



DARTMOOR DAZZLERS – SYLLABUS

GOLDEN GROOM

GROOMING

This topic will introduce the benefits of grooming ponies and how to groom a pony safely using correct equipment.

*One-star challenges

- Reasons for grooming a pony.
- Select and use correct brushes and equipment.
- Safely groom a pony being aware of positioning and moving around the pony
- Recognise sensitive areas on a pony and how to groom these areas.
- Pick up a front foot.
- Look out for cuts or wounds and know to tell an adult on the yard.

**Two-star challenges

- Show off your new skills and have a tidy turnout competition with your friends.
- As you become more confident handling ponies you can begin to learn other grooming techniques such as wiping your pony's eyes and nose, picking out feet and applying hoof oil.
- Learn about other abnormalities you can look out for whilst grooming other than cuts and wounds such as lumps, bumps, heat and swelling.

GOLDEN GROOM

ANATOMY 1

Basic anatomy and points of the horse.

*One-star challenges

- Use the correct names for points of the horse.
- Identify some major bones on the horse.
- Identify some major organs on the horse.

**Two-star challenges

- Make a model of an organ you have learnt about. Your model can be made from play-doh, paper, card, sponge, or anything you like! Then use your model to tell someone about its purpose and function and some other cool facts!
- Find out what is special about a pony's whiskers, or what purpose their forelock, mane and tail have.
- How ponies can sleep standing up



GOLDEN GROOM

LEADING PONIES

Develop further handling skills by leading your pony safely.

*One-star challenges

- Approach a pony in the stable
- Put on a headcollar.
- Lead a pony in and out of the stable
- Lead a pony on the yard.
- Tie a pony up.
- Handle a pony safely on the ground being able to move its shoulders and haunches and step backwards.
- Potential risks associated with handling and leading ponies and how risks can be minimised.

**Two-star challenges

- Lead your pony in trot.
- Stand a pony 'square' and hold a pony for someone else to handle.
- Leading your pony on the offside, when, and how to do this.



GOLDEN GROOM

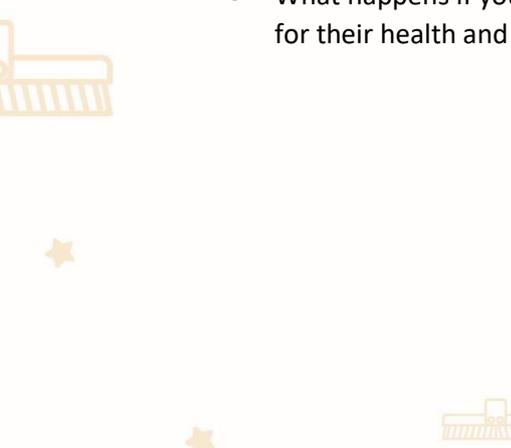
FEEDING PONIES

Prepare feeds for ponies and begin to recognise common feeds.

*One-star challenges

- Identify common feeds.
- Assist with preparing bucket feeds.
- Assist to fill up a hay net.
- Help to keep the feed room clean and follow good hygiene practice after feeding ponies.
- Treats that are safe and unsafe to give to a pony.
- Why it is important not to feed treats to horses and ponies you do not know.

**Two-star challenges

- What feed might look or smell like if it has turned bad, and how storing feed correctly could prevent this from happening.
 - How to weigh a hay net
 - How to provide hay to ponies in the stable or in the field.
 - What happens if you feed too much food to your pony? Begin to think about why this is bad for their health and how to manage their feed in a healthy way.
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PET PROTECTOR

PONY BEHAVIOR

This topic introduces basic horse and pony behaviour.

*One-star challenges

- Basic reactions and behaviours of ponies
- The 'fight or flight' response
- When a pony may 'fight or flight'
- How wild ponies live with regards to herd behaviour
- Signs of poor or unsafe behaviour in the ridden pony
- How their behaviour can have a positive or negative influence their pony's behaviour

**Two-star challenge

- There are many reasons a pony may show signs of poor behaviour. Find out what these are, what can be done to investigate and the regular checks you can do to hopefully keep your ponies happy!

PET PROTECTOR

FIVE FREEDOMS

An animal owner has a legal duty of care for their pet. Find out what this means in this topic.

