

**Otsego County**  
**4-H**



**Horse & Pony Project**

**JUNIOR**

**Ages 8-14**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Current 4-H Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Years In 4-H \_\_\_\_\_ Years in Horse Program: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Club: \_\_\_\_\_

Record: Start Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ End Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_



MSU Extension programs and material are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status.



# Objectives of the 4-H Horse Project

- 1 Experience the pride of owning (or leasing) a horse or pony and being responsible for it's management.
- 2 Develop an appreciation of horseback riding as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation.
- 3 Learn skills in horsemanship and an understanding of the business/finances of owning and working with horses.
- 4 Increase knowledge of safety precautions to prevent injury to self, others and your horse.
- 5 Promote greater love and respect for animals.
- 6 Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship, and other positive character traits.
- 7 Be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities through working in groups and supporting community horse projects and activities.



## The Project Record Book

This is the place where you keep records on your 4-H horse project. If properly used and kept, it will give a clear picture of what you have accomplished through the year of your 4-H horse project. Here are some tips to help you finish the year with a great record book...

- 1 Read through this book at the beginning of the year to familiarize yourself with the content and worksheets.
- 2 Complete the essential information at the beginning of the year: cover page, about your horse, planning/goals sections. Share your goals with your leader.
- 3 Write neatly and legibly. Be sure you do your own work.
- 4 This book includes just a handful of important educational topics...but there are so many more topics you will want learn about. Add your own pages as you learn more throughout the year. You may wish to add dividers and new sections at the end of this book for your additional pages.
- 5 Maintain your book in a 3-ring binder if possible. You can even decorate the binder and pages to add some color and creativity to your book.
- 6 Write a project story that captures your project goals, activities, challenges, accomplishments, memories and thoughts.

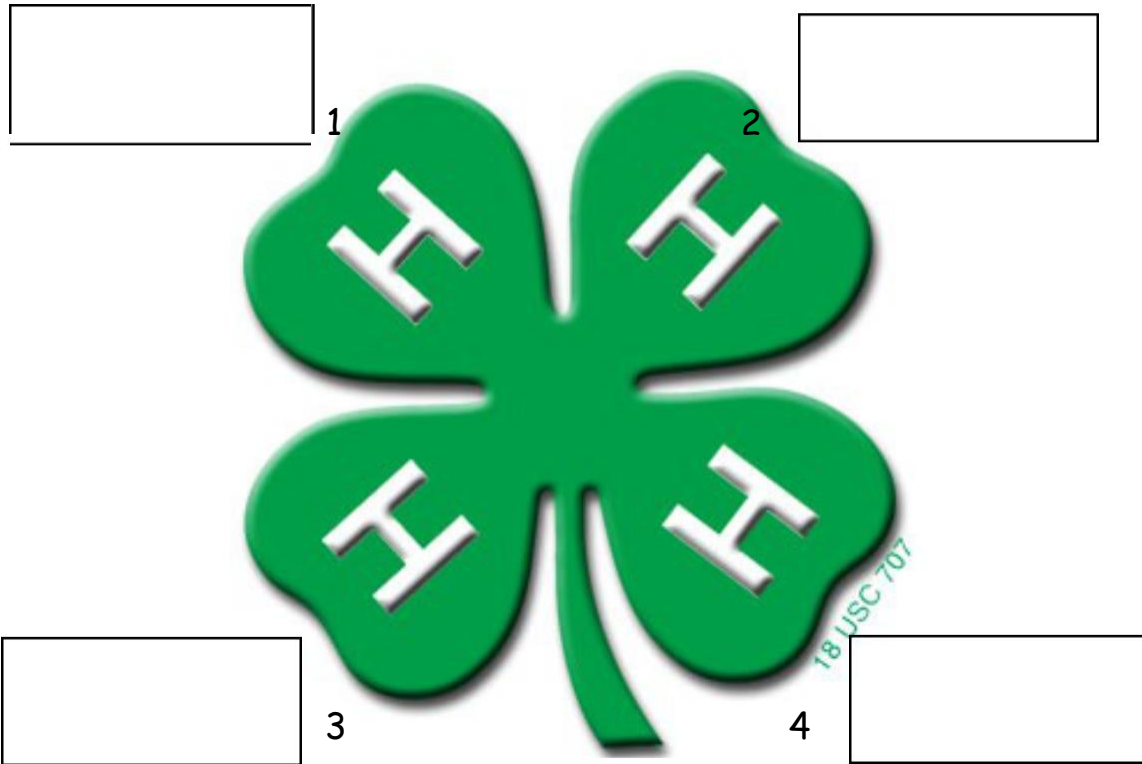


## Being a 4-H Member in Good Standing

In general, all 4-H members are expected to meet the following standards to be considered "in good standing" in the Otsego County 4-H Program and to earn "year end" awards. Your club may have additional requirements.

- 1 Attend a minimum of 6 club meetings.
- 2 Complete a project book.

# The 4-H Pledge



For my \_\_\_\_\_, my \_\_\_\_\_,  
My \_\_\_\_\_, and my \_\_\_\_\_.



