Horse Sense

Have you ever wanted a horse of your very own? Many kids do. But horses require a lot of special care. As with any pet, it’s important to know how to properly care for horses before taking on the responsibility. For each sentence below, solve the math problem. Show your work on a separate piece of paper. Then match each of your answers to a number in the word box. Write the correct words in the blanks to finish the sentences.

| 21 = manure | 576 = health | 345 = pasture |
| 144 = pounds | 112 = expensive | 8 = hooves |
| 15 = supply | 392 = proper | 70 = weather |

1. **96 + 16 = __** Purchasing a horse can be ___________. But that’s only the beginning! Caring for a horse for a year can cost even more than the purchase price! If you want a horse, be sure your family can afford proper care. Read on to see what you’ll need to provide.

2. **39 - 18 = __** Give ‘em shelter! Horses need a safe, comfortable stable to protect them from bad weather. And remember, you’ll have to remove ___________ from their stall every day!

3. **376 - 31 = __** Exercise time! Horses require plenty of room to move around. They need a safe, fenced ___________ in which to exercise.

4. **256 - 241 = __** Chow time! Horses need a regular ___________ of food. They take two feedings of grain daily and nibble or graze throughout the day.

5. **108 + 36 = __** The average horse eats about 20 ___________ of food a day.

6. **78 + 498 = __** Is there a doctor for the horse? Horses need regular ___________ and dental care. Veterinarians may also be needed to provide emergency medical care. Some problems could cost thousands of dollars to treat.

7. **29 - 21 = __** Feet first! A farrier (blacksmith) needs to care for your horse’s ___________ every six to eight weeks.

8. **85 - 15 = __** A job for all seasons! Caring for a horse takes a great deal of time, money, and commitment. Someone will need to see to your horse’s needs 365 days a year—in good ___________ and bad.

9. **587 - 195 = __** A friend for life! With ___________ care, a horse can live 35 years or more.