

HORSES

Worksheets

PROPER NAMES




A male horse is _____ an _____ (name) _____ (name)






BEST OF THE BEST

What are the names of these beautiful horses? Look for the answers in the yellow box. Find the underlined words in the word box.




EQUESTRIAN

Equestrian Sports are sports that use horses as a main part of the sport. This usually takes the form of the rider being on the horse's back, or the horses pulling some sort of horse-drawn vehicle.

What are these common equestrian sports?



Horse Racing



Steeplechasing



Dressage



Mounted Archery



Polo

COLOR YOUR HORSE

What would be your ideal horse? Color this figure and add accessories such as saddles, etc. What would you name your horse?






Friesian horse
Gypsy Horse

H Y
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A

<http://www.livescience.com/501%horse-facts.html>

Free Sample

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- Ryan, Beth & Nicola :)

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Name

HORSE FACTS

The horse evolved over 45 to 55 million years from a small multi-toed creature into the large, single-toed animal of today. Humans first domesticated them between 4000 and 3000 BC. They are a remarkably fast and well balanced animal which helps them to escape predators in the wild.



- Horse is a common name for hoofed mammals that include the domestic horse and three groups of undomesticated species.
- One group is made up of the zebra, native to Africa; another consists of the ass, including the kiang and onager of Asia and the wild ass of Africa.
- The third group contains Przewalski's wild horse, which is now found only in captivity. Horses belong to the equus family. Equus comes from the ancient Greek word meaning quickness.
- There are over 350 different breeds of horses and ponies. The horse was the last working animal to be domesticated.

PROPER NAMES



A male horse is called a (tasonlli) _____ and a female horse is called a (arme) _____.



A young female horse is called a (llfiy) _____, and a young male horse is called a (tclo) _____.



When the baby is first born it is called a (alfo) _____. A horse's father is called a (srei) _____ and the mother of a horse is called a (amd) _____.



WHAT IS A PONY? IS IT A BABY HORSE? Explain why.

HORSE FACTS

- Most foals are born at night under the cover of darkness and away from possible danger. The mother horse, or mare, is pregnant for 11 months. Most mares give birth in the spring to a single foal although twins are not uncommon.
- Mares produce milk for their young and will feed them for several months. Within 1-2 hours of birth a foal is able to stand up and walk.
- When foals are born their legs are almost the same length as they are when they are fully grown. This means their legs are so long they find it difficult to reach down to the grass to eat.
- Foals can focus their eyes almost as soon as they are born and cut their first teeth within a week. They are fully grown by 3 - 4 years of age.



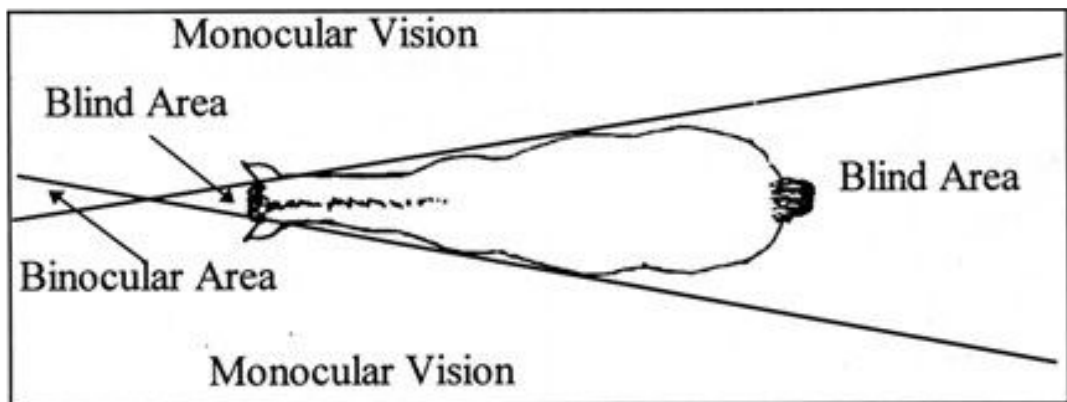
- Horses can be either the same color all over or a mixture of colors. The most commonly recognized whole colors are - black, brown, bay, chestnut, cream, dun, palomino and grey.
- A horse that is a combination of colors is said to have broken colors. These horses include the pinto, paint, roan and Appaloosa.

HORSE FACTS

- A horse is measured in hands. A hand equals 4 inches or the width of a human hand. The tallest horse ever recorded was a Shire called Samson. He stood 7 feet 2 inches tall (21.2 and a half hands).
- Samson was also the heaviest horse weighing in at 3360 pounds (1524kg). Measurement is taken from the ground up to the withers, the highest point on the horse's shoulder.
- A light horse such as a Lipizzan measures between 15.1 and 16.2 hands high while a heavy horse such as a Shire is between 16.2 and 17.2 hands high. Ponies are under 14 hands high.
- It is possible to age a horse fairly accurately up to 10 years of age by their teeth. The oldest recorded horse was "Old Billy", an English barge horse, who lived to be 62 years old. An average lifespan for a horse is around 20 -25 years, although they can live for up to 30 years.
- Horses are herbivores and love to eat short, juicy grass. They also eat hay especially in the winter or when they are kept in a stable. Extra high energy food such as barley, oats, maize, chaff, bran or processed pony nuts are good for working horses.
- Horses have small stomachs for their size and need to eat little and often. When in a field, horses will graze for most of the day. Horses can drink up to ten gallons of water a day. Horses cannot vomit.

