READING COMPREHENSION

Instructions:Read the passage carefully and answer the questions.

Horses

Horses are beautiful creatures. They can be different colors and can run quickly. People like to watch horses because they are strong and powerful.

Horses are mammals. Mammals are animals that have hair or fur, are warm-blooded, and usually give birth to live young. The mother horse generally has one baby in the spring and feeds the baby milk. Horses have long legs, and big eyes that can see almost all the way around them. They can walk, trot, gallop and jump. Young horses that are one year old or younger are called foals. A young female horse is called a filly, and a young male horse is called a colt. After 4 years, a horse is considered an adult. Many people think that a pony is a young horse, but that is incorrect. A pony is a type of horse that does not grow very large. Horses can live up to 20 or 25 years. Sometimes people can tell how old a horse is by looking at its teeth! They generally sleep standing up, so that if a predator approaches, they can run away quickly.

Horses only need about three hours of sleep per day! Their hooves need to be taken care of. Horse hooves are like our fingernails, which need to be trimmed. If a horse is doing a lot of walking on hard ground, people put horseshoes on them, then take off the horse shoes when the hooves need trimming. New horseshoes are then put on. For food, horses eat foods such as grass, hay, oats, corn, apples, and carrots. They are herbivores, meaning they do not eat other animals. Their stomachs are small, so they need small, frequent feedings. There are wild horses, but many people have horses as pets, too. They ride the horses and may teach the horses tricks.



When people first started to take horses as pets, they were just used for work. The horses would pull carriages so people could ride places, or plows so the farmers could more easily tend their fields. Horses were also used to move goods from place to place, by carrying objects on their backs. When these strong creatures are treated with care, they make wonderful companions.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Questions:

Select the correct answer.

1. What are young horses called
    a. Filly
    b. Foals
    c. Colt

2. A horse is considered an adult after_____ years.
    a. 5
    b. 7
    c. 4

3. Horses are _____, which means they only eat plant materials.
    a. Omnivores
    b. Herbivores
    c. Carnivores

4. Horses can live up to _____ years
    a. 20 or 25
    b. 30 to 35
    c. 15 to 20

5. People can tell how old a horse by _____
    a. looking at its teeth!
    b. looking at its skin
    c. looking at its hair

6. People like to watch horses because they are _____
    a. funny and silly
    b. strong and powerful
    c. wild and cruel

7. Horses need around _____ hours of sleep per day.
    a. ten
    b. eight
    c. three

LIVEWORKSHEETS