Young Outlook

PRANCING PONIES

Ponies are small horses known for their gentleness and endurance. Because of these traits they are easily trained for pleasure riding or as pets. The names of eight breeds of ponies are hidden in this puzzle. Circle each one you find.

Dartmoor	S	H	A	C	K	N	E	Y	C
	H	I	G	H	L	A	N	D	O
	E	A	W	P	P	A	L	O	N
New Forest	T	S	E	R	O	F	W	E	N
	L	O	L	S	A	M	X	O	E
Highland	A	R	S	G	A	M	N	A	M
	N	R	H	A	O	B	I	A	A
Welsh	D	N	P	O	A	L	O	M	R
	D	A	R	T	M	O	O	R	A

Shetland, Exmoor, Hackney, Connemara

A Little Bit Of HUMOR

Fred: Why is a horse like a good friend?
Ted: Because they both listen to your woes.

Tom: If one horse is shut up in a stable and another one is running loose down the road, which horse is singing "Don't Fence Me In"?
John: I don't know.
Tom: Neither! Horses can't sing.

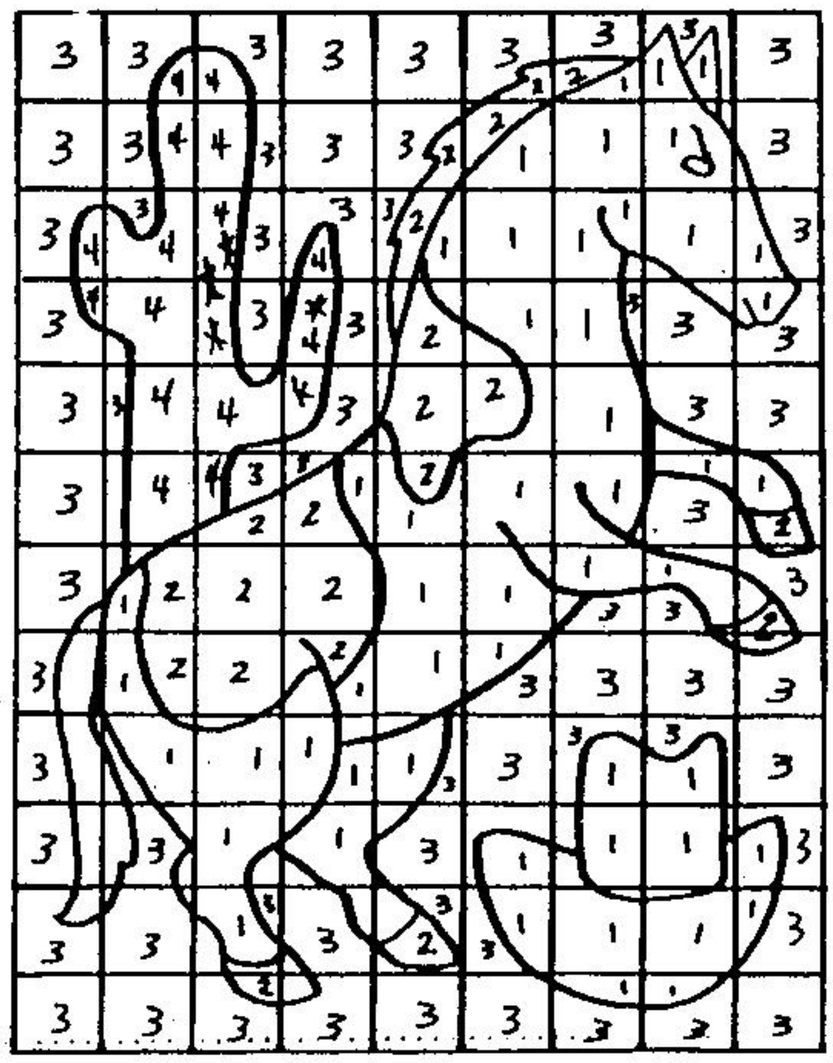
BOOKS

Horses of America by Dorothy Patent. Grs. 4-6. Discusses the evolution and characteristics of various breeds of horses including those best for work, sports, pleasure or to be an "all-around" horse.

The Rainbow-Colored Horse by Pura Belpre. Grs. 4-6. When the youngest son succeeds in capturing the dazzling seven-color horse that has been trampling his father's fields, the horse bargains for his freedom by granting the young man three favors.

COLOR CODED

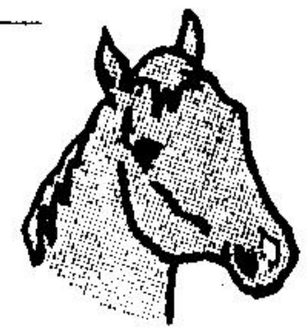
1 - brown 2 - black 3 - yellow 4 - green



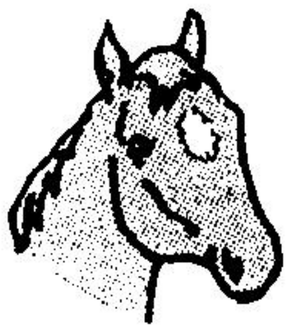
MYSTERIOUS MARKINGS

There are more than 150 breeds and types of ponies and horses. They vary in size, strength, speed and other characteristics such as markings. Each horse below has a different marking. Use the descriptions to help you identify each marking, then write the matching letter on each blank.

