Species – Horse Module – Selection & Buying

Learning Objectives

Beginner
• Determine the factors to consider in purchasing a horse.
• Explain basic horse vocabulary.
• Prioritize the factors to consider in purchasing your horse.

Intermediate
• Determine the factors to consider in purchasing a horse.
• Describe horse vocabulary.
• Explain the single most important factor to consider when buying a horse.

Seniors
• Determine the factors to consider in purchasing a horse.
• Define horse vocabulary.
• Explain which factor is most important in determining which horse you will buy.

Learning Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Level</th>
<th>Learning Activities</th>
<th>Materials Needed</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>• Which Horse Should I Buy? Checklist for Beginner Level</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Horsey Words of Wisdom Word Find</td>
<td>• Which Horse Should I Buy? Beginner Level Activity Sheet</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Deal or No Deal</td>
<td>• Horsey Words of Wisdom Word Activity Sheet</td>
<td>Alberta Horse Reference Manual pp. 13-14, 65-67</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Spectacular Bid</td>
<td>• Deal or No Deal Worksheet</td>
<td>KHVCR Kit</td>
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<td>• Auction Items and Numbers</td>
<td>KHVCR Kit</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Targeting Life Skills

Beginner
• Learning to Learn

Intermediate
• Decision making
• Critical Thinking

Seniors
• Critical Thinking
• Communication
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Source</th>
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</thead>
</table>
Time Requirement
- 30-45 minutes for classroom learning objectives
- 2-3 hours for take-home learning objectives
- ½ day for field trip learning objectives

Best Time to Teach
- At beginning of 4-H Year

Best Location
- Classroom
- Barn

Evaluation
Beginner
- Evaluate Activity Sheets – 75% accuracy.

Intermediate
- Evaluate Activity Sheets with 80% accuracy.

Senior
- Evaluate Activity Sheets with 90% accuracy.
- Evaluate teaching skills when teaching younger members using Activity Sheets.

References
- Alberta 4-H Project Manual Handbook
- KHVCR Kit
- Internet resources
- The Cost of Owning Your Own Horse Handbook

Kentucky Core Content
1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 - 1.9, 2.2, 2.3, 2.7, 2.8, 2.10, 2.15, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 6.1
Which Horse Should I Buy?
Beginner Level

Answer the following questions to determine your level of interest in owning a horse:

1. **Why do you want a Horse/Pony?**

2. **What do you want to do with a Horse/Pony?**
   - Trail Ride
   - Show
   - Breeding
   - Family Pet

3. **What kind of horse or pony do you want?**
   (read descriptions pages 65-67 in Alberta Manual)
   - Draft Type
   - Stock Type
   - Saddle (Gaited) Type
   - Sport Horse Type
   - Pony Type

4. **Where would you keep your horse (be sure to consider adequate pasture)?**
   - Barn at your home/farm
   - A relative’s or friend’s barn
   - Boarding/Training Facility
5. Answer the following to determine if you have time to spend with your horse.
   a) Who will feed and water your horse morning and night even when you go to school?
   
   b) How much time do you have after school? (Consider after school activities)
   
   c) Who will be responsible for grooming, stall cleaning, feeding, etc?
1. **Answer the following cost questions:**
   a) Do you plan to buy, lease or adopt? If buying how much do you plan to spend?

   b) If you are **boarding** your horse how much will it cost each month and will the fee include feed and hay?

   c) If keeping your horse **at home** how much will you spend on feed and hay per month? (refer to pages 84-86 in the Alberta manual)

   d) **Access to equipment/tack** (refer to page 143 in Alberta manual):
      I. **What do you already own?** Include basic equipment: grooming and riding supplies, buckets, manure forks etc

      II. **Make a list of what you will need & estimate the cost?** (You may wish to visit a local tack shop or search the internet)
e) **What about health care** (beginning on page 100 of Alberta manual)
Research cost of basic horse care such as vaccinations, deworming, health certificates, Coggins test, dental care, etc

f) **Will you do your own shoeing and trimming of hooves?**
If not research cost of having your horse trimmed and shod on a regular basis.

2. **How much return do you expect on your investment in a horse?**

3. **What do you expect to gain from owning a horse and how will it benefit others in your family?**
Beginners and/or Intermediates

You are ready to buy a horse. Go to a horse barn and pick three horses. Using the basic selection factors shown below, **rank each horse individually on a scale from 1-5**, with 1 (being least important) and 5 (being most important). This will serve as a guide to determine which horse you wish to buy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection factors</th>
<th>Horse #1</th>
<th>Horse #2</th>
<th>Horse #3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>Color</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Breed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gender (Mare or Gelding)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age</td>
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<td>Hoof Condition</td>
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<td>Health</td>
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<td>Well Broke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Needs Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Temperament/Personality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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**Note for Leaders:**

You may wish to create a scenario for each individual horse. Write in a brief paragraph so that participants learn how to extract the necessary information they need. To make it more interesting, use a live horse for visual purposes or provide an enlarged picture of a horse. Be creative!
SPECTACULAR BID

Auction Game!

Get ready to spend some money! Create an auction atmosphere. Have participants to register or check in as they arrive and give each of them a number to use when they bid on an item. Be sure to give participants play money to spend. (Suggestion: you may want to use play money as a reward when doing other club events or activities that they can spend at the auction)

Before the auction collect “Horse Related Items” such as brushes, buckets, hoof picks, combs, videos, DVD’s etc for 4-H’ers to bid on. Check with local feed and/or tack shops to see if they might be willing to donate some items. (Suggestion: consider having club members bring in used equipment/clothing/etc. that they may no longer use.)

Consider using model horses as part of your horse auction, creating a background/description for each horse used. (Suggestion: One might wish to put together a sale catalog with respective lot numbers, pedigrees and description for the horses in your sale)