

# 4-H HORSE AND PONY PROJECT



## Step It Up!

Pass it on! Now that you know how, share it with others. Here are ideas to get you started.

### Communication

- Present about parts of a horse
- Send a Letter to the Editor describing your opinion regarding an ethical horse situation
- Present a riding safety session at your county 4-H horse workouts prior to county fair

### Citizenship

- Assist with the 4-H horse show at the county fair
- Participate in the local saddle club charitable benefit
- Ask friends to always wear a helmet when riding horses

### Leadership

- Lead a trail ride for your fellow 4-H horse project members
- Work with a horseless horse member to care for a horse
- Conduct a show horse grooming clinic
- Organize a tack swap for 4-H members

**4-H**  
GROWING TOGETHER

## Are You Into It?

Horse and Pony is an exciting 4-H project area because you can participate whether you own a horse or not! Discover all the aspects about raising and riding horses.

- Appreciate riding as recreation
- Learn horsemanship skills and understand breeding, training, and raising of horses as a business
- Acquire skills in horse management by owning and being responsible for an animal
- Acquire safety skills to prevent injury to persons and animals

## Here's what you can do all year!

### Starting Out Basic / Level 1

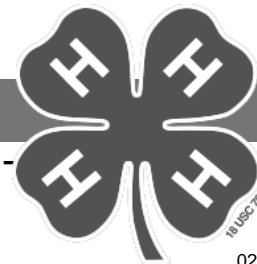
- Learn about basic horse care
- Identify parts of a horse
- Learn breeds of horses
- Learn the gaits of the horse
- Understand horse reproduction parts
- Learn about genetics and heredity of horses
- Investigate horse diseases
- Learn how to control parasites
- Discover causes of colic
- Practice vaccinations
- Learn the function of different horse tack

### Learning More Intermediate / Level 2

- Learn the basics of trail riding
- Check horse vital signs
- Learn how to mount and dismount safely
- Etiquette to ride safely as a group
- Communicate with your horse
- Practicing horsemanship maneuvers
- Improve your riding style

### Expanding Horizons Advanced / Level 3

- Research and purchase show clothing
- Improve a show horse's appearance
- Improve your showmanship pattern
- Riding patterns
- Understand the quarter's system
- Evaluating ethics in competitive situations



# Take Horse and Pony further!

Here are other opportunities to explore Horse and Pony:

- Attend a horse show, rodeo, or other horse event
- Visit a horse farm, horse training facility, horse boarding facility, etc.
- Participate in a horse riding camp
- Visit a local tack shop or horse supply store
- Check out horse events on television to learn about different type of horse shows and events
- Attend the Iowa Horse Fair to watch horse shows and observe clinicians
- Create a collection of horse showmanship and horsemanship patterns
- Keep a diary of your practices each week
- Research horse-related careers
- Attend the Iowa 4-H Horse Jamboree
- Attend Animal Science Round-Up as part of the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference and take the horse track, participate in the community service project, bringing ideas back to your community.
- Is it fair time? Consider riding in your County Fair horse show or the Iowa State Fair.
- Contact your county ISU Extension Office for other local workshops, activities, and events
- Interested in a college education in animal science or veterinary medicine?  
Schedule a visit with Iowa State University to explore those majors. [www.iastate.edu](http://www.iastate.edu)

## Exhibit Ideas

- Horse coloring/marketing patterns
- Horse body parts
- Safety around horses
- Horse health chart
- History of horses
- Horse body language
- Parts-of-a-horse matching game
- Horse-breed comparison chart
- Horse-stable designs
- Knots used with horses
- Tagging a horse
- How to groom a horse
- Supplies price chart
- Horse skeleton diagram
- Display of horse diseases
- Growth chart for your horse
- Dental problems of horses
- How to shoe a horse
- Horse reproductive system
- Pasture management practices
- Horse life cycle poster
- Identify saddle, bridle and tack
- Create a horse first aid kit
- Pre-show fitting techniques
- How-to display for judging horsemanship
- Present a horse using "Quarter System"
- Design your own showmanship pattern
- Create a scrapbook or collage of photos from your horse project

## Resources

### 4-H Resources

- Iowa 4-H Horse and Pony  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/Livestock/horse.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/Livestock/horse.htm)
- Giddy Up and Go  
Horsemanship Level 1
- Head, Heart, and Hooves  
Horsemanship Level 2
- Stable Relationships  
Horsemanship Level 3
- Riding the Range  
Horsemanship Level 4
- Jumping to New Heights  
Horsemanship Level 5
- Horsemanship Leader Guide
- Horse Science
- Horseless Horse Project
- Basic Horse Safety Manual

### Other Resources

- American Youth Horse Council (AYHC)  
[www.ayhc.com/resources.htm](http://www.ayhc.com/resources.htm)
- Iowa Horse Council  
[www.iowahorsecouncil.org/](http://www.iowahorsecouncil.org/)
- Iowa Horse Judges Directory  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/horse.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/horse.htm)
- Horse eXtension Website  
<http://www.extension.org/horses>
- My Horse University  
<http://myhorseuniversity.com/>
- Iowa Horse Show Judges Evaluation Form  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/horse.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/livestock/horse.htm)

### Record Keeping

- Horse and Pony Worksheet Record Keeping (4H 512 WS)
- Horse and Pony ID Form (4H 106C)
- Horse Lease Agreement (4H 106C L)