<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>4-H AGE</th>
<th>ID#</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>YEARS IN 4-H HORSE CLOVERBUD PROJECT</th>
<th>CLUB NAME</th>
</tr>
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Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, or family status.
My Riding Record

Name: ___________________________ Date: ____________

Horse/Pony’s Name: __________________ Color: ______________

Breed: ___________________________ Age: ______________

Sex:  (circle one) Mare  Gelding

Height: _______________ Hands ___________ Inches

Weight: ________________ Pounds

Things We Did Today

Walk _______ Posting Trot ________ Sitting Trot ________

Canter ______  Groomed ____________ Saddled __________

Bridled ______ Bathed Horse/Pony ________

Guided through poles at:  Walk _______  Trot ________

Rode over Cavalletti at:  Walk _______  Trot ________

Circles ___________ Figure 8's __________ Drills ________

Games ______________________________________

(Check Your Favorites)
Allegan County 4-H Horsemaster Program
Cloverbud Level

Introduction:
Cloverbud level section (5-8) in the Horsemaster Program is the very beginning of the 4-Her’s contact and association with horses. It is also the beginning of their experiences in the Allegan County Horse & Pony Project program. This also prepares for the level process in later years of 4-H.

In this section each 4-Her will learn what it means to be in the 4-H program, to come together and form their clubs. They will learn to work and play together, run their clubs and to achieve personal goals as well as goals set together as a group.

Goals & Achievements
Upon completion of Cloverbud Level, each 4-H Member will be able to:

1. Complete the written segment on the Horse Sense & Unmounted sections. A leader or parent may have to do the writing in the child’s works if they cannot write yet.

2. Know how to correctly lead a horse in a halter and a bridle with assistance or guidance.

3. Know how to demonstrate some of the basic grooming steps and equipment and its uses.

4. Know how to mount and dismount safely using reasonably correct form. Adult supervision/assistance may be required if needed.

5. Know how to demonstrate the basic seat/posture mounted at the halt, pick up and hold the reins correctly.

6. Know how to ride the walk and possible trot demonstrating the basic aids and safe control of their mount.

7. Know how to perform and complete the mounted riding segments.

Horse Sense and Unmounted Instruction

1. My riding record filled out with assistance if needed.

2. Basic safety rules- listed are the minimum rules to be covered at this level: (Horse and Horsemanship Manual, page 42).
   - Praise often, punish only when needed. Firm gentle treatment will gain a horse’s respect. Harsh or cruel treatment will cause your horse to fear you.
• Horses are frightened by loud noises and sudden movements and may react in an unexpected way (spook)
• Safety zones -(Horse Science Manual, page 3)
• Never hand feed a horse. A horse cannot see the food entering its mouth. Fingers may be mistaken for treats and bitten.
• Crowding a horse may cause it to kick and bite. Don’t tailgate, keep at least one horse length between your horse and the horse in front of you.
• Check your tack for proper fit before mounting. Improperly fitted equipment may cause accident or injury to horse or rider.
• Always use a halter and lead rope to tie your horse. Reins may be broken or the horse’s mouth injured if tied by the reins.
• Never wrap or tie a lead rope or rein around yourself. Being tied may result in you being dragged by your horse.
• Dismount to adjust clothing or equipment.
• Treat equipment with care and always put it away properly.
• Be smart- dress the part. When riding wear long pants, shoes with a heel or boot, and proper head gear as required. (Some types of riding require helmets.)
• Listen and Learn: **Always listen** for commands from your leader or instructor and act promptly. Keep alert at all times when around horses.

3. Horse Psychology, introduction to how a horse thinks: (Horse Science Manual, page 2)
Horse sense is the basis of horsemanship. This is the ability of a person to understand horses and even think like a horse. The better you understand horses, the more you will enjoy them, and the better rider you will be.

4. Horse Talk- horse terms every horseperson should know: (Horse & Horsemanship Manual, page 45)
Minimum terms for this section: - foal  - colt  - mare
- weaning  - filly  - stallion
- yearling  - gelding  - unsoundness
- blemish

5. The correct way to approach a horse that is unaware of your presence. (Horses & Horsemanship Manual, page 42)

6. With a halter on, approach and catch a horse in a stall, a field and a paddock. Demonstrate how to correctly secure a horse with a safety/quick release knot.

7. Leading, in halter and in bridle (Horses & Horse Manual, page 42).
- Safety, danger zones, correct side, horse’s vision, etc.

8. Basic grooming: safety in working around your horse, equipment and its uses. (Horse & Horsemanship Manual, page 27)
9. Assist with stable chores (Horse & Science)
   - feed and water a horse or pony
   - clean and bed a stall

    - introduction and elementary information
    - know the basic color of your own horse or pony

11. Learn some of the parts of the bridle, saddle, and horse.
    (Horses & Horsemanship, page 24)

    Mounted Skills
    Cloverbud Level

1. Approaching, Catching, Leading with Guidance and Assistance.
   - Demonstrate how to secure a horse
   - Reinforce basic safety rules in this area.
   - Demonstrate leading in a halter and a bridle

2. Grooming
   - Demonstrate grooming a horse in preparation to tack up
   - Basic safety rules in working around horses.

