Cloverbuds

In the Saddle

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Activities

Below is a list of activities you may choose from to complete your horse project. Please choose 5 and describe when you completed them and what you did.

- Name the parts of a horse – label on the attached horse diagram.
- Read a horse book – tell what the story was about.
- See a horse movie – tell what the movie was about and the names of all the horses.
- Attend a horse show – describe one of the classes and tell which your favorite was.
- Visit with a farrier – come up with 6 questions to ask.
- Visit with a Veterinarian – come up with 6 questions to ask.
- Tour a riding stable – Tell what you liked and what you didn’t like.
- Visit a tack shop – Name 6 items they had for sale.
- Introduce a friend to horses – Take a picture with you, your friend and the horse.
- Take a picture of your favorite horse.
Parts of the Horse
Leg Markings

Coronet  Pastern  Ankle  Half Stocking  Stocking  Heel

Face Markings

star  stripe  blaze  snip  interrupted stripe  white face
Grooming Tools

Curry Comb - Used for removing dirt and loose hair. They are used in a circular motion with enough pressure to remove the dirt and hair from the horse.

Dandy Brush – Used after the curry comb to remove the loosened dirt and hair. It has stiffer bristles than the Body Brush.

Body Brush – Used after the dandy brush to remove the fine dirt. The bristles are soft and this brush should be used on a clipped horse or during the summer.

Hoof Pick – Used for keeping a horses hooves clean and free of stones. The end of the pick must be blunt not pointy.

Mane & Tail Brush – Used along with detangler to get all of the knots out of the horses mane and tail.

Sweat Scraper – Removes the water from the horses coat after a bath.
**Horse Needs.**

**Feed**

Just like us horses need to eat every day. If your horse lives in a pasture he gets to eat grass all day long, but if you are riding him regularly he may need more than just grass.

Hay – Hay is a special type of dried grass. It is measured by weight and baled in flakes. Most horses usually eat between 4 – 6 flakes a day.

Grain – If your horse is being ridden regularly then he might also need some grain. There are lots of different types of grain including: oats, barley and corn, as well as mixed feeds like sweet feed and pellets.

**Water**

Horses drink a lot of water every day; especially when it is hot outside or they have been ridden. On average a horse will drink 10 to 20 gallons of water a day. It is important to make sure your horse has access to clean water at all times; when the horse is inside and outside.

**Shelter**

Although the horse is an outdoor animal, they need shelter from rain and bad weather. That shelter can be a lean to or a stable. If the horse is kept in a stable it must be cleaned every day.

**Exercise**

Just like humans, horses need exercise to keep them healthy. Being turned out in a field where they can run and play is a great way to keep them fit. We also keep them fit and healthy by riding them regularly.
A Horse of a Different Color

Black – A horse that is black in color.

Bay – A brown horse with a black mane and tail and black legs.

Chestnut – A reddish – brown horse with the same colored mane and tail.

Grey – A horse that is grey in color and has black legs and black around his muzzle.

Palomino – A yellow or golden colored horse with a white mane and tale.

Piebald – A horse with big black and white patches all over its body.
Skewbald – A horse with big brown and white patches all over its body.

Spotted – A white horse with small brown or black spots all over its body.

Buckskin – A yellow colored horse with a black mane and tail and black legs.

Blue Roan – A black colored with white hairs mixed in its coat. The white hairs make the horse look bluish grey.

Red Roan – A chestnut colored horse with white hairs mixed in its coat.
**Breeds**

**Arabian** – One of the oldest breeds in the world, they are known for their dished faces and high tail carriage. They are used in a variety of disciplines from English & Western to racing. Height – Up to 15 hands.

**Appaloosa** – Noted for their spotted coats, no two are alike. There are 5 patterns; Blanket, Leopard, Snowflake, Frost and Marble. Height – 14.2 – 15.3 hands.

**Morgan** – A very versatile breed, they show in most disciplines. A Morgan’s stance is known a parking out. Height – 14.2 -15.2 hands

**Quarter Horse** – One of the most popular breeds in the world, the Quarter Horse can be used for pretty much anything. They get their name from being able to run a Quarter Mile faster than any other breed of horses. Height – 14 – 16 hands.

