



BACKYARD ADVENTURES

LITTLE LAB WEEK 5: HORSES

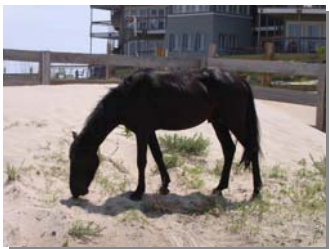
EVER WONDER . . . WHAT HORSES LIKE TO EAT?

What we learned this week:

- What horses like to eat.
- When horses run, it's called a gallop.
- Horses are usually measured in hands.

Curiosity Circle

Captain Curiosity had lots of questions about horses this week. To learn more, first we pulled out of the mystery box pictures of things that horses like to eat. Next, we learned about different ways to measure horses. We also learned what a gallop is and tried it out ourselves! We also explored the answers to these "Ever wonder?" questions: **Ever wonder how many kinds of horses there are?** There are more than 350 breeds of horses, but there are four main kinds: light horses (these include thoroughbreds and racehorses), draft horses (these include Clydesdales), ponies (these are horses smaller than 14.2 hands, such as Shetlands), and wild horses. **Ever wonder how you can tell how tall a horse is?** Horses are measured in "hands." One hand equals four inches. The height of a horse is the distance from the base of its neck to the ground. **Ever wonder what a horse eats?** Scientists studied what flavors horses like best, and were surprised to find out that horses' favorite flavors include banana, cherry, and peppermint! Horses mostly eat grass, apples, barley, bran, eggs, corn, oats, beets, carrots, turnips and parsnips. **Ever wonder what baby horses are called?** Baby horses are called foals. **Ever wonder how horses can help us?** Humans have used horses for a long time to help with work and transportation. Horses are very strong and can pull a lot of weight. They are also one of the few animals that we humans can ride! Most horses today are kept just for fun. **Ever wonder why horses need shoes?** Wild horses don't need shoes. But horses that work or travel on hard surfaces like roads need shoes to protect their hoofs from wearing down. **Ever wonder how horses can sleep standing up?** When horses fall asleep, a hook on their hind legs cups the kneecap and keeps the leg from bending. That way, they don't fall down while they're asleep! **Ever wonder if horses live in the wild?** They do! In fact, you can see wild horses nearby on the beaches in North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland.



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Curiosity Centers

- ◆ **Discovery Activity:** We used our hands (and other tools) to measure horses and other objects in the room.
- ◆ **Manipulative Activity:** We helped the horses find food that they like to eat. We also built pens for them.
- ◆ **Art Activity:** We made our very own hobby horses!

The Roundup & The Big Deal

We learned a fun song about horses, then galloped on our hobby-horses around an obstacle course.

Hey, Hey Word of the Day: GALLOP

Curiosity @ Home

Play with your horse! Pretend to feed your horse foods that horses like, then take a gallop around your yard or local park. Be sure to measure lots of things with hands, then re-measure with a yardstick or other measuring tool. Also, go for a drive in the country and see how many different sizes and colors of horses you can spot.



Songs & Poems

C-Zone Song (to the tune “I’m a Little Teapot”)
Welcome Song
Welcome to the C-Zone
It’s time for us to start
Exploring and learning
We’ve all got a part
(Spoken) So let’s fasten up our lab coats and get curious!

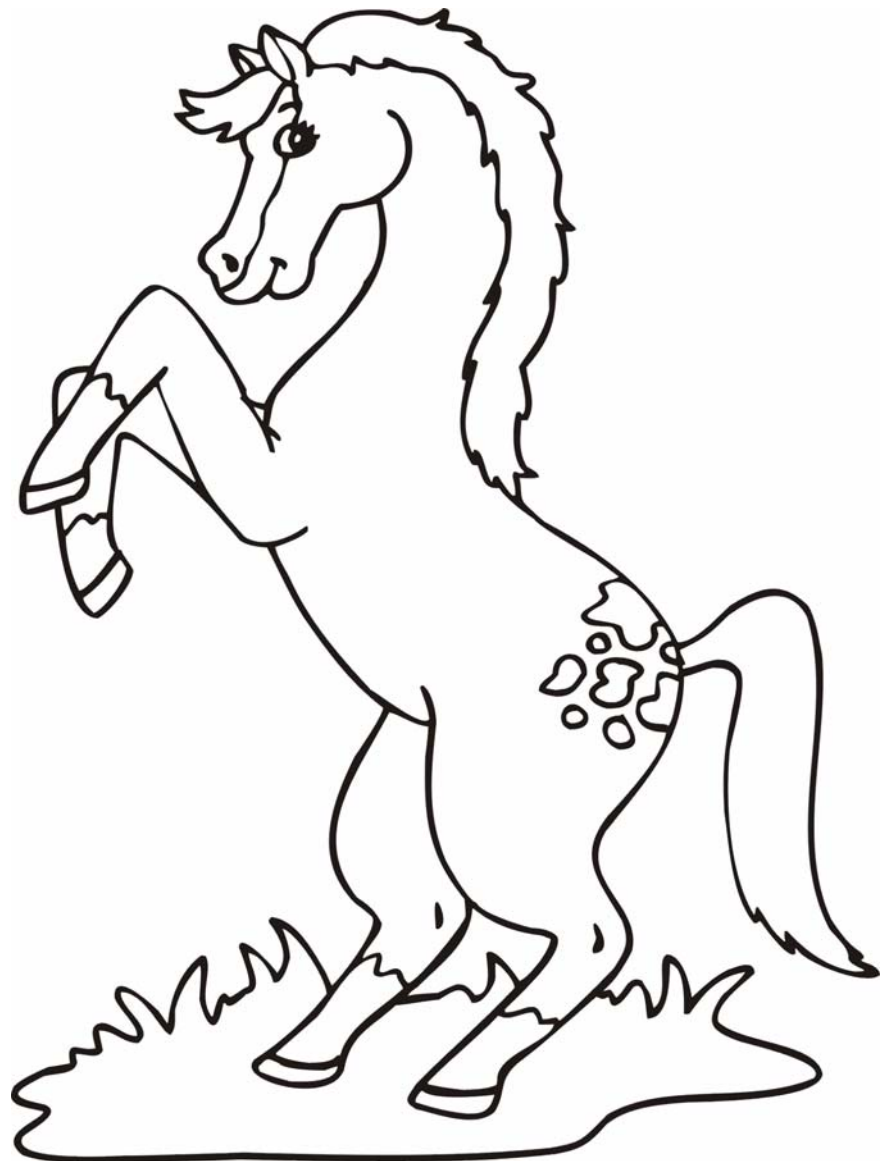
Song to the Captain
(to the tune “Wheels on the Bus”)
Horses eat corn, oats and grass
(What?)
Oats and grass (What?)
Oats and grass (What?)
Horses eat corn, oats and grass
(What?)
And sometimes even apples!

When horses run it’s called a gallop (What?)
Called a gallop (What?)
Called a gallop (What?)
When horses run its called a gallop (What?)
Now who wants to tell the Captain?

Song to the Captain (to the tune “Wheels on the Bus”)
We measure horses with our hands (What?)
With our hands (What?)
With our hands (What?)
We measure horses with your hands (What?)
Now who wants to tell the Captain?

I’m a Little Horse (to the tune “I’m a Little Teapot”)
I’m a little horse
I’m tall and brown
I’ll carry you around the town.
When I get excited I may run
And that’s when you will have some fun!

C-Zone Goodbye Song
Goodbye from the C-Zone
It’s time for us to go
The learning never stops
Now tell me what you know!



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IS FOR GALLOP

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