



Reproducible Master

Horse Know-How

I raced with the eagle, soared with the wind.

Part A. Find the answers to the clues at right from the words shown in the box, then circle them in the puzzle, to test your horse know-how and to learn about the new movie, *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*.

f b c q g r a s s h g d b w c a r m e
 r m o l w t h r e e t e q c m s t r e
 k i z n b o e s r o m u s t a n g t i
 i r x p s c a e d a b n t u r m g n f
 r m c i m a r r o n a p a l o m i n o
 a c o n e v s k e m t a l j u a f r a
 n k l t l a k o t a u l l a e r f j l
 a u t o l l o i t r a f i l l y y e l
 z w t q p r u f r e e d o m r s t y u
 t w e n t y v s w v r d n b r q l p t

Across

- Number of hours a horse sleeps within a 24-hour period
- Spirit's breed
- The name of Spirit's herd
- The breed of Esperanza, Spirit's mother
- What horses graze on
- Little Creek's tribe
- A young female horse
- Spirit must use all his courage to get this back.
- Number of years a horse usually lives

Down

- A young male horse
- Rain's color
- What horses have a strong sense of
- Spirit and Little Creek escape together from this group.
- What a horse can easily do with faraway sounds
- A fully grown female horse
- A fully grown male horse
- A baby horse

pinto	grass	twenty	cavalry	foal
colt	hear	Cimarron	mare	palomino
three	freedom	smell	filly	Lakota
stallion	mustang			

Part B. Use your horse knowledge to write five True or False questions below. Make at least one of your questions about *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*. Take your questions home to test your family's horse know-how.

My True or False Horse Quiz

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____



Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child is participating in a special educational program sponsored by DreamWorks Pictures and Youth Media International. The program is based on themes and characters of the new animated feature *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, coming to theaters near you on May 24, 2002. An uplifting tale straight from the untamed American frontier, the film tells the story of a rambunctious and courageous mustang stallion who defies being broken. The film is rated G. You and your children will thrill to Spirit's adventures as he loses—then gains—his freedom against the backdrop of the ruggedly beautiful American West. *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron* sends powerful and appropriate messages to children about courage, self-confidence and pride of heart and home.

Seeing this film with your child is a great way to spend quality time together as a family. You can enhance the viewing experience by using the following questions as the basis of a family discussion about the film.

1. What was the most exciting part of the story? Saddest part? Happiest part? Best part?
2. How did it feel to see Spirit running free with his herd? To see him captured?
3. Did the music help you better understand the story?
4. Who was your favorite and least favorite character? Why?
5. What do you think is the most important message in this movie?



Encourage your children to read stories about horses and America's Old West this summer.



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Sizes, Shapes and Colors—Oh My!

I never met anyone quite like her before, and I'd never seen a place like this.

Part A. In the movie, *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, Spirit is a mustang stallion and Rain is a “paint,” or pinto, mare. Read on to find out more about mustangs and pintos.

Spirit—Mustang

The word “mustang” comes from the Spanish word “mesteño,” which means “wild” or “stray.” Mustangs are also known as feral horses. They are descended from domestic horses that escaped or were freed by Spanish explorers. Over time, these horses bred with other breeds of domestic horses from Native Americans, ranches and the cavalry.

Spirit is a Kiger mustang. This means his bloodlines are traced back to the original Spanish horses of the early explorers. In the days of the Old West, over one million mustangs roamed freely in herds! Now there are only around 40,000 living mostly in the West.