## 4-H Motto

To make the \_\_\_\_\_.

## 4-H Slogan

\_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

## 4-H Colors

\_\_\_\_\_  
&  
\_\_\_\_\_







# Your Project Horse

Horse's Barn Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Horse's number of years in 4-H: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Sex: (Mare or Gelding) \_\_\_\_\_ Horse's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Height: \_\_\_\_\_ (in hands) Horse's Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse's Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

If registered: Registered Name?: \_\_\_\_\_

Registry Association? \_\_\_\_\_

This horse is owned by  Me  My Family  Leased/Borrowed

When did you begin working with this horse as your 4-H Project horse? \_\_\_\_\_

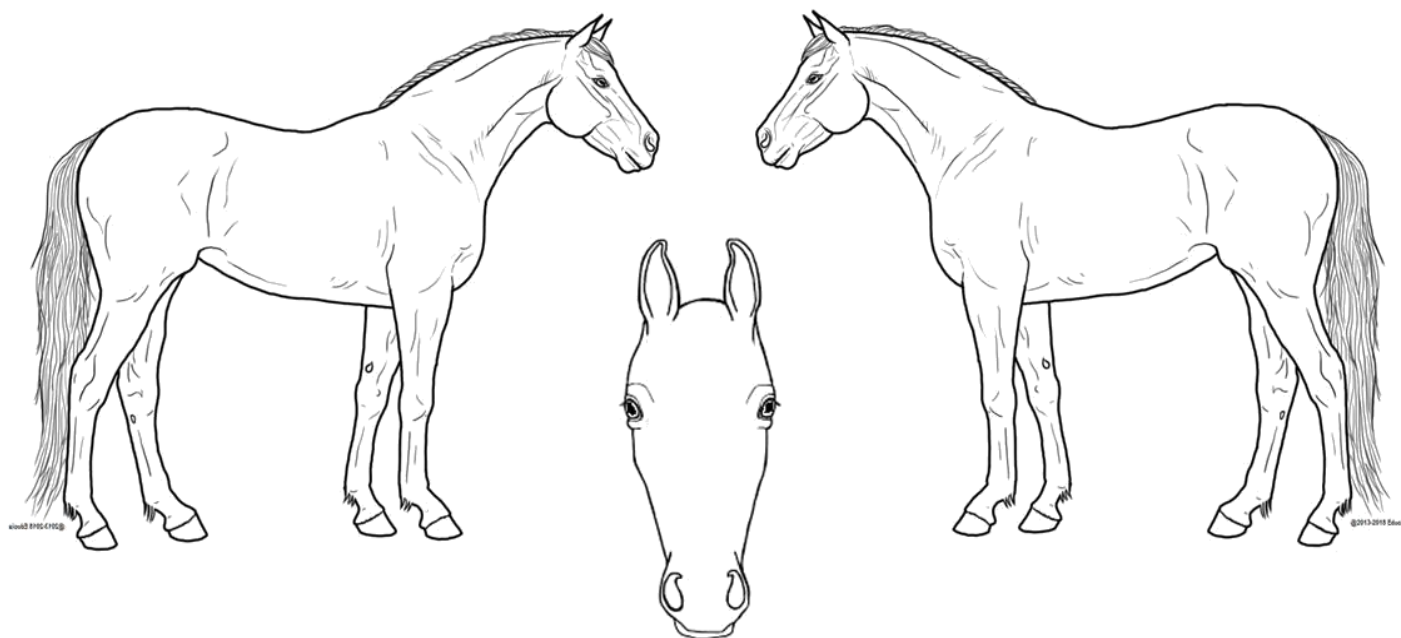
Describe this horse's skill level/previous training: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe this horse's temperament: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of most recent Coggins Test? \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

What markings, tattoos, or blemishes does your horse have? \_\_\_\_\_

**Markings:** With a thin black marker or pen draw the face, and leg markings to match your horse, as accurately as possible. You can also draw any tattoos or scars.



*If you have two project horses, please copy this page and do one for each horse.*



# My Goals for the 4-H Year

The beginning of the 4-H year is a good time to begin thinking about what you'd like to do or learn in 4-H during the upcoming months. List some of your goals for the year and what plans you have to accomplish these goals. Make sure your goals are realistic and can be completed in a year. Talk to your leader and parents about your goals.

<b>My goals for the year...</b> Example: Teach my horse to bow and demonstrate it to my 4H club.	<b>What I need to do to reach each goal...</b> Example: 1- Research trick teaching techniques 2- write a training plan 3- work thru the plan 2-3x per week 4- show my progress to my 4-H club
#1	
#2	
#3	

## Are your goals SMART

<b>Specific</b>	<b>Measurable</b>	<b>Attainable</b>	<b>Relevant</b>	<b>Timely</b>
What exactly do you want to happen?	How will you know you have reached your goal?	Is it reasonable? Can you reach this goal?	Is it worthwhile? Does it relate to your project?	Can it be reached during the project year?