HORSE FACTS

- Horses can communicate how they are feeling by their facial expressions. They use their ears, nostrils, and eyes to show their moods. Beware of a horse that has flared nostrils and their ears back. That means it might attack.
- Horses expend more energy lying down than they do when they are standing up. Horses cannot breathe through their mouths. That's why you'll never see one panting like a dog.
- Horses have a good memory. If you've been with the same horse for a long time, they will remember you.
- Horses have 2 blind spots where they can't see. One is directly behind them and the other is directly in front of them.



- The four natural paces for the horse are the walk, trot, canter and gallop. Horses that work or travel on hard roads need their feet (hooves) protected by metal shoes.
- Horses' hooves, like our finger and toe nails, also grow continuously and need to be trimmed. To do this, the horses shoes need to be removed and their hooves trimmed every 4 -6 weeks. After trimming their hooves new shoes are fitted. The person who cares for a horse's feet is called a farrier, or blacksmith.

Circle the best answer



1. The heaviest horse was _____.
 - a. Stallion
 - b. MacAfee
 - c. Samson
2. Horses have ____ blind spots.
 - a. Three
 - b. Four
 - c. Two
3. Pregnancy of mother horses last up to ____ months.
 - a. 9
 - b. 11
 - c. 10
4. Horses are fully grown in _____ years
 - a. 3
 - b. 5
 - c. 4
5. Horse's hooves need to be trimmed every _____ months.
 - a. 1-2
 - b. 3-4
 - c. 2-3
6. The average lifespan of a horse is _____ years.
 - a. 20-25
 - b. 25-30
 - c. 15-20
7. Horses need _____ gallons of water everyday.
 - a. 9
 - b. 8
 - c. 10
8. Horses have different colors of feather.
 - a. True
 - b. False
9. Horses belong to the _____ family
 - a. Canidae
 - b. Equita
 - c. Equus
10. Horses are _____. Their diet are grasses and other plants.
 - a. Carnivore
 - b. Herbivore
 - c. Omnivore

PROPER NAMES

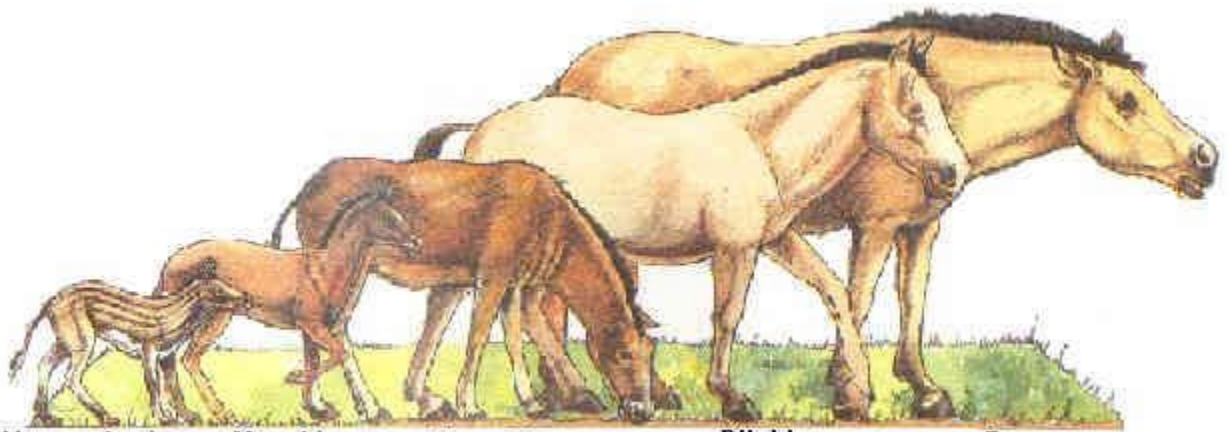
- A male horse is called a **stallion** and a female horse is called a **mare**.
- A young female horse is called a **filly**, and a young male horse is called a **colt**.
- When the baby is first born it is called a **foal**.
- A horse's father is called a **sire** and the mother of a horse is called a **dam**.
- **A pony is not a baby horse. It is a fully grown horse that is small.**

QUICK QUIZ

Circle the best answer

1. C
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. A
6. A
7. C
8. B
9. C
10. B

PREHISTORIC HORSES



Hyracotherium Mesohippus Merychippus Pliohippus Equus

Horses were once much smaller than they are today. But there was not a steady increase in size over time. 55 million years ago, the first members of the horse family, the dog-sized *Hyracotherium*, were scampering through the forests that covered North America. For more than half their history, most horses remained small, forest browsers. But changing climate conditions allowed grasslands to expand, and about 20 million years ago, many new species rapidly evolved. Some--but not all--became larger and had the familiar hooves and grazing diets that we associate with horses today. Only these species survived to the present, but in the past, small and large species lived side by side.

HORSE ACROSTIC



Using the first letters of the word HORSE, name at least one modern horse breed that evolved from the tiny Hyracotherium



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