**Standardbred** – Used mainly in harness racing. They can trot or “Pace” very fast. Height – 14 – 16 hands.
**Thoroughbred** – The fastest horse in the world over long distances, they can reach 45mph. Height – 15 – 17 hands.

**Ponies**

**Shetland** – Small but mighty the Shetland pony can carry a full grown adult. It can be ridden or pull a cart. Height – up to 10 hands.

**Miniature Pony (mini)** – They are actually miniature horses, being more fine boned than a pony. They are too small to be ridden but can pull a cart without any trouble. Height – 30 inches.

**Welsh Pony** – A very well tempered pony, they can be ridden or pull a cart. Height – up to 13.2 hands.

**Haflinger** – A very strong pony, they can be ridden or pull a cart. They are known for their golden color and white manes and tails. Height – up to 15 hands.
Gaits

Horses have 4 natural gaits: Walk, trot or jog, canter or lope and gallop. When you are riding and showing your horse you will be asked to perform the first 3.

Walk – Walk is the slowest gait and consists of 4 beats. Each foot is picked up and put down separately. The rhythm is 1,2,3,4..1,2,3,4.

Trot/ Jog – The trot or jog is a two beat gait where the horse’s legs move in a diagonal pair. When riding English, you usually post to the trot. When riding western, the jog is a little slower and you can sit to it. The rhythm is 1,2.1,2.1,2
**Canter/ Lope** – The canter or lope is a three beat gait. The outside hind leg comes down first, then the inside hind and outside front come down together and lastly the inside front leg. The inside front leg will take the longest stride and is known as the leading leg. The rhythm is 1,2,3..1,2,3

![Canter/ Lope Diagram](image)

**Gallop** – The fastest speed for a horse; it is mainly used by horses at play or on the racetrack. It is a four beat gait, with each leg moving individually. The rhythm is 1,2,3,4..1,2,3,4.

![Gallop Diagram](image)

**How do I stop?**
- Make sure your heels are down and you are sitting up tall
- Gradually pull back on your reins and say “whoa”
- When your horse has stopped, stop pulling on the reins and bring your hands forward. Pet your horse.
Safety First!

1. Always walk up to your horse by his shoulder. NEVER walk up to a horse from behind or directly in front, he cannot see you there and you may scare him.
2. Talk to your horse when you walk up to him. He may be sleeping and you don’t want to frighten him.
3. NEVER walk underneath a horse, he may kick you.
4. No running around horses, it can scare them.
5. When leading a horse, walk between his head and his shoulder. If he gets too close say “back” and push him back away from you.
6. When leading your horse, NEVER wrap the lead-ropes around your hand. If your horse spooks and the lead is wrapped around your hand you could get dragged and hurt.
7. When turning your horse, always push him away from you so he doesn’t step on your feet.
8. When you turn a horse out in a paddock make sure you turn him to face you and the gate so he doesn’t knock you over when he runs away.
9. Always wear boots when you are around your horse.

10. When feeding treats to your horse make sure you have a flat hand so he doesn’t accidentally bite your fingers.
11. Make sure you have a halter or bridle on your horse when you are around him so he doesn’t run away.
12. Make sure all gates and stall doors are closed when your horse is inside.
13. Always wear your helmet and make sure there is an adult around when riding.
14. Make sure your horse is cool and isn’t breathing hard before you put him back outside.
**Tack and Equipment**

Tack is what we call all of the things we put on our horse so we can ride. There are two main styles of riding, English and Western, and we need different tack for each. The main tack that we use is: a halter, a saddle, a girth or cinch, a saddle blanket and a bridle.

**Halter** – The halter is what we place over our horses head when we are leading them around to give us control. We attach a lead-rope to the halter so we can steer the horse.

**Western**

**Saddle** – The Western saddle is usually very big and heavy with a horn on the front. They can also have a lot of silver on them. The strap that goes around the horse’s belly to hold it on is called a “cinch”. A saddle blanket goes under the saddle for extra padding.
Bridle – The bridle goes over the horses head and the bit goes into his mouth for control while we are riding. The reins on a Western bridle are split.

![Diagram of Western Bridle](image1)

**English Saddle**

Saddle – The English saddle is a lot lighter than the Western and does not have a saddle horn.