*One-star challenges

- The five freedoms regarding animal welfare that should be aspired to when looking after an animal.
- How each freedom relates to looking after any animal
- How each freedom relates to looking after a pony
- The legal responsibility of an owner

**Two-star challenges

- How is the law relevant to all animals kept as pets, or in places like farms and zoos?
- What happens if the five freedoms are not met? How might this affect a pony? It might not lead to a serious case of neglect, but it could lead to stress or unpleasant behaviours.
- How to be a very caring owner and go above the basic requirements.

PET PROTECTOR

ANIMAL CHAMPIONS

Understand the role of animal welfare charities and their work.

*One-star challenges

- The role of the British Horse Society
- Other national animal welfare charities
- List one local animal welfare charity
- What is meant by a welfare concern?
- Who to contact if they are concerned about an animal's welfare?
- How animal welfare charities improve animal welfare by campaigning and education

**Two-star challenges

- Write a letter to your favourite charity thanking them for the work that they do. Tell them about why you love to support them – they will be so excited to hear from you!
- Come up with your own charity! What animals would you help and why, how would you do this, would you rescue animals or educate owners? What would the name be, what about the logo? What would be your first campaign?

PET PROTECTOR

PONY PASSPORT

Why does a pony need a passport if they're not going on holiday?

*One-star challenges

- What pony passports are used for
- The information in a passport
- Who can write in a passport?
- What a microchip is used for
- Who inserts the microchip?
- Where a pony's microchip is usually found

**Two-star challenges

- Find out even more about passports and the information they could contain. Did you know the passport could contain information about the pony's mother and father? What else might you be able to find out in a passport?
- Who enforces the rules and what might happen if your pony doesn't have a passport?
- There is a central database for some UK nations that has some information about all ponies, most importantly microchip numbers so you can report your pony if it is stolen. Find out more about this and the information it holds.

JUNIOR JOCKEY

RIDING SKILLS 2

This topic will progress basic riding skills for beginner riders.

*One-Star challenges

- Follow basic instructions during a lesson.
- Ride with an independent seat in walk
- Perform some balance exercises whilst on the pony.
- Begin to trot in balance.
- Outline the footfalls in walk.
- Perform walk to trot transitions.
- Outline the aids for riding in walk.

**Two-star challenges

- Walk without stirrups and without holding the reins at the same time.
- Stand in stirrups in walk for at least 5 strides.
- Trot the long side of the arena.
- In trot: one hand off rein
- Shorten and lengthen reins in trot.
- Ride simple school figures in trot.
- Knowledge: Tell you about correct diagonals in trot. Tell you footfalls in trot. Describe aids for trot.
- Transitions: walk to trot/trot to walk are quicker and more accurate than 1 star, so transition completed within 3 strides

***Three-star challenges

- Skills: rising in trot for at least one lap of the arena on both reins. Learn about straightness in trot and keep pony on a straight line in trot. Learn about free walk, when and why you would do it and begin to work towards being able to do it.
- Balance tests: both hands off reins in trot. Arms outstretched/circle arms/hands on head
- Knowledge: can describe what the correct diagonal looks or feels like and knows how to change the diagonal. Can tell you which feet are moving in trot as they are riding. Can give a basic description of the free walk.
- Transitions: be more aware of preparing for transitions to make it happen on a counted stride.

JUNIOR JOCKEY

RIDING RIGHT

This topic introduces the rules of the school for riders to follow during lessons.

*One-star challenges

- Follow the basic rules of the school when riding in a group.
- Why it is important to follow these rules when riding in a group.

**Two-star challenges

- When you begin to ride independently there will be other rules you will learn such as riding in open order. Find out what this means and how it applies to riding in an arena with other riders. Section off a part of an arena so you and your friends can practice open order, but on foot!

JUNIOR JOCKEY

ARENA AWARENESS

Know your way around an arena with the letters and markers you may see.

*One-star challenges

- The position of school letters
- The position of school letters and the measurements between A and C, E and B
- How to remember the order of the school letters

**Two-star challenges

- There are another two letters you can add to your diagram: D and G. Where do you think they will go?
- The marker 'X' isn't an actual marker in the arena. Practice your accuracy with stopping your pony in this place.
- Begin to follow instructions in your lessons that relate to the letters. It might be a change in direction at a certain letter or begin a circle at a certain letter.

JUNIOR JOCKEY

SADDLE AND BOOTS

This topic will introduce the saddle and its parts, and types of boots ponies may wear and why.

*One-star challenges

- The parts of a saddle
- Identify a saddle cloth and a numnah.
- Identify brushing boots and overreach boots.
- Why a pony may wear boots when being ridden.
- Know that riding equipment should fit a pony and why this is important.