# A Safe 4-H Horse Project

Horse activities can be fun and rewarding, but horses, even the calmest, most gentle ones, can also be unpredictable. It's important to always put safety first whenever handling, caring for, riding or driving your horse. Putting safety first includes:

- Selecting a suitable horse for your skill level, your size and your goals.
- Wearing appropriate boots, clothing and a certified riding helmet.
- Getting on-going instruction from your leader or another experienced horse person.
- Improving your horsemanship skills, both on the ground and in the saddle.
- Keeping the environment safe for humans and horses.

## **As you think about “safety first” for you and your horse, answer these questions:**

1. Do I always wear heeled boots when working with or riding horses? Yes or No.

Why is this important? \_\_\_\_\_

1. Do I always wear a certified equestrian riding helmet when riding? Yes or No.

Why is this important? \_\_\_\_\_

3. I have an experienced horse person that I can ask for help when needed. Yes or No

4. When working with your horse on the ground (leading, grooming, saddling, etc.), list five or more ways you keep yourself safe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Safety at the facility where you keep your horse: Is there...

An Emergency Contact/Phone information posted and phone access? Yes or No

A first aid kit that is easily accessible? Yes or No

6. When riding with others, what does a red ribbon tied into the tail of a horse mean, and what should you do if you are riding near that horse? \_\_\_\_\_

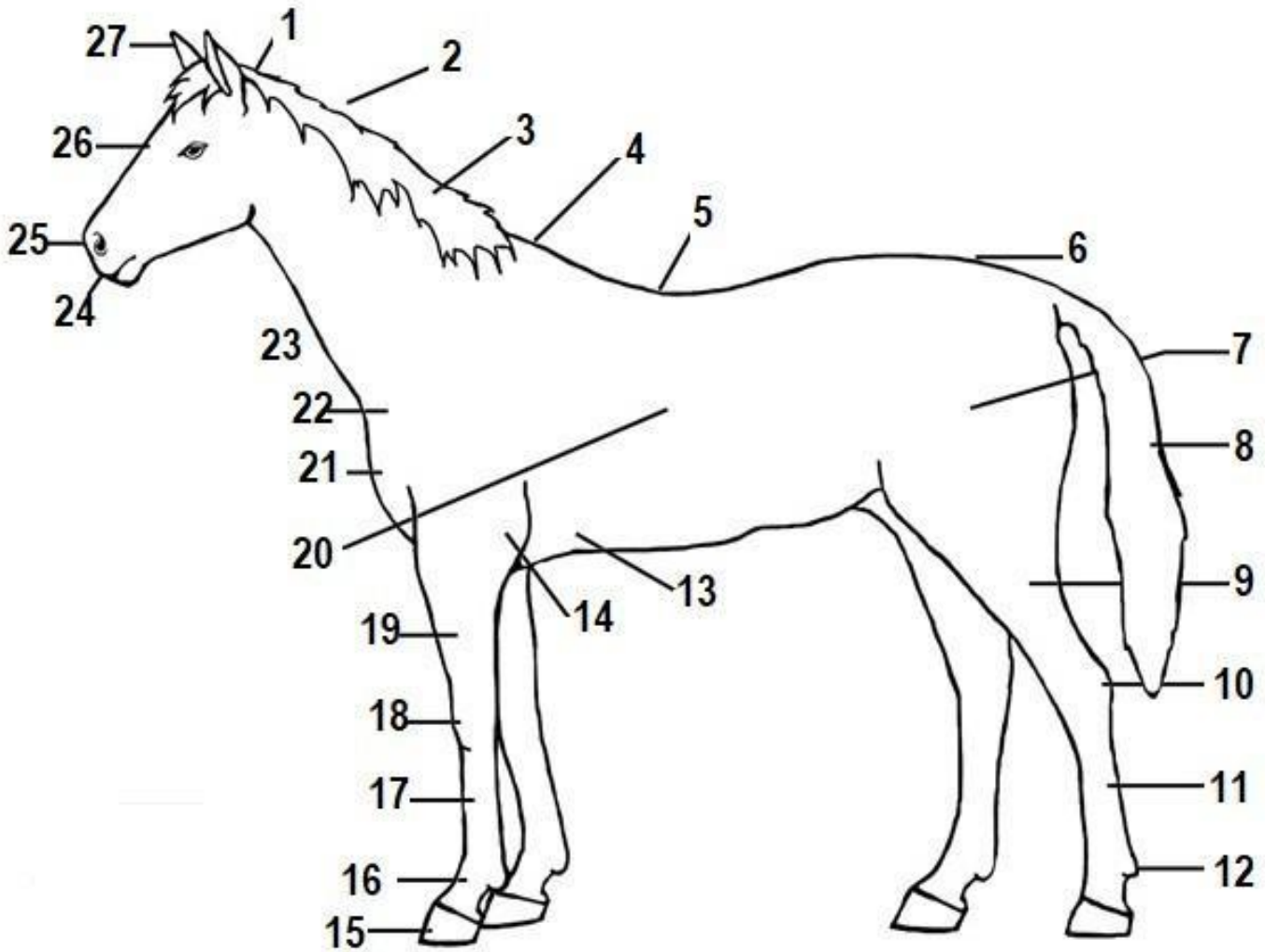
7. Describe how to safely pass another rider in an arena. \_\_\_\_\_

8. Describe some ways to put safety first for trail riding. \_\_\_\_\_

9. What changes can you make this year to improve the safety for you and your horse? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Parts of the Horse



Write the correct horse body part name in the correct number. You can use the word bank below if needed.