3. Saddling Western or English with Assistance

4. Mounting with Assistance

5. Dismounting with Assistance

6. Basic seat and hand position
   - Correct seat and posture
   - Correct way to hold the reins

7. Basic aids and control
   - Check and release
   - Stop, start and steer
   - Safe spacing between horses
   - How to handle a run away horse
   - Don’t panic. Sit deep, shorten your reins and remember to steer, using a pulley rein in short jerks and alternate hands from left to right--if able, ride in a circle or up a hill to tire the horse.
8. Beginning the trot (only if ready)
   - Preparation to trot
   - Aids to trot
   - Safe spacing between horses in trot

9. Riding the trot (only if ready)
   - Sitting
   - Posting
   - Balancing two point position

10. Circles and Reverses

   Optional Activities for Cloverbud Level

1. Backing
   Backing is commonly an evasion of the horse to escape the hands of a young inexperienced rider. You may introduce and teach backing to your group, but it will not be tested at this level.

2. Exercise on Horseback
   These are fun and teach a young rider balance, strength, and confidence.
1. Describe where the "danger zones" are and explain why you should avoid staying in them.

Where: ______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

Why: __________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

2. Which side do you lead a horse from? ______________________________

3. When combing a horse’s tail, where should you stand? _________________

_______________________________________________________________

4. From which side should you mount your horse? _______________________

5. Explain each of the following terms:
   a.) Foal _______________________________________________________
   b.) Mare ______________________________________________________
   c.) Stallion ____________________________________________________

6. Explain what you would do if your horse ran away with you when you were riding.

   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________
   _____________________________________________________________

7. a.) Describe safe footwear you should wear when riding.

   _____________________________________________________________

   b.) Why is it important for your safety? ____________________________
8. Name 2 things your horse/pony can eat. ____________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

9. Explain how to protect your horse or pony from flies and insects. ____________
__________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________

10. Submit (hand in) our Riding Record.

11. Draw pictures, glue, cut etc., something about you and your project (Project Story).
Allegan County 4-H Horsemaster Program
Cloverbud Level
Unmounted Skills

Correctly demonstrate the following skills to a designated leader/resource person, who will check off each skill and the dates completed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SKILL</th>
<th>DATE:</th>
<th>INSPECTOR:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Identify two basic grooming aids</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Demonstrate the use of the above two grooming aids.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Identify the color of your horse.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Help water and feed a horse or pony.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Help clean out and bed down a stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Lead a horse or pony with assistance/guidance:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a.) Halter and lead rope</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.) Bridle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.) tie (secure) your horse or pony with a safety (quick release) knot.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Demonstrate the correct distance to be maintained between horse when leading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Point out and name one part of the bridle.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Point out and name two parts of your horse.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Point out and name one part of your saddle.</td>
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# CLOVERBUD LEVEL MOUNTED SKILLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letters</th>
<th>Directions</th>
<th>Mounted Skills</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. O</td>
<td>Lead horse saddled and bridled to O with guidance</td>
<td>Leading safely.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O</td>
<td>Mount horse (with help if needed)</td>
<td>Mounting properly. Control of horse, not disturbing horse while mounting.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. O</td>
<td>Sit in saddle with reasonably good position &amp; pick up reins, prepare to proceed. (A leader may be used with halter under bridle)</td>
<td>Balance, seat, rein length, reins, equal, prepared to proceed, safely &amp; horse under control.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A</td>
<td>Enter ring at a walk. Turn right along rail, continue to C</td>
<td>Position, seat &amp; control at a walk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. C</td>
<td>Jog/trot (posting optional) to B. This is optional if ready for trotting.</td>
<td>Position, seat &amp; control at jog/trot, good corners, able to maintain gait. If not ready to trot, done a walk.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. B</td>
<td>Halt through the walk at B. Continue on at a jog/trot to M</td>
<td>Control while stopping, not hurting the horse while stopping. Ability to get horse to trot on from B.</td>
<td>Trot Optional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Reverse in half-circle returning to rail at B Continue walk to K</td>
<td>Turning &amp; control while reversing. Position &amp; control</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. K</td>
<td>At K begin circle towards center of ring &amp; return to rail at A. Continue to E</td>
<td>Turning, position and control at walk on the circle, leaving &amp; returning to rail. Ability to maintain gait on the circle.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
8. | On your evaluator’s request, demonstrate how to correctly and safely pass a slower horse at the walk | Control & safety while passing, seat, balance, and ability to maintain the requested gait while passing.

9. E | Turn & walk to center of ring (X). Halt at (X). Dismount & prepare to lead. Leave ring at walk, leading horse. (With assistance/guidance) | Position & control while turning & stopping. Dismounting safely, and in control of horse. Preparing & leading horse safely & correctly (With assistance)

10. | Demonstrate the correct distance to be maintained between horses at all times. | Ability to maintain correct distance between horses, safety and control of horses at all times.

11. | Overall Safety Awareness | Safety Awareness

---

Completed: _______ Yes _______ No ___________________________

Evaluator’s Signature

The goals of Cloverbud Level are a good foundation of safety, control, secure and simple basics. Very small riders may have assistance in mounting and safety is to be a priority at all times.
Cloverbud Level Mounted

[Diagram showing exercise patterns for Cloverbud Level Mounted, with instructions:]

[0] LEAD TO ASSISTANT
TACK CHECK & MOUNT
PREPARE TO ENTER AT A

= WALK
= TROT
= LEAD
= HALT

[Diagram showing dismount and lead out]