



Horses

Curriculum Links:

- Science Living Things
- Geography Human Environments
- SPHE Myself and the Wider World
- History Local Studies (see activities)

Lesson objective:

To introduce students to the world of horses, including where they came from, their living relatives and a day at the stables.

Teacher guidelines

It is suggested that the teacher should ensure that their students are familiar with the vocabulary and concepts introduced in previous modules before starting this lesson.

Keywords and concepts introduced in previous modules:

hooves cereals hay

Horses have hooves; just like cattle, sheep, goats and pigs, but horses are the only one that wear shoes. Horseshoes are very important for protecting a horses hooves from injury

After revision of the above teachers should discuss the below in more detail.

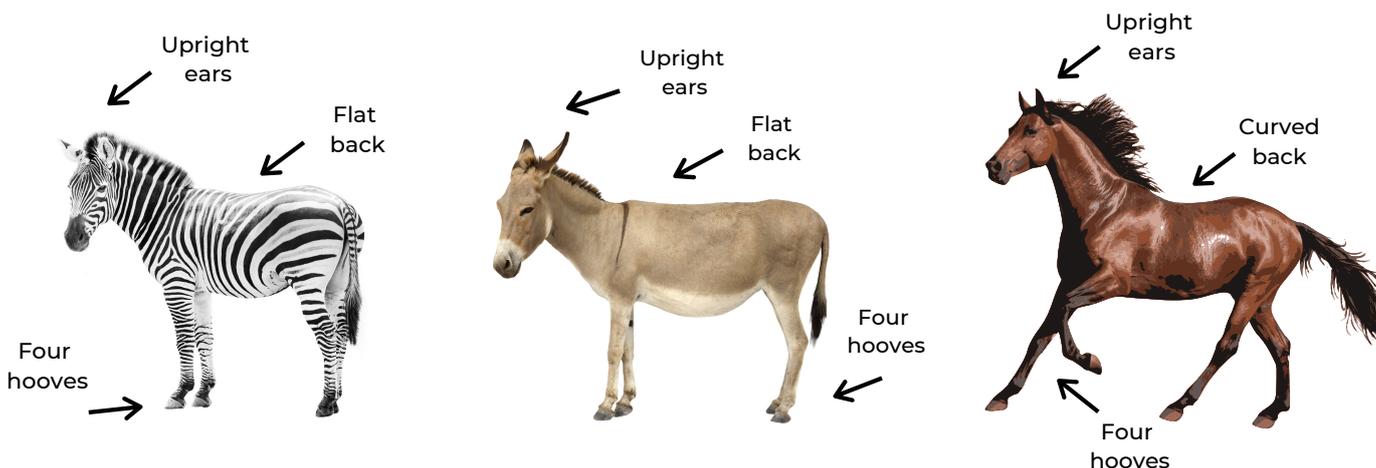
Keywords and concepts for this lesson:

saddle bridle grooming trot canter gallop

Did you know?
Donkeys, zebras and horses are cousins

Horse History

A long time ago, most horses and donkeys were wild animals that lived in desserts, just like zebras. People began to keep horses and donkeys for riding and for carrying heavy loads thousands of years ago. Donkeys and horses can be found on farms across the world today.

