



PONY CLUB



ACHIEVEMENT BADGES

GROOMING

Mini Achievement Badge

Learning Objectives

That pony's feet should be picked out every day, to recognise some articles of grooming kit and how to comb a mane and tail.

Syllabus

- 1 Understand why it is good to groom ponies.
- 2 Understand that pony's feet should be picked out every day. Know that this should be done by an older, more experienced person.
- 3 Know which are the most important parts of the pony to groom.
- 4 Be able to recognise a dandy brush. Know where and when to use a dandy brush.
- 5 Be able to recognise a plastic or rubber curry comb.
- 6 Know how to comb a pony's mane.
- 7 Know how to comb a pony's tail.

Teaching Ideas and Resources

- 1 So you can check the whole body for cuts, to make them look nice. Ask members to feel all over a pony for cuts.
- 2 Explain that it is easy for young or inexperienced children to be knocked over, so older, bigger people should pick out feet. Distribute hood picks and show the members how to use them, either on a foot of a quiet pony or on a foot made of playdough.
- 3 On a diagram of a pony colour in the most important parts of the pony to groom. (feet picked out, bridle area, saddle and girth area).
- 4 Have a pile of brushes, the members to pick out the dandy brushes. Talk about the different shapes and types of dandy brush and which ones would be good to use on the ponies in the ride. Give each

member a cut out pony. Ask them to draw a dandy brush on the pony, then with paper scissors, or tear, off the pony's head to remind them that dandy brushes should not be used on the head.

- 5 Place several plastic and rubber curry combs in a bag. Members to put a hand in the bag without looking and ask them to draw out either a plastic or rubber curry. Use this experience to learn that plastic curries are sharper.
- 6 Show how to comb a pony's mane onto one side, using a mane comb or hairbrush. If detangler is used explain that too much is bad for the hair and can get onto the reins making them slippery.
- 7 Show how and then practise, combing a tail a small handful at a time.

Recommended Reading

14th Edition The Pony Club Manual, Hoof pick P99, Brushes P56

Questions

- 1 Why should ponies be groomed?
- 2 How often should ponies feet be picked out, who should do this?
- 3 Which are the most important parts of the pony to groom.
- 4 Select a dandy brush from this pile.
What part of the pony can you use a dandy brush on, which part should you not groom with a dandy brush.
- 5 Select a plastic or rubber curry from a pile of brushes.
- 6 Show how you would comb this pony's mane.
- 7 Show how you would comb this pony's tail.

Answers

- 1 To check for cuts and to make them look nice.
- 2 Every day, a bigger, older person
- 3 Where the bridle sits and the saddle and girth area.
- 4 Correct brush selected.
Use the dandy brush on the body, not on the head.
- 5 Correct item chosen.
- 6 Mane combed onto one side, most of the knots removed.
- 7 Tail combed a little at a time.