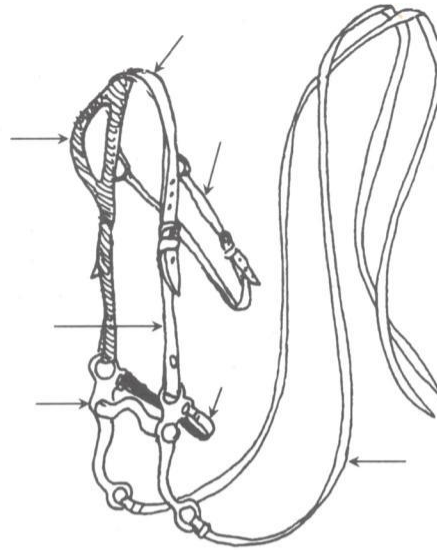
- |          |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1- _____ | 10- _____ | 19- _____ |
| 2- _____ | 11- _____ | 20- _____ |
| 3- _____ | 12- _____ | 21- _____ |
| 4- _____ | 13- _____ | 22- _____ |
| 5- _____ | 14- _____ | 23- _____ |
| 6- _____ | 15- _____ | 24- _____ |
| 7- _____ | 16- _____ | 25- _____ |
| 8- _____ | 17- _____ | 26- _____ |
| 9- _____ | 18- _____ | 27- _____ |

Word Bank: Ears, croup, fetlock, back, forearm, muzzle, tail, barrel, chest, gaskin, poll, girth, crest, nostrils, elbow, hock, knee, cannon, shoulder, forehead, hoof, hindquarter, flexor tendons, neck, withers, pastern, mane

# Parts of the Western Saddle & Bridle

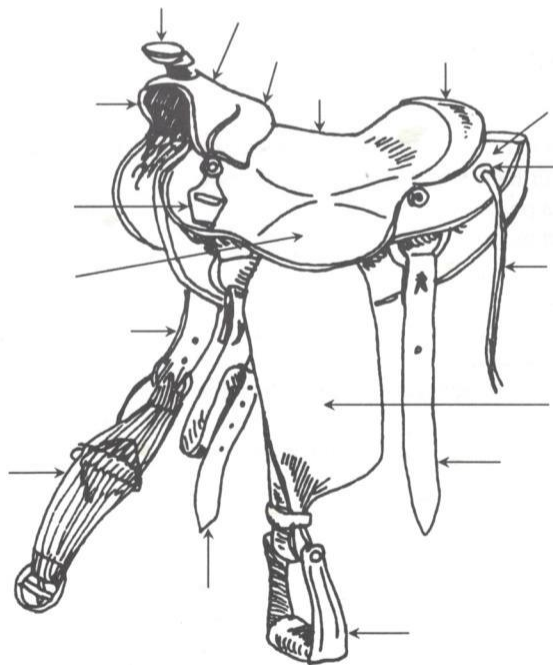
## Western Bridle Parts to choose from:

- Cheek piece
- Crownpiece
- Curb bit
- Curb Strap
- Reins
- Shaped Ear piece
- Throatlatch



## Western Saddle Parts to choose from:

- Cantle
- Cinch
- Concho
- Fender
- Gullet
- Horn
- Latigo Keeper
- Long Latigo
- Pommel
- Rear Cinch Strap
- Rear Jockey
- Saddle Strings
- Seat
- Seat Jockey
- Short Latigo
- Stirrup
- Swell



## Answer these questions about Western saddles:

1. In what types of riding would you use a Western saddle? \_\_\_\_\_

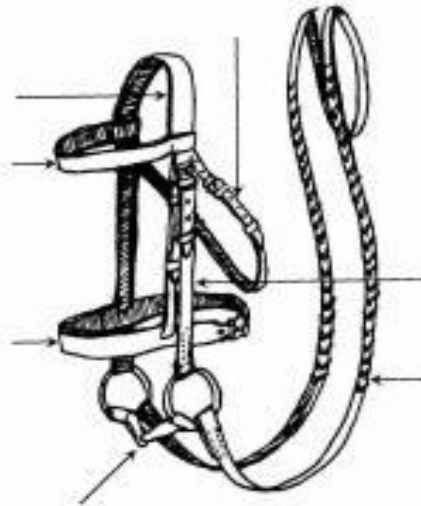
2. What is the saddle tree? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is it important that the saddle fit well on the horse? \_\_\_\_\_

