed Registration Form

**Certificate of Registration**

**THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**

- **NAME:** EASY TIME
- **REGISTRATION NUMBER:** 1867812
- **STATE FOALED:** OHIO
- **COLOR:** PALOMINO
- **SEX:** MALE
- **DATE OF BIRTH:** 5/3/00
- **BREEDER:** KATHY GREGG
- **ADEA ID NUMBER:** 1467613
- **STATE:** OHIO
- **OWNER:** MELISSA SMITH
- **RIDE AGAINST TIME:** 843766
- **RIDE AGAINST TIME:** 203207
- **BAR NONE:** 1269623
- **DAM BIT OF HONEY:** 246784
- **DAM BIT OF HONEY:** 427411
- **MURRAY:** 273603
- **MURRAY:** 377618
- **MURRAY:** 163807

**MAPPINGS:**
- **BLAZE:** WHITE ON LOWER LIP, LEFT FORE HEAD
- **PARTNERS WITH PARTIAL WHITE:**

**CERTIFICATE EXPLANATION**

This certificate of registration is issued under association regulations which are fully explained in the official handbook. Any horse receiving a registration number and receiving this certificate shall be eligible for breeding and participating in recognized events.

**AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION**

**AMARILLO, TEXAS 79168**
I pledge
My head to clearer thinking,
My heart to greater loyalty,
My hands to larger service, and
My health to better living,
For my club, my community,
my country, and my world.

ohio4h.org

Additional copies of this book and other Ohio State University Extension, 4-H Youth Development publications are available through local OSU Extension offices and online at estore.osu-extension.org. Ohio residents get the best price when they order and pick up their purchases through local Extension offices.