



# MINI 4-H Horse & Pony

## Welcome to Mini 4-H!

You are now a member of the 4-H family. You are a special person.

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are lots of activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family.

Mom, Dad or another adult can help you with your project. Bring your project to the 4-H Fair and lots of people will be able to see what you have done. You also get a ribbon made just for Mini 4-H'ers.

## Here are some things to know about 4-H.

- The 4-H Symbol:** A four-leaf clover with an “H” in each leaf
- 4-H Colors:** Green and White
- 4-H Motto:** To make the best, better.
- 4-H Pledge:** 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.

## Display at the Fair:

Make a foot print pony to bring to the fair. Don't forget to write your name on the pony!

## Some of the items you may need for Horse & Pony, include:

- Pencil
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, or paint
- Colored paper
- Yarn
- Scissors
- Glue
- Other craft supplies (eyes, etc. are optional)

# Great Things about Horses

We are excited that you want to learn more about horses in Mini 4-H. Horses are great animals to consider for a future 4-H exhibit project. We will learn some of things you will need to know if you ever decide to get a horse.

- Do you know what a horse eats? And how much a horse eats?
- Do you know where a horse lives?
- Do you know how big horses are and what the difference is between a horse and pony?

Horses are lots of fun to be around. They enjoy being around you too. They have been around humans for a really long time.

- Horses are smart and communicate with us using their faces, ears, nostrils, and eyes.
- Horses also communicate with neighs and whinnies.
- They can see almost all the way around with vision nearing 360 degrees. There 'blind spots' are directly behind and in front of them.
- Horses can be very compassionate and can be trained to do many tasks. They are now used in equine-therapy for those with physical and mental health challenges.

Other facts about horses that you might need to know:

- Horses are mammals of the equine species and live in a herd.
- A Female horse that is over 4 years old is called a "mare". Younger than 4 years is called a "filly".
- A Male horse that is over 4 years old is called a "stallion". A "gelding" is a male horse that has been castrated. A "colt" is a male horse that is younger than 4 years old.
- A Baby horse is called a "foal". Most mares only have one foal at a time. They are often born at night. This was to help keep them safe from predators. When foals are born their legs are almost the same length they are when they are fully grown!
- A pony is a small horse. Some breeds are smaller than other breeds.
- Horses can sleep standing up or lying down.
- There are over 300 breeds of horses. Some are wild and others are domesticated.
- Horses come in a variety of colors.
- Horses live on average for 20 to 25 years. Some horses live as long as 30 years. One horse named "Old Billy" lived to be 62 years old!

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## Horse Colors Word Search

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

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden across and down.

BAY

CHESTNUT

GREY

BLACK

CREAM

PALOMINO

BROWN

DUN

# Horses Eat How Much?

Horses are herbivores and they eat green, tender plants and grass. When they live on farms they eat hay and grain. They also like apples, carrots, peas, and beans.

A full-grown horse can eat up to 20 pounds of food a day! Horses, just like people, need to eat a variety of things to meet their nutritional requirements. If their diet is out of balance, then problems occur. A horse getting too much feed will become overweight, while one who eats too many treats may end up with colic. A young horse that eats an unbalanced diet may grow slowly or not grow correctly.