# Parts of the English Saddle & Bridle

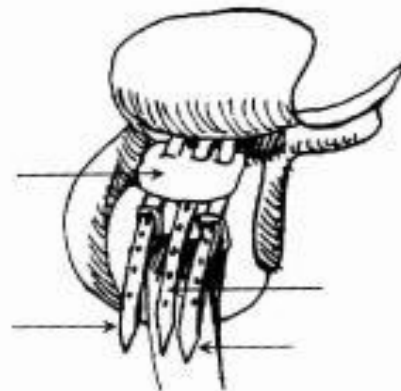
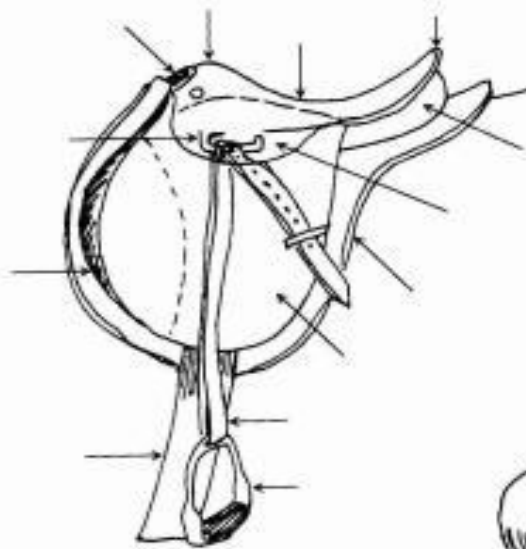
## English Bridle Parts to choose from:

- Browband
- Cavesson
- Cheek piece
- Crownpiece
- Rein
- Snaffle bit
- Throatlatch



## English Saddle Parts to choose from:

- Billets
- Buckle guard
- Cantle
- Flap
- Girth
- Gullet
- Knee roll
- Pad
- Panels
- Pommel
- Safety stirrup bar
- Seat
- Skirt
- Stirrup iron
- Stirrup leather



## Answer these questions about English saddles:

1. In what types of riding would you use an English saddle? \_\_\_\_\_
2. List some types of English saddles \_\_\_\_\_
3. When fitting a saddle, what parts of the horse's body must be free from saddle pressure? \_\_\_\_\_

# Horse Health—Know Your Horse

## Vital Signs

Anyone who owns or works with horses should have some basic knowledge of how to evaluate a horse's general condition. An important part of assessing a horse's health is taking vital sign readings for temperature, pulse and respiration (TPR).

Although there are normal ranges for TPR, each horse is unique. It is important to know what is normal for your horse (your horse's "baseline") so that you can tell when something is not right. The better you know your horse, the faster you will notice changes. Spotting trouble early can help prevent more serious problems.

Vital Sign	How to Take it	Normal Range	My Horse's Baseline
Temperature	Use a rectal thermometer that is lubricated with petroleum jelly.	99.5–101.5 <i>*102-104 is mild to moderate = call the vet.</i>	
Pulse	Feel with back of hand at any of the pulse points.	30-60 beats per minute. <i>*Over 60bpm = may need vet.</i>	
Respiration	Watch rise and fall of belly.	8-15 breaths per minute. Foals will be higher.	
Mucosal Color	Raise upper lip, look at underside of lip or gums above teeth.	Pink is normal. <i>*Pale, yellow, blotched, dark = call the vet.</i>	
Capillary Refill	Raise upper lip, press thumb to blanch gum above incisors. Count how many seconds to refill to pink.	1-2 seconds = normal 3-4 seconds = may need vet.	
Hydration	Pinch a fold of neck skin. Count seconds until it flattens out.	4 or less seconds = normal <i>*Longer indicates dehydration.</i>	

