



The Grayson Grazette

Volume 6, published fall 2018

A newsletter for Junior members of



Grayson-Jockey Club
Research Foundation.

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Admiral loves to hear from his fans.
You can tell him about you
and your horse at
admiral@grayson-jockeyclub.org

The Grayson Grazette is the digital
newsletter for Junior Members of the



**Grayson-Jockey Club
Research Foundation**
501(c)(3) organization

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Safety Rules Around Horses

Horses are a wonderful teaching tool for kids. Working with horses builds confidence and instills responsibility in children. It is important to instill a healthy sense of respect for the potential dangers around horses and insist everyone follow a reasonable set of rules.



- **Approaching, catching.** Always speak to a horse to alert him of your presence before walking near; this avoids provoking his startle reflex. Approach from the side, to avoid his "blind" spots (directly in front of and behind him). Touch him first on the neck or shoulder, with a firm but gentle stroking motion.

- **Leading.** Always use a lead rope attached to the horse's halter, rather than grasping the halter itself, which provides no options if the horse were to startle. Don't coil the end of the lead rope around your hand, where the loops could tighten; instead, fold it back and forth and grasp the middle of the folds. To avoid being pulled over and dragged, never wrap a lead rope or any other line attached to a horse around any part of your body.

- **Tying.** Tie a horse "eye high and no longer than your arm," meaning the tie knot should be at least as high as the horse's eye, and the distance from the knot to the halter should be no more than the length of your arm. Tie only to a safe, solid object, using a quick-release knot or breakaway string. Tie only with a halter and lead, never with bridle reins.

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Safety Rules Around Horses

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- Grooming/handling. Keep your hand on your horse when grooming him. If you have one hand on the horse when you're grooming, you can tell if the horse is going to move toward or away from you. Be mindful of a horse's feet while you're working around him, as horses are often careless about where they step. When releasing a horse's foot after cleaning it, make sure your own foot isn't in the hoof's spot as it returns to the ground. When tending to a horse's lower leg or hoof (as in applying a bandage), never kneel or sit on the ground. Remain squatting, so you can jump away in the event he startles.

- Trailering. Never fight with a reluctant horse to get him into a trailer; seek professional help and retraining, if necessary. Once a horse is in the trailer, close the back door or ramp before you hitch him to the trailer tie. When unloading, untie the horse before opening the back of the trailer, so he doesn't begin to back out on his own and hit the end of the rope, causing him to panic and pull back.



- Turning loose. When turning out a horse or pony for exercise or returning him to his paddock or pasture, always turn his head back toward the gate and step through it yourself before slipping the halter off to avoid his heels in case he kicks them up in delight at freedom.



- Feeding treats. Give carrot or apple chunks from the palm of a flattened hand to avoid being accidentally nipped.

These are just a few safety tips when to follow to maintain a good relationship with your horse.



How to Say **Hi!** **to a Horse:**

Safety Tips for Kids Who ❤️ Horses

Don't goof off in the saddle. The horse could shy and you might fall off!

Don't come up to a horse from the back. If you startle the horse, it may kick you -- hard!

Be sure you have training on the safe way to handle your horse's hooves.

Walk beside a horse when you're leading it--not ahead or behind.

Never sit on the ground next to a horse's hooves. You could get stepped on!



**Taking care of and riding a horse or pony can be lots of fun!
Remember to follow these safety rules when around horses.**

Crafting with Admiral - Storage Jar



Everyone always needs storage and this simple horse themed jar is fun. We recommend asking an adult to help you with this project.

You will need:

- Jar with lid
- Plastic horse
- Spray paint
- Glue that will adhere plastic to metal