![Diagram of English Saddle](image2)

**English Saddle Pad**

Bridle – The English bridle is the same as the Western but it also has a noseband and the reins are not split.

![Diagram of English Bridle](image3)
What Do I Wear?

Now that we know what your horse wears, let’s find out what you wear while you ride. Just like your horse’s tack is different for Western and English, so are your clothes. Western clothes are a little more flashy and colorful, while English clothes are more formal.

**Western**

- Hat
- Stock Tie
- Shirt/Jacket
- Belt/Belt Buckle
- Jeans
- Chaps
- Cowboy Boots
English

When riding English a helmet is required at all times.

People You Should Know

Veterinarian (Vet) – The vet is your horse’s doctor. They will help you take care of your horse when he is sick or injured.

Farrier – This is the person who trims your horse’s feet and puts on his shoes.

Dentist – Just like people, horses need to have their teeth checked too! Horses teeth constantly grow so the dentist has to file them down when they get sharp; this is called “floating”.

Trainer – This is the person who trains both you and your horse. They will teach you everything you need to learn to become good at riding.
All Dressed Up and Nowhere to Go!

So you and your horse are both dressed and ready to go, now what? You’re ready to show, so let’s learn about some of your classes!

**Showmanship** – This is an “in-hand” class which is done with the rider on the ground leading the horse. The judge will look at how well the rider presents themselves as well as the horse while asking the horse to perform from the ground.

**Walk/ Trot** – This is a class for riders who are not yet able to canter their horses. The judge looks at how well they can control their horses in the arena at a walk and trot.

**Basic Riding** – This is a pattern class only shown at Fair. The rider takes his horse through a pattern and is judged on how accurately they perform the pattern.

**Western Horsemanship** – This class is judged on how correct the rider’s position is in the saddle and how easily they can give their horse a cue.

**Western Pleasure** – A class that looks at how quietly and calmly a horse performs the tasks that the rider asks of him. The horse should move forward nicely and respond to the rider as soon as she gives him a cue.

**Hunter Equitation** – The English version of Western Horsemanship, this class judges how correct the rider’s position is and how quietly they give their horse a cue.

**Hunter Pleasure** – The English version of Western Pleasure, this class looks at how quietly and calmly the horse performs the tasks the rider asks.

**Hunter Over Fences** – This is a more advanced class where the rider asks the horse to jump over a series of fences. Like Hunter Pleasure the horse should move forward quietly and jump the fences without a fuss.
**Dressage** – Dressage is another form of English riding. In this style of riding you are in a special arena by yourself on your horse. You perform a special pattern, where you ask your horse to transition into different gaits and make circles when you get to different letters around the arena. The different movements must happen right at the letters or you get marked down.

Now that we know all about the classes and what you and your horse need to wear, here are some important things to remember while showing:

- Rule #1 – Riding is FUN! Even if you don’t win ribbons you are still out there with your horse having fun.
- If you don’t win a ribbon, it’s not the end of the world…. Practice makes perfect!
- SMILE! A judge always loves a person that smiles! 😊😊😊
- Remember:

  ![Image of dressage rider with notes on important points]

**GOOD LUCK AND HAVE FUN!**
**Cloverbud Horse Records.**

The purpose of this project is to introduce the cloverbud to the world of horses and horse ownership.

Name:______________________________ Age:_____

Club Name:________________________ Leader:______________________________

Years in 4h:______ Years in horse project:______ Date Record Started:_____________

Date Record Closed:______________

*A picture of you and your horse*
Information about my Horse

Name:__________________ Age:______ Gender:______________

Breed:__________________ Markings:_____________________

Health Care Record

Talk with your Vet and write down what shots your horse is getting/ got this year. Also make sure to write down the dates that your horse was dewormed, had a visit from the dentist and got his hooves trimmed.

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Rabies
West Nile
WEE/EEE
Tetanus
Rhino Flu
Strangles
Potomac

My Horses Feeding Schedule

AM:__________________________________________________

PM:__________________________________________________
What did I learn this year?

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 

What Part of My Project Did I Like Best?

What Do I Want to Learn More About Next Year?