## Diseases and Illnesses:

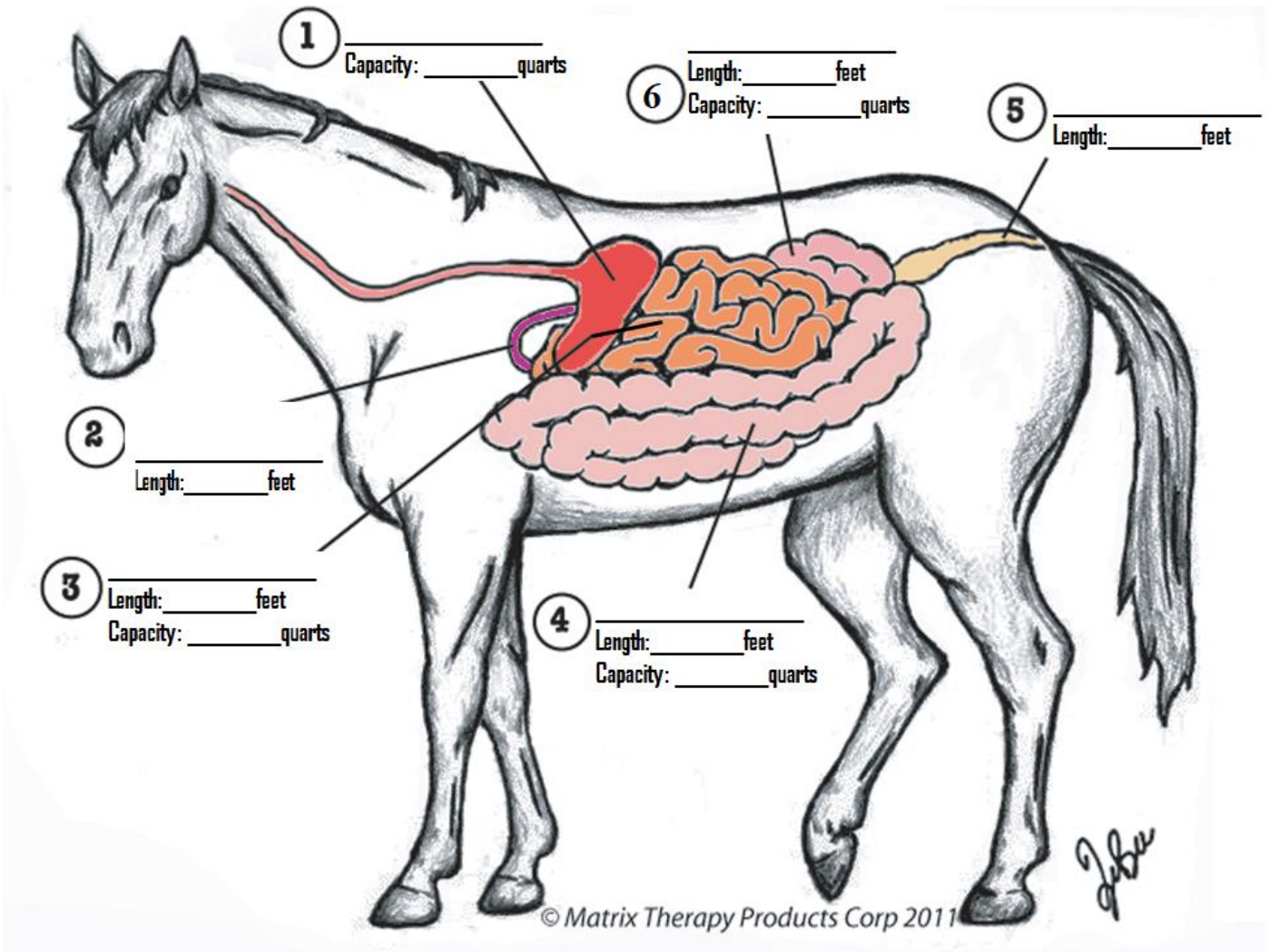
List two common diseases, their symptoms, and prevention:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

What is Colic and its symptoms? \_\_\_\_\_

# The Horse Digestive System

Label the horse's digestive system using the word bank in the box. Also, find out the length and capacity (how much it can hold) for those parts.



**Answer these questions about the horse's digestive system.**

1. What is the total length of the digestive system? \_\_\_\_\_ feet
2. The horse produces 8-10 gallons of saliva each day to moisten the feed to help with swallowing. True or false?
3. Horses cannot vomit. True or false?
4. Circle the correct answer. To keep a horse's digestive system healthy, they should ...
  - A. ... eat two medium size meals a day.
  - B. ... graze when they want or be fed several smaller meals throughout the day.
  - C. ... eat one big meal every morning.
5. How much manure does an average 1,000lb horse produce each day? \_\_\_\_\_ lbs

# Design Your Own Riding Pattern

Creating a riding pattern is a fun way to improve your riding skills and your communication with your horse. You can design a pattern for you or for your club members! Include a variety of riding elements or obstacles to help you and your horse develop new skills or refresh old skills. Be sure not to make it too complicated or confusing for the rider or the horse. Walk thru it in your head and even on foot before you ask your horse to ride it with you. Have fun!