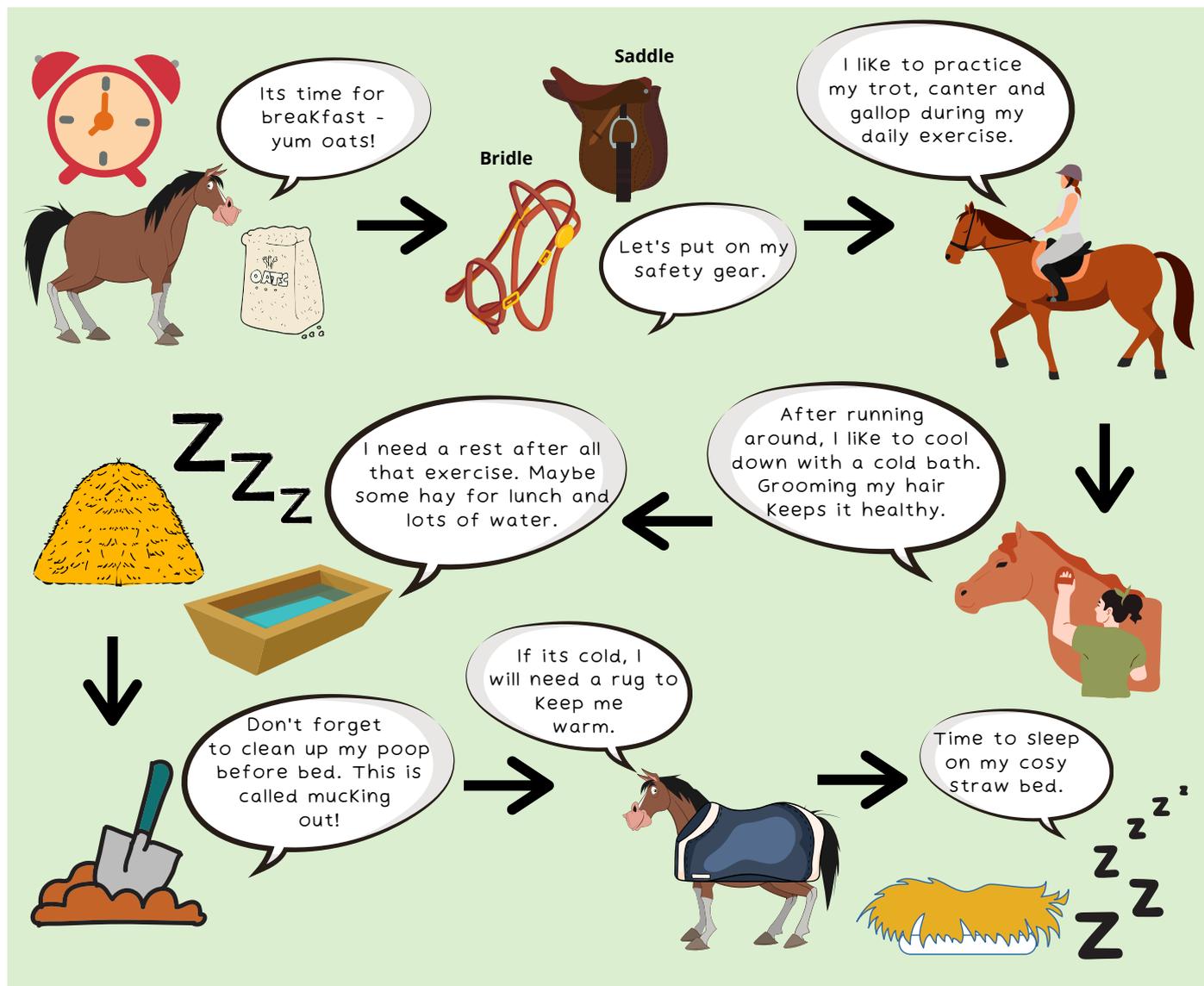


Zebras, donkeys and horses all have four feet called hooves. They help them to run fast. Horses are the fastest.

All of their ears stand upright on their heads. This helps them to hear if a predator is near. This is very useful for zebras because they are wild animals. They are hunted by lions on the plains of east and southern Africa.

The horses' back is curved. This is perfect for fitting a saddle. Donkeys and zebras have flat backs and this makes it very difficult to ride them. People prefer to ride horses

A day at the stables. Follow the arrows to discover more.



Suggested Activities:

- Print and use the worksheets in the classroom or at home.
- Make a poster of a horse and include the mane, tail, poll, crest and muzzle.
- During computer time, watch the horse racing juniors grooming video.
- Have a discussion on safety when riding a horse.
- Make your own day in the life time line. You can be as creative as you like. Take your horse on an adventure.
- Use computer time to find out more about the racing seasons and when horses need to be their healthiest.

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this lesson, students should have a better understanding of the horses' family and a timeline of a regular day.

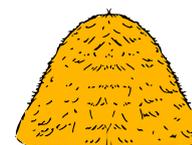
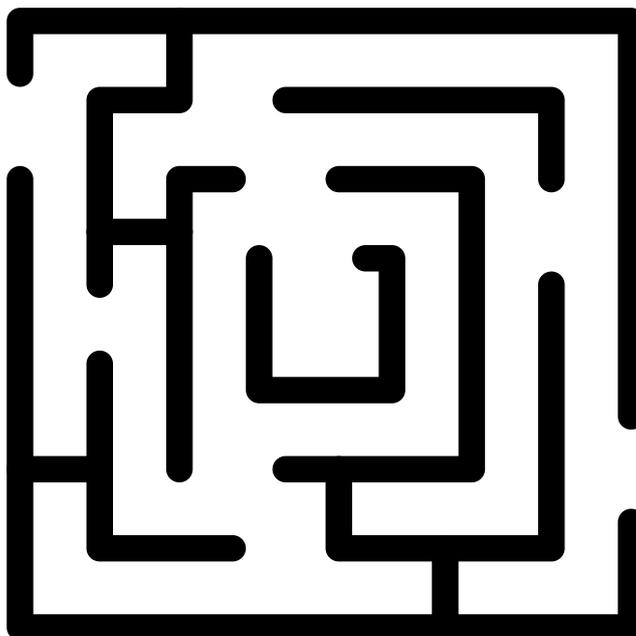
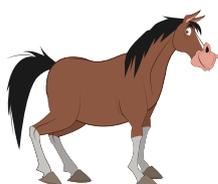
Additional resources:

- www.agriaware.ie
- www.goracing.ie
- www.equip.ie



Horses

1 Can you help me find my hay?



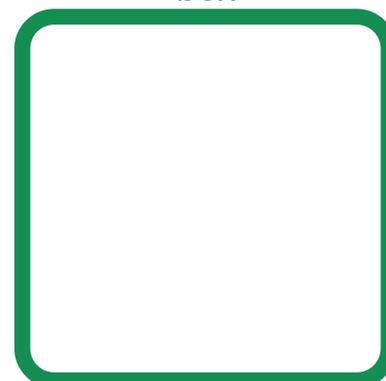
2 Answer the questions below.

Who is faster? A zebra or horse?

How many hooves do 1 donkey, 1 zebra and 1 horse have added together?

Which animal cousin has a curved back?

Sums
box





Horses

- 3 Draw a birds-eye view map of the horse stables. Make a list of everything they need. Use the day at the stables picture to help you.

Bonus question:
What can
people give
horses as a
treat?