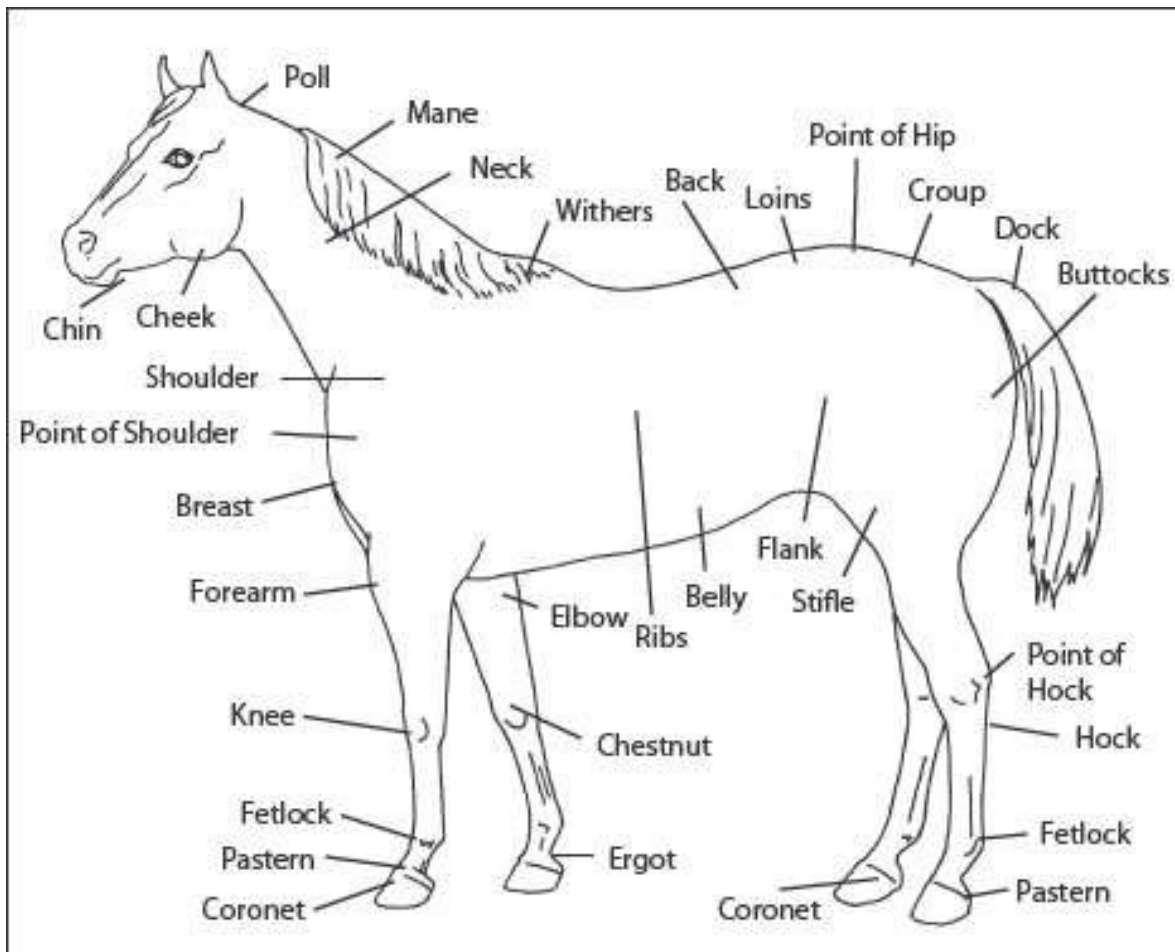
Horses also need access to fresh water. Water is the most important part of the diet, because a horse will get sick after just 2-3 days without water. A full-grown horse will drink 10-12 gallons of water each day.

Salt blocks provide horses with extra salt and are usually left out where the horse can lick a little when they want it. Most horses will not over eat salt.

Feeding a horse can take a lot of work!

# Do you Know the Parts of a Horse?

Color the Horse Below



# Do you Know the Breeds of Horses?

**There are three main types of horse breeds:**

- Hot bloods are fast horses that are just there for speed and racing.
- Cold bloods are generally bred for strength and heavy work.
- Warm bloods are a combination of the other two types and are often used for riding competitions.

**Below are some of the most popular horse breeds:**

1. Appaloosa Horse
2. Arabian Horse
3. Ardennes Horse
4. Belgian Horse
5. Clydesdale Horse
6. Dutch Warmblood
7. Exmoor Pony
8. Friesian Horse
9. Fjord Horse
10. Gypsy Vanner Horse
11. Haflinger Horse
12. Icelandic Horse
13. Jutland Horse
14. Knabstrupper Horse
15. Lusitano
16. Marwari Horse
17. Morgan Horse
18. New Forest Pony
19. Oldenburg Horse
20. Paint Horse
21. Quarter Horse
22. Rocky Mountain Horse
23. Shire Horse
24. Tennessee Walking Horse

**Do you know of other breeds? List them below.**

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# Riding a Horse/Pony

To ride a horse takes some training for both you and our horse. There are different styles of riding that you could choose to learn and there are four natural paces for the horse. Paces include the walk, trot, canter and gallop. Horses can go 25 to 30 miles per hour at a gallop – so you need to wear a helmet and be safe.

## Make a Foot Print Pony



### *Here's how you make it...*

**1.** Trace and cut out a foot print on piece of construction paper (a foot with a shoe makes a better shape for the horse's head). You will also need to cut out long triangle, with the tip cut off (for the neck), and two triangle ears.



**2.** Glue your horse's neck, head and ears onto a piece of construction paper. Part of the bottom of the neck will hang over the edge of the paper, just trim off the excess.



**3.** Draw on eyes and glue on a yarn mane. Make it your own – decorate as you wish!