## Props you may want to use:

Cones

Ground poles

Barrels

Letter Markers

*\*Be sure to draw in your arena gate(s) and draw the pattern very neatly.*

## Skills you may want to include and common symbols: (Make a KEY)

Stop/Halt: \_\_\_

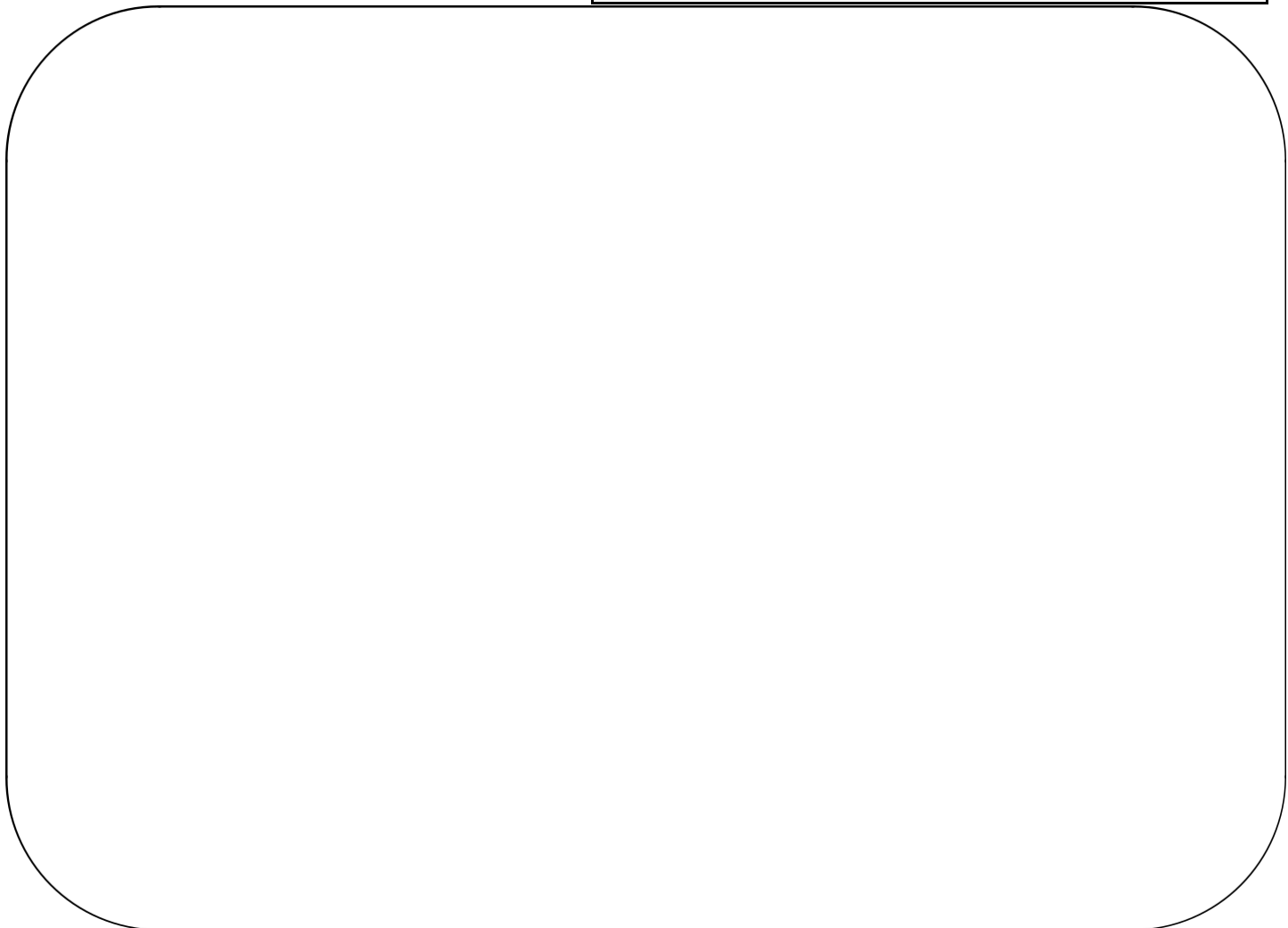
Walk: . . . . .

Jog/Trot: - - - - -

Lope/Canter: \_\_\_\_\_

Pivot: (draw circular arrow to show direction)

Back: WW



# Horse Terms

- A. Dressage \_\_\_\_\_ Problems in the intestinal tract, abdominal pain.
- B. Blemish \_\_\_\_\_ A blood test that detects antibodies of EIA (Equine Infectious Anemia)
- C. Side Passing \_\_\_\_\_ Feeds that are high in fiber—pasture and hay.
- D. Floating \_\_\_\_\_ Grains and supplements
- E. Colic \_\_\_\_\_ The horse's left side.
- F. Transition \_\_\_\_\_ A horse that is sensitive about his/her head being touched.
- G. Near Side \_\_\_\_\_ A horse that refuses to leave a group of other horses.
- H. Gymkhana \_\_\_\_\_ Any mark or deformity that is visibly noticeable but does not affect the horse's usefulness or movement.
- I. Lead \_\_\_\_\_ The temperament and nature of the horse.
- J. Coggins \_\_\_\_\_ Filing down sharp edges on the horse's teeth with a metal rasp.
- K. Concentrates \_\_\_\_\_ Spitting out a wad of grass, hay, or grain, indicating dental problems.
- L. Unsoundness \_\_\_\_\_ A defect in a horse's body that interferes with performance or the horse's intended use.
- M. Forage \_\_\_\_\_ A horse with no lameness, blindness, breathing, or other chronic health problems.
- N. Head-shy \_\_\_\_\_ Riding/training a horse to respond obediently and effortlessly in special movements and transitions.
- O. Disposition \_\_\_\_\_ A collection of games on horseback.
- P. Sound \_\_\_\_\_ The foot that moves out farther in a lope or canter.
- Q. Herdbound \_\_\_\_\_ Lateral (sideways) movement with the horse stepping evenly.
- R. Quidding \_\_\_\_\_ When you change from one gait to another.





# Project Finances—Expenses

## Expenses (E)

Keep track of anything you bought this year (supplies and equipment) for your 'project. Add more copies of these pages if needed.



The Expenses (E) are divided into four categories on the following pages... E1 Tack and Equipment Expenses (this page)

E2 Feed, Bedding, Board Expenses

E3 Health/Medical Expenses

E4 Miscellaneous (Meetings, clinics, lessons, shows, transportation, etc.)