**Two-star challenges

- Further points of the saddle such as waist, panel, thigh roll, stirrup leather keeper, skirt, D ring, girth straps, buckle guard
- Learn about one other type of saddle and at least one way it is different to the saddle you ride in.
- Put on a pair of boots.
- Learn about one other type of pony boot and what that type of boot may be used for.
- Know the role of a saddle fitter.

EQUINE EXPLORER

TREES AND PLANTS

This topic will introduce the crops, trees and plants that may be seen whilst riding out in the UK.

*One-star challenges

- Types of tree or shrub that may grow locally.
- Types of crop that is farmed and their use.
- How to ride out safely and respectfully with regards to crops, trees, and plants
- Trees, shrubs, and plants poisonous or harmful to horses
- Positive and negative reasons for trees and hedgerows in a paddock

**Two-star challenges

- Have some knowledge of when the crops they identify may be harvested, and what this means.
- Begin to create a trees and plants explorer guide.

EQUINE EXPLORER

NAVIGATION 1

*One-star challenges

Basic map reading skills for beginners.

- What a map is, and it's use
- Use a simple map to locate an object.
- Follow a simple route on a map.
- Identify a map that can be used for their region.
- Identify simple symbols or markings on a map.
- Identify markings for a footpath and bridleway.
- Where is permissible to ride?
- Identify the points on a compass.

**Two-star challenges

- Contours on a map and how this relates to exploring on horseback.
- Why it is important to know what landmarks or places of interest are around your route and how this may help to plan your journey time. Have a look at a route on a map and look for anything of interest.
- Maps are very colourful. Learn about at least two other markings or symbols with different colours to what you have learnt for 1* and tell your friends about them.

EQUINE EXPLORER

BE SAFE, BE SEEN

This topic will introduce the equipment that should be worn whilst riding out in any environment.

*One-star challenges

- What is hi vis?
- Identify basic safety equipment for themselves and their pony.
- Why it is important to wear bright riding kit when riding out.
- Identify clothing and equipment that will help others see them when riding out in different environments.

**Two-star challenges

- The difference between reflective and fluorescent clothing
- The function of hi vis items, and why this may help them to remain safe whilst riding out.
- Create a 'Be safe, be seen' poster to display at your yard and encourage all riders to wear hi vis.
- Advantages of lights being worn on the rider, and where they should be worn.

EQUINE EXPLORER

HACKING

Go on a short hack with your pony and enjoy the benefits of riding outside!

*One-star challenges

- Benefits of hacking for both rider and pony
- Demonstrate the signal for a left turn, right turn, stop and slow down.
- Take part in a short hack.
- Signal and observe appropriately, following instructions.
- Be polite to other road users

**Two-star challenges

- When you are riding on the road you will also have to follow any road signs that give instructions. Road signs will also help you to prepare for what is ahead. Your challenge is to learn these common road signs, can you draw them out?
 - Stop
 - Give Way
 - Roundabout ahead
 - Traffic signals ahead
 - Roadworks ahead
 - National Speed Limit and Maximum Speed Limit
 - Beware of children / children crossing.
 - Beware of horses.
 - One Way
 - You can also add any that may be relevant or common to where you hack.
- You won't be riding your pony as fast as the maximum speed limit allows on the road, but why is it important and helpful to know what the speed limit is?

STABLE STAR

YARD SMART

What to do if an accident, incident or near miss happens on the yard. Be a Stable Star and help to prevent accidents for either yourself or your friends.

*One-star challenges

- The difference between an accident, incident and near miss
- Why any accident, incident or near miss should be reported to an adult.
- Identify the appropriate person on the yard to report to if they see or are involved in an accident, incident or near miss.
- Dangers or risks on a yard that could lead to an accident.
- How to reduce the risk of an accident happening

**Two-star challenges

- What a risk assessment is and carry one out for an activity on the yard.
- Discuss some make-believe accidents, incidents or near misses. What can you learn from them to prevent them happening again?

STABLE STAR

BE SECURE

Have a general understanding of yard security to look after the safety of all people, ponies, equipment, and facilities.

*One-star challenges

- Recognise any secure areas within the yard.
- The importance of keeping a yard secure.
- The process for reporting visitors
- The importance of closing gates and doors when leaving an area or field.
- The importance of making sure stable doors are shut and bolted.
- The importance of putting equipment back in the correct place after use.

