

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## The Horse: A Majestic Animal

A horse is a large, strong animal that has been important to humans for thousands of years. It has a long body, four powerful legs, and a flowing mane and tail. Horses are mammals, which means they give birth to live young and feed them with milk. They can vary greatly in size, weight, and color.

Horses can stand between 4 feet and 6 feet tall at the shoulder. They can weigh anywhere from 900 to over 2,000 pounds, depending on the breed. Some of the largest horses, like Clydesdales, are known for their strength and size, while smaller breeds, such as Shetland ponies, are often used for children to ride.

Horses come in many colors. Some common colors include black, brown, white, gray, and chestnut. Some horses have unique patterns like spots or patches. Paint horses, for example, have large patches of white mixed with another color.

A horse's body is designed for running and working. Their long legs and strong muscles help them move quickly, while their hooves protect their feet. Horses do not have horns or stripes, but their manes and tails are unique features. Manes keep their necks warm, while tails help swat away flies.

Horses also have large, expressive eyes that help them see almost all around them. Their ears can turn in different directions to listen carefully for sounds. These features make them both beautiful and functional animals.

