

## Title: Helpful Horses

### Word Study

Fill in the blanks using the words.

carriage

compete

foal

miniature

plow

1. The foal is looking for its mother in the herd.
2. Before you can put seeds in a field, you have to plow it.
3. It is fun to ride in a carriage pulled by horses.
4. They like to compete over who can eat dinner the fastest.
5. The doghouse looks like a miniature version of our house.

## Reading Comprehension

### A. Circle T for true or F for false.

1. Horses and donkeys are not related. T / F
2. A foal drinks its mother's milk for up to six months. T / F
3. Many horses have a white spot on their tails. T / F
4. Ancient horses made of clay were found in China. T / F
5. Horses compete in the Olympics. T / F

### B. Circle the correct word(s).

1. You should stay away from a horse if its ears are (up / down).
2. A mare is an older (female / male) horse.
3. The book says that horses like to live with (people / other horses).
4. (Arabian / Belgian) horses are one type of light horse.
5. A bit is a piece of (leather / metal) placed in a horse's mouth.

### C. Choose the best answer.

1. Which of the following is NOT listed as something that makes a horse beautiful?

- a. Its face
- b. Its mane
- c. Its muscles
- d. Its tail

2. What is a colt?

- a. A young male horse
- b. A young female horse
- c. A grown male horse
- d. A grown female horse

3. What kind of horse is used for plowing fields?

- a. Light horses
- b. Ponies
- c. Heavy horses
- d. Quarter horses

4. What do people use to control a horse while riding it?

- a. A saddle
- b. The reins
- c. Horse shoes
- d. A carriage

5. Which Olympic sport for horses is mentioned in the book?

- a. Polo
- b. Racing
- c. Rodeo
- d. Jumping

## Summary

Fill in the blanks with the words.

|       |         |        |       |        |
|-------|---------|--------|-------|--------|
| herds | saddles | rodeos | manes | breeds |
|-------|---------|--------|-------|--------|

Horses are beautiful animals. Some have long manes and tails. Horses are in the same family as donkeys and zebras. Horses are called different things depending on their sex and age. Horses like to live in herds with other horses. They can be many different colors. Many have a white spot on their nose called a blaze. There are three hundred breeds of horses. They are divided into three groups: heavy, light, and ponies. Each group does different things. People have been using horses for thousands of years. They have done a lot to change human history. They have helped people move from place to place and fight wars. Before people can work with horses, they must be trained. Horses must get used to having saddles on them. We use trained horses for lots of contests and sports. Horses can play polo, compete in rodeos, races, and even the Olympics!