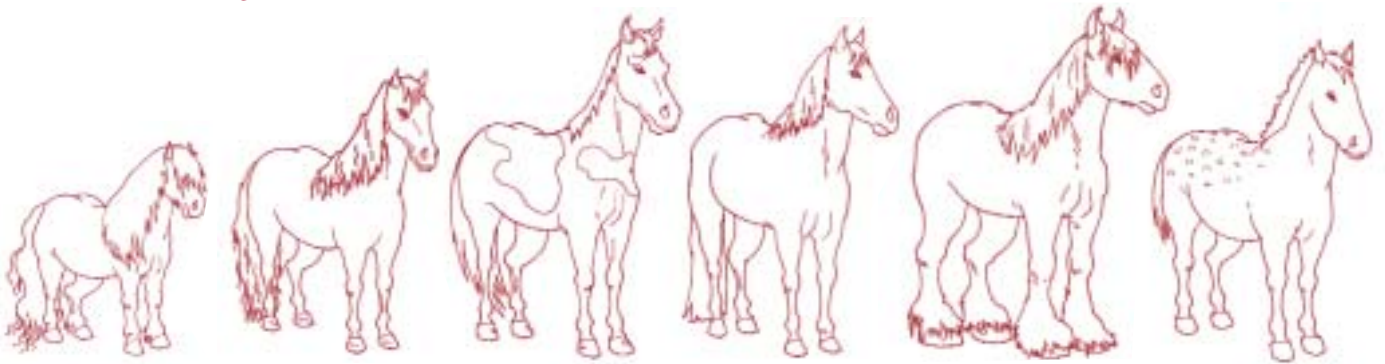
Rain—Pinto

Pintos come from many different breeds but their coloring is what makes them special. A pinto's coat can be a solid background color covered with patches of white. Rain is an example of the “overo” (o-ver-o) pattern. Her coat is a solid color broken up by large patches of white. Pintos' coats can also appear as white with large areas of any solid color, known as tobiano (to-bi-an-o).



The pinto was a favorite horse of the Native Americans. Its coat blended in with the colors of the landscape and kept the rider well hidden in hunting or battle. This is why in *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, Rain's keeper is Little Creek, the Lakota brave.

Use the information on the *Spirit* poster to identify these horses. Then color their coats according to the horse color section of the poster.



Part B. What is your favorite horse? Choose one from the *Spirit* poster. Then use the information on the poster to complete the following sentences.

My Favorite Horse

Write the name of your horse on this line

and draw a picture of it below.

1. It is classified as a _____.
2. Its size is bigger than _____.
3. Its size is smaller than _____.
4. The most unusual thing about my horse is _____.
5. I chose this horse as my favorite because _____.

Part C. Follow your teacher's directions to make paper chains that really show the sizes of these horses! Which paper chain shows the size of Spirit? Which shows the size of Rain?



Horse Talk

The hoof beats were many, but our hearts beat as one.

The horse characters in *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron* communicate the way real horses do. Play the word games below to find out some of the things the filmmakers had to learn about horses in order to make the movie.



Part A. Living in Groups

Choose the word that completes the sentence.

sight smell domesticated fight foals herds sounds threaten

Mustangs like to live in _____ with one stallion, his mares, and their _____. The horses in a herd know one another by _____, sound and _____.

Horses hardly ever _____. Instead, they only _____ each other when they are mad. Whether wild or _____, horses understand each other by _____ and body language.

Part B. Body Language

Unscramble the words.

1. When Spirit's _____ are pinned back, he is sending a warning that he is ready to fight.
rsea



2. When Rain cocks one ear forward, she is showing that she is _____. When one ear is pointed _____ and the other backward, it means she is uncertain.

icorusu

wadfror

3. When Spirit _____ up on his hind legs, this often means he is happy and wants to _____.
earsr

But if he rears with his front paws out, he is _____.
rynag

4. Spirit shows he is _____ when he holds his _____ high and lifts his tail up.
cixeedt dahe

5. Spirit is bored or tired when his body looks _____.
lsupmed

6. Horses can be impatient and nervous! They show this by _____ the ground with a front foot.
npgaiw



7. Spirit and Rain show friendship with a _____. They also like to _____ one another.
zlnzue rogom

Part C. Sounds Have Meaning

Horses make lots of different sounds. Not all of them mean something, but six special sounds carry important messages. Find the following horse sounds within the box at right. Your teacher will help you guess what each sound means.

*neigh squeal nicker
blow snort whinny*

i e g h t n
c k e r e b
k t o l s t
s n a n l b
s q u e a l
s n f i e o
e a l g q w
e i g h n t
r e k c i n
w h i n n y





Reproducible Master

Horses and Humans— A Spirited Bond

Homeland—a place where there is no boundary between our heart and our home.

Part A. Horses and humans go back a long way. *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron* shows an exciting part of this history. Even though Spirit refuses to be broken, the

pictures below show that Spirit and Little Creek slowly become friends. Number the pictures in the right order.



Part B. What do you think is important to know about taking care of a horse to help form a special bond between horse and owner?

question is already provided in each category. You must add two more to each, plus a new category of your own. Use a blank sheet of paper to write the answers to your questions.

Begin your horse owner's research with a few questions. The categories below will help you organize your work. One

Horse Owner's Notebook



Diet—What does a horse eat besides grass?

Grooming—Why is it important to groom a horse?

Training—When is the best time to train a horse?

Riding—What kinds of equipment are needed for riding horses?

My Category Idea: _____

Questions: _____

Part C. If you could own a horse, what kind would it be? What would you name it? Turn your paper over to draw a picture of your horse. Use the poster information to help with coat colors and special markings.

