

D STANDARD

Recommended study:

- Mini Road Rider Badge
- Mini Learning Theory Badge

OBJECTIVES

- To achieve confidence in handling a pony
- To achieve confidence in riding a pony
- To enjoy learning about ponies
- To have a basic understanding of pony behaviour
- To know that it is important that ponies are healthy and enjoy life
- To have an awareness of how ponies learn

SAFETY

1. **Explain why you need to wear a riding hat and suitable footwear when mounted and dismounted**
2. Show how to approach and move safely around a pony
3. Keep a safe distance away from people and other ponies when riding

UNDERSTANDING YOUR PONY (Dismounted discussion)

4. **Show how to use rewards (stroking, scratching, voice) to train ponies**
5. **Understand how to soften pressure (release) to reward the pony when leading a pony**
6. List two things that ponies enjoy doing
7. **Talk about what happens when ponies are nervous or worried**
8. Know some situations that might make ponies nervous or worried
9. Talk about some things ponies do that show they like to be with other ponies

RIDING

10. Mount and dismount (a mounting block may be used)
11. **Show a correct position in the saddle at halt**
12. **Hold the reins correctly**
13. Know that when the pony answers an aid (does what they are

asked), you must stop giving the aid (release of pressure)

- 14. Be able to ride a quiet pony safely in an enclosed area, without the leading rein, in walk and trot**

PONY CARE

- 15. Approach and handle a pony safely**
16. Catch a pony and put on a headcollar
17. Lead a pony in hand in walk and turn correctly
18. Tie up correctly
19. Recognise and use a hoof pick, soft brush, plastic curry comb, and mane and tail brush
20. List the basic needs of a pony in summer and winter
21. Describe how a healthy pony behaves
22. Name simple points of the pony
23. Name different parts of the saddle and bridle

Test notes:

- All content covered in lower tests may be reassessed in this test
- The items shown in bold are particularly important; competence in these items will be given emphasis by the assessor when considering the result

Recommended Minimum age: 8 years

Felt Colour: Yellow

Please Note:

The assessor team reserves the right to withdraw any candidate at any stage if there are concerns about the welfare of the horse or pony they are riding, or the safety of others. All decisions will be made in line with The Pony Club's commitment to safeguarding and animal welfare.

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