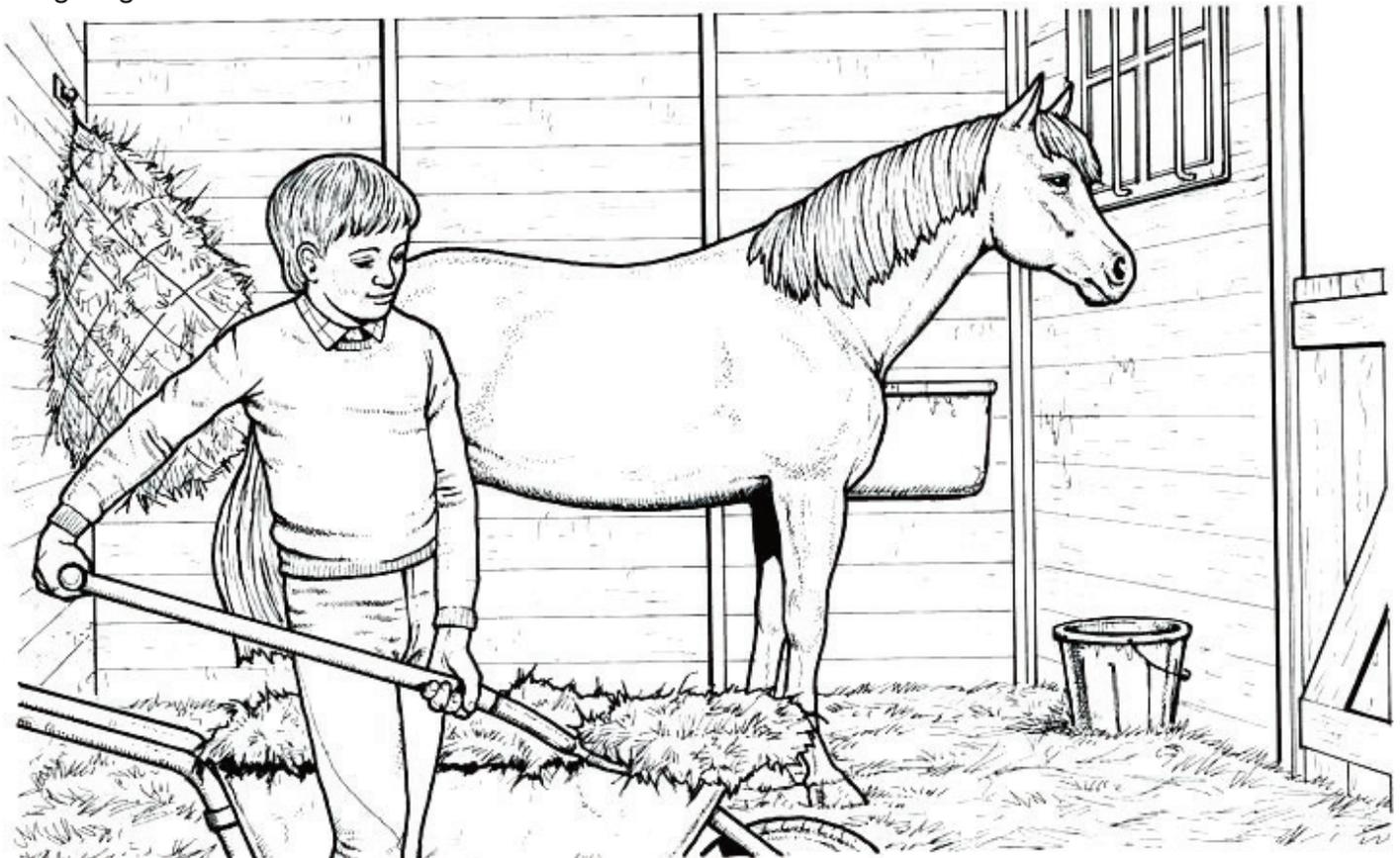
Soak the jar in a bowl with warm water and dish soap until the labels starts to fall off. Scrape off any remaining glue and paper. Dry your jar and lid well.

Spray paint the jar top and the horse (or you may wish to leave your horse as is) with your paint. If you paint your horse be sure to get the underside of your horse and all around. It may take more than one coat. Be sure to put newspapers down.

Once dry, add a small amount of glue to the bottom of the horse and firmly press it onto the top of the jar lid.

Let it dry for an hour or two and then fill your jar with whatever you like!

Coloring Page



Admiral's Corner



A TREAT FOR YOU!

I love sharing my favorite equine treats, but today I want to share a treat I know YOU will enjoy too!



All you need is frosted cupcakes, (you can use a box mix and store icing), Nutter Butter Cookies, cashews, black icing and candy eyes.

If you can not find candy eyes at the grocery store, you may find them at your local craft stores, or online.

Simply place one cookie centered on each cupcake. Tuck a cashew half under the cookie at the top for ears. Use black icing to make the forelock, nostrils and mouth. Place a small amount of icing for eye placement and place candy eyes.

YUMMY!

Stuffed Small Pumpkin Horse Treat

(Have leftover pumpkins? Your horse would love one!)

Ingredients:

A whole pumpkin
Hay
Grain
Fruit of choice
Vegetables of choice



Directions:

Cut a lid on your pumpkin.
Do not remove insides.
Stuff inside of pumpkin with ingredients.
Put the lid back on and roll it to your horse.
Watch her dive into the stuffed pumpkin horse treat with delight!