**Two-star challenges

- Be a security guard for the day. Imagine you are making a final check of the yard before locking up. What areas need to be secure, or gates need to be shut before you could go home? Make your checklist.
- Plan an amazing adventure: The adventure of the escaped pony! Imagine you are a pony whose stable door has been left open, what would you do? Write a story, draw a map, or draw a picture.



STABLE STAR

SPRING CLEAN

Be a Stable Star and help to tidy up the yard.

*One-star challenges

- Follow instructions and work together as a team to clean the yard.
- Use equipment appropriately.
- Dispose of litter or waste appropriately.
- Why a thorough clean is beneficial.
- Areas or equipment that would be cleaned or maintained during an annual spring clean

**Two-star challenge

- Take on the role of Yard Manager. Create a list of jobs that need to be done on a yard to keep it clean, tidy, and safe. Assign your jobs to those that need to be carried out weekly, monthly, or yearly.



STABLE STAR

WORK SMART

Reduce the risk of injury by following the correct procedure to lift or move heavy items.

*One-star challenges

- Why it is important to not lift a heavy item.
- Demonstrate the correct procedure for lifting and carrying an item.
- Demonstrate the correct procedure for carrying or moving common yard items and equipment.
- Why it is important to follow correct lifting procedure.
- Handle equipment with consideration
- Demonstrate the correct procedure for sharing a load between two people.
- Identify items they should not try to lift.



**Two-star challenges

- Some items such as bags of horse feed or bales of shavings will have the weight displayed on the bag. A wheelbarrow will also have a weight limit displayed so it's not overloaded. Know where to find this information so you can decide if an item is too heavy for you.
 - What manual handling means and all the tasks that are included in this description.
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HELPING HERO

BEING GREEN



This topic will encourage consideration of the environmental impact ponies and a stable yard might have, and how the participant can help benefit the environment.

*One-star challenges

- What being kind to the environment means, and why it's important to consider actions and impact
- What could (on the yard) have a bad effect on the environment?
- What could be done at the yard to improve the environmental impact?
- What could be done away from the yard to reduce their environmental impact?

**Two-star challenge

- What impact will you have? Think of a points system for the changes and actions you can do. Then create your own totalizer to keep track of all your points and measure all the positive actions you are taking! Seeing the effect you are having in this visual way will encourage you to keep it up and you can be really proud of yourself! Even better, can you make your totalizer out of things that might have gone to waste?



HELPING HERO

EQUESTRIAN ACCESS GROUPS

Discover how equestrian access groups are heroes by helping to protect and extend safer off-road routes.

*One-star challenges

- The benefits for horse riders to be able to access off road routes.
- The role of an equestrian access group
- The role of the BHS in protecting, extending, and promoting off road routes.

**Two-star challenges

- Find a nearby bridleway group on the BHS Website.
 - When you may need to contact an Equestrian Access Group and all the ways they may be able to help.
 - Ways to support your local access group – is there a route they need mapping, a local bridleway to clear?
 - Find a BHS campaign related to access and rights of way and discuss why this campaign is important.
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HELPING HERO

HORSE INCIDENTS



How to report an incident and how this information helps to improve the safety and wellbeing of ponies and their riders.

*One-star challenges

- What an incident is
- Why it is important to report an incident.
- How to report an incident
- The role of the BHS with regards to horse incidents

**Two-star challenges

- The British Horse Society give away free car stickers to help spread the message to drive slowly and safely past horses on the road. Find out how to get one (you may need to ask an adult to help) and give this to an adult to put in their car. Think of all the people that may see this car sticker!
- Create a poster, leaflet or a radio advert that promotes the reporting of horse incidents.



HELPING HERO

CONSERVATION

What is conservation grazing and how does it benefit our natural environment and the grazing animals?

*One-star challenges

- Advantages of conservation grazing
- Grazing animals that could be used in a conservation grazing pasture.
- Breeds of pony that are used within conservation grazing.
- Why specific breeds of animal are used for a conservation grazing project.
- How to enjoy a conservation site with respect to the animals and wildlife

**Two-star challenges

- Native and rare breeds are often successfully introduced to conservation grazing projects. What benefits does this have for the breed? The National Trust have breeds of sheep and cattle such as Belted Galloways, Sussex cows and Herdwick sheep living together. Research at least one of these breeds and tell your coach why mixed herds are suited to this type of project.