## (E1) Tack and Equipment

Date	Description of Tack & Equipment Expenses	Cost
<b>E1 Total</b>	<b>Add up all tack/equipment expenses and enter total here.</b>	<b>\$</b>







# Looking Back—What I Learned This Year

Complete this section at the end of the year. Take a look at the goals you set at the beginning of the year. How well did you meet your goals? Did you add or change goals during the year? Write those below.

<b>My goals for this year</b> (the first three will be from your Goals page at the beginning of this record book.) Add others thru the year if you'd like.	<b>How well did you meet each goal?</b>

# Knowledge and Skills I Gained

There are many things to learn in 4-H. Check each item below that you learned or improved in 4-H during the past year.

*I learned or improved my ability to...*

## HEAD (Independence)

- try something new
- set goals for myself
- plan a project
- keep myself organized
- keep track of finances
- keep records of my work
- gain knowledge of my project
- get more information about something
- I am interested in
- use resources wisely
- participate in a business meeting
- run a business meeting
- make wise choices and decisions
- solve problems
- learn from my mistakes
- understand that it's ok to change my mind if I need to
- pay attention to instructions

## HEART (Belonging)

- speak confidently in front of a group
- give a public presentation
- share my feelings or point of view
- make myself understood without bullying or being loud
- listen to other people
- respect someone else's feelings
- resolve differences of opinion
- appreciate my cultural heritage
- accept people who are different from me
- get along with other kids
- make others feel welcome
- stand up for others
- make new friends
- appreciate the importance of friendships in my life

## HANDS (Generosity)

- work with others
- work within a group
- work within a committee
- work with adults
- get past differences to reach a goal
- help others succeed
- make something with my hands
- explore a career interest
- follow directions
- lead others
- find ways to make a positive contribution to society
- understand the importance of community service
- see that my efforts can make a difference
- take the initiative to start something on my own


## HEALTH (Mastery)

- understand my strengths and weaknesses
- finish something I started
- be proud of my accomplishments
- accept change
- see that my character can effect a situation
- take responsibility for my own words and actions
- deal with winning and losing gracefully
- be careful and practice safety
- appreciate the importance of good health
- stay healthy
- feel good about myself

Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge...

my *head* to clearer thinking,  
 my *heart* to greater loyalty,  
 my *hands* to larger service, and  
 my *health* to better living for  
 my *club*, my *community*,  
 my *country*, and my *world*.



# Horse Project Photos

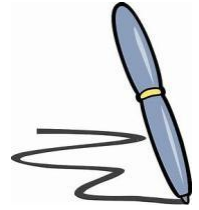






# 4-H Project Record Book

## End-of-Year Signatures



At the end of the 4-H year, when your project record book is complete, your 4-H Leader and a parent will need to see your book.



By signing below, I am stating that I have completed this project record book myself, and, to the best of my knowledge, the information included is correct.

4-H Member Signature	Date Signed



By signing below, I am stating that I have reviewed this 4-H member's project record book, and to the best of my knowledge, the member completed this record book on their own and the information provided in it is correct.

Title	Signature	Date Signed
Parent		
4-H Club Leader		

This project book was written by Dev Davis, 4-H Program Coordinator and Jane Rau, 4-H Leader.

Some pages were based on the following 4-H resources:

Horse Science, A National 4-H Council Publication by Ray J. Antoniewicz

Horses and Horsemanship, A National 4-H Council Publication by Ray J. Antoniewicz

4-H Skills for Life Animal Series: Horses

Rutgers 4-H Cooperative Extension revised 1/2020 dld

# Otsego County 4-H Project Record Book Score Sheet: NOVICE, JUNIOR, SENIOR HORSE PROJECT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H Age (as of Jan 1 current 4-H year) \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT BOOK COMPLETED: (circle one)      SENIOR      JUNIOR      NOVICE

The following pages/information should be included in your project book. It is helpful for judging if these are in this order, but not mandatory

	<u>Possible Points (up to...)</u>	<u>Points Earned</u>
1. Club Meetings and Community Service Activities * Your club attendance/record page (100%=15 pts) (Must meet minimum required 6 club meetings per project year) * Community Service - record shows participation	15  5	_____  _____
2. Goals for the project year, Project Planning & Budgeting - clearly stated	5	_____
3. Educational Pages *Include pages/worksheets showing what you learned in your horse project this year. Add your own pages as you learn new things.	15	_____
4. Riding/Training Record - complete and detailed * You can add records of lessons, horse shows, clinics, etc.	15	_____
5. Project Inventory and Finances (beginning inventory and accurate record of income and expenses)	10	_____
6. Looking Back - What I Learned	5	_____
7. Pictures - photos or drawings, captions to explain each picture	5	_____
8. My Project Story	5	_____
9. Overall Project Record Book: Included and completed Cover and Signature Page. Book is complete neat, easy to follow, visual appealing.	15	_____
10. Interview: Able to discuss project with the judge, evident that the 4-H member did the project work themselves, appropriate to their age.	5	_____

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Total Points	Possible Pts. = 100	TOTAL EARNED _____
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**Additional Judge's Comments:**

**Point Award Values**  
 85-100 "A" Ribbon  
 70-85 "B" Ribbon  
 60-70 "C" Ribbon  
 59 & under=Participation Ribbon