

Horsing around while doing schoolwork? You bet!

Horsing Around gives your children the opportunity to explore the basics of horsemanship while studying life science.

*While not essential, your children will get the most out of Horsing Around if they sign up to take horseback riding/horse care lessons for the duration of the unit study.*

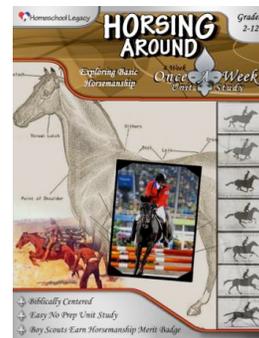
*(Lessons WILL be necessary for Boy Scouts and American Heritage Girls in order to earn their Horsemanship badge requirements, however.)*

*Included with your unit study will be a horsemanship check list. Your children's horse instructor can check off each skill set as it is mastered.*

Horsing Around is broken up into four weeks:

- Week 1 - Breeds and Characteristics
- Week 2 - Horse and Tack Care
- Week 3 - Equestrian Events
- Week 4 - Cowboy Time

The following is a sample of what you will be doing in Week 1 as you begin Horsing Around. Red lettering is added here for further explanation.



## **Week 1 Library Reading/Video Choices**

### **Focus: Breeds and Characteristics**

An \* denotes that it or an equivalent of same subject matter is necessary in order to complete an assignment.

JHEN - Justin Morgan had a Horse/Marguerite Henry

JHEN - White Stallion of Lipizza/ Marguerite Henry

JHEN - King of the Wind/ Marguerite Henry\*

J636.1H - Album of Horses/Marguerite Henry\*

J636.1 I Birth of a Foal/ Hans-Heinrich Isenbart\*

J636.1R The Kingfisher Illustrated Horse and Pony Encyclopedia/Sandy Ransford

J743.6A Draw 50 Horses/ Lee J. Ames\*

J743.6D Draw and Color Horses and Ponies

J DVD 791.45 B The Black Stallion\*

Netflix: The Miracle of the White Stallion (this would replace reading the *White Stallion of Lipizza*)\*

Books on tape/CD:

JCD/SPK HEN Misty of Chincoteague/ Marguerite Henry

JBOT OHA My Friend Flicka/ Mary O'Hara

*Each Once-a-Week Unit Study provides a weekly library list that includes a variety of books for that week's focus.*

*As you can see, I have alphabetically and numerically arranged each call letter in order for you to quickly and easily gather your library books.*

*I include books of different reading levels, have chosen books of superior quality, and have carefully screened books for objectionable material.*

*Your children are not meant to read all of the books listed. They pick and choose books to read throughout the week which most interest them. Reading is the only activity they will continue daily throughout the week.*

*Only books noted with an asterisk (or an equivalent of same subject matter) are necessary in order to complete a specific assignment.*

*What if you cannot find the exact book? No problem. Just pick another from that same library section and focus.*

*In addition to books, your list will also include documentaries/movies for you to pick up at the library or get from Netflix.*

## Horsing Around

### Week 1

#### Focus: Breeds and Characteristics

#### Supplies:

Tracing paper  
Drawing paper  
Colored pencils

*Each Once-a-Week Unit Study provides you with a supply list for that week's assignments. Most will be items you already have in your home. Others will be inexpensive items you can pick up at a discount, craft, or hardware store.*

#### Daily Activities

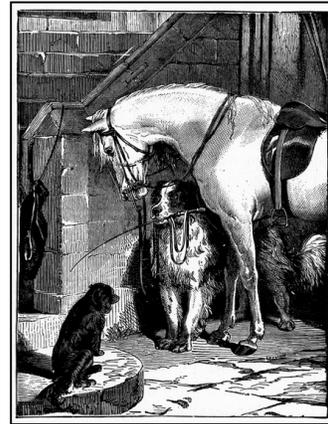


Independent Reading: Week 1 Library Choices  
(Including Album of Horses)

*This week's main reading focus will be on various horse breeds and their characteristics.*

Family Read-Aloud: Begin reading King of the Wind.

*Each week's family read-aloud introduces your family to great literature while staying focused on that week's topic. It will most often be a classic, Caldecott/Newbery Award winner, or other noteworthy literary piece. Over the next two weeks you will enjoy Marguerite Henry's classic novel, King of the Wind.*



#### Once-a-Week Activities



Family Devotional:

Did you know that the scientific name for horse (*equus*) is a Greek word meaning *quick*?

- Job 39:19-25 - Analyze, discuss, and make a list of character traits God describes the horse as having in this passage.
- Pretend you are someone reading this passage who has never before seen a horse. Draw what you think they would imagine it looks like.



Science:

- Look up horse in an encyclopedia. Compare a horse's skeleton with that of a human's. Discuss their similarities and differences.
- As a family, read Birth of a Foal.



Art:

- Using the book Draw 50 Horses, draw and color some of the different breeds, colors, and markings you are presently learning about in Album of Horses. (AHG Req. 7T)

*Once-a-Week Unit Studies are written for ALL homeschool families to enjoy, but Boy Scouts and American Heritage Girls receive the added benefit of earning merit badge requirements while completing the same unit study assignments as the rest of their non-scout siblings.*

*While completing Horsing Around with the rest of their family, Boy Scouts will earn the majority of their Horsemanship merit badge. American Heritage Girls will earn their entire Horsemanship badge.*

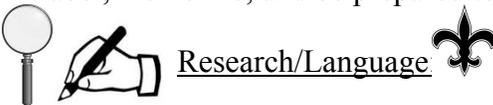
*Boys Scouts will be able to easily identify those assignments by a fleur-de-lis icon (as seen below). American Heritage Girls will be able to identify assignments that fulfill their requirements with the above AHG icon.*

*The requirements fulfilled will be noted in parentheses at the end of the assignment.*



Art/Science:

- Trace the horse shown on page 17.
- Label, memorize, and be prepared to name fifteen of its points. (BSA Req. 2/AHG Req. 9)



Research/Language

- List four popular horse breeds you discover through this week's reading, and describe the unique characteristics for which each is known. (BSA Req. 3)

*We believe in teaching children how to learn and how to retrieve information on their own from an early age. This prepares them for a life of learning and better equips them for higher education and future careers. That is why you will notice research assignments sprinkled throughout Once-a-Week Unit Studies.*

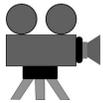


Field Trip:

- Visit a horse veterinarian.

- Ask him or her about:

- ü Proper horse care
- ü Regular immunizations, worming, and testing
- ü Common horse injuries, illnesses, and their treatments  
(AHG Req. 18)
- ü What colic and its symptoms are, its treatment, and what can be done to prevent it (BSA Req. 4)



Family Movie Night:

- Watch The Miracle of the White Stallion or The Black Stallion.

**! Stump Your Dad Trivia:**

Q: What color is a Lipizzaner born?

A: Black. It takes six to ten years for their coats to turn pure white. (Rarely, a Lipizzaner is born all white.)

Q: Does a horse have *monocular* or *binocular* vision?

A: Monocular.

(With the eyes located on the sides of a horse's face, he actually sees two separate images at the very same time! Humans have binocular vision, seeing only one image. The only time a horse has binocular vision is when he is looking down his nose, eating grass.)

*Kids just love to discover they know something Dad doesn't...because Dad knows everything, right? We include Stump Your Dad Trivia as a fun way to involve Dad and alert him to what your children are learning in their studies. It also makes for great dinner conversation...if the kids can wait that long to stump him, that is!*