

Riders without Horses Activity Sheet Two

Equipment:

Give pony or stuffed pony or large picture.

Scarf, plates of flour, bag of jelly beans/babies

Old ribbons, cushions, bucket of apples, knife

One small picture of a pony for each member, coloured pencils to colour/shade/mark points

If black or white board available, suitable chalk or pens to write names of points such as fetlock, withers, muzzle as they may have no idea of the spelling.

Basic Rules Regarding Handling:

If possible have one live pony. Failing that, a rocking horse or stuffed horse. If neither are available, a large picture.

Teach basic points regarding handling such as:

Always approach the head

Stroke the neck not the nose

Never run towards or flap anything near the pony, which could surprise him.

Teach the near side and off side, fore and hind

Teach care of a pony kept in a paddock

What makes a 'good' paddock? What makes a 'bad' one?

What do ponies mostly need? Shelter, food, water, fences etc.

If you don't have a paddock of your own, where could you keep him?

Teach different kinds of fences.

How to open and close gates.

What is good pasture, what is 'sour' or 'sick'.

Basic Parts of a Pony, as for D Certificate

Teach the basic parts of a pony, as for D Certificate in the Syllabus of Instruction.

Play 'Physical Challenge' to test their memory of what has just been learnt.

Put members into pairs (if enough).

Have at the ready aids such as: scarf, an old ribbon, a plate of flour with a jelly bean in it, etc.

Ask each pair a quiz question about any of the topics you have taught them, covered in the Syllabus.

They must consult their partner before answering.

Award two points for a totally correct answer, 1 point for a partially correct answer, if incorrect and not known, ask the group 'What do they have to do?'

The group shouts back 'PHYSICAL CHALLENGE'

They are given a penalty to do, such as make one a wheelbarrow and their partner has to hold the legs and wheel him/her around a nearby tree.

Or, blind-fold one, put their partner behind him/her with their hands on the shoulders of the partner. They have to steer him/her around the water trough or the shed!

Or, put blind-fold on both and let them take jelly beans out of a plate of flour with their teeth, etc.

If you have a group of three make the smallest the jockey, the others the horse. (One front and one bent over to make the back). Mount the jockey and blindfold the front of the 'horse'. The jockey has to steer the 'horse' around a designated hack.

If time, give the group a picture of a horse each and a pencil. Ask them to fill in the parts of the horse they remember.