1. _____



2. _____



3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

a. **blaze** - a large white patch on the face.

b. **stripe or race** - a narrow strip down the center of the face.

c. **star** - any small white patch on the forehead.

d. **snip** - any small white patch near the muzzle.

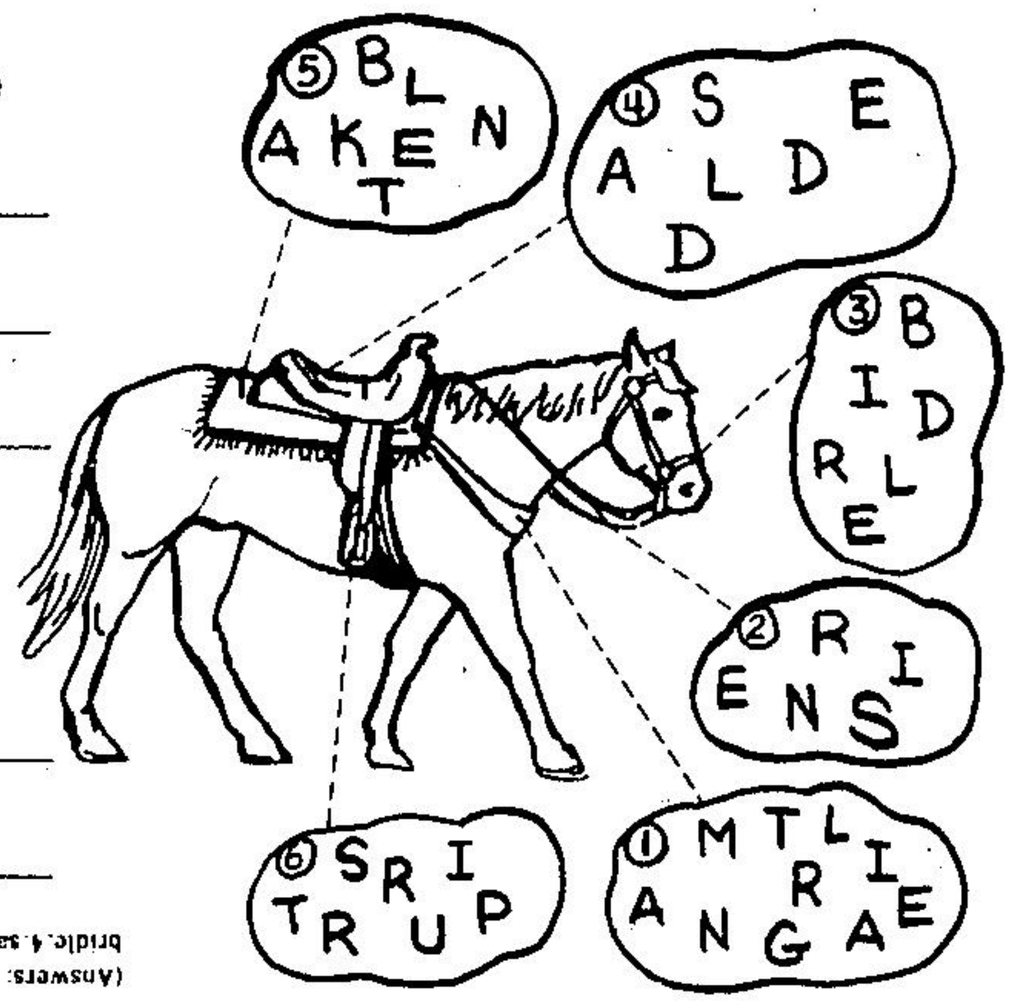
e. **bald face** - a white area that covers most of the face.

(Answers: 1. d, 2. c, 3. b, 4. a, 5. e)

EQUESTRIAN EQUIPMENT

Unscramble each group of letters to discover the names of some of the equipment used to make horseback riding more comfortable for horses and equestrians (people who ride horses or perform on horseback).

1. martingale
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



(Answers: 1. martingale, 2. reins, 3. bridle, 4. saddle, 5. blanket, 6. stirrup)

Fun Facts

1. Race horses, giant pandas, and killer whales are considered to be the most valuable animals in the world.

2. Horses can't breathe through their mouths. Their wide, flaring nostrils help them breathe easily while running.

3. One year of a horse's life equals about three years of a man's life.

4. Horses are fully grown at age four.

5. There was a time when all well-trained riding horses dropped to their knees like camels to let the rider mount.

6. A good bucking horse only works about ten minutes a year.

7. A pony is a small horse under 14.2 hands, or about 57 inches.

8. Horses are the only mammals that have only one functional digit. The hoof is a specialized middle toe.