



PONY CLUB



LOADING

Mini Achievement Badge

Learning Objectives

Understand how to help and be safe when your pony is being loaded or unloaded by an adult.

Syllabus

- 1 Think about occasions when your pony may need to travel somewhere.
What type of transport can we use?
- 2 Discuss what a pony should wear when travelling.
- 3 Recognise that an adult should load and unload the pony.
- 4 Discuss what the handler should wear as protection.
- 5 Where children should stand so that they are safe when a pony is being loaded.

Teaching Ideas and Resources

- 1 Ask members when they think they may need to travel their pony- to a rally, competition, vet.
Discuss with the group the different types of transport available and if possible take them around lorries and trailers to talk about the differences.
- 2 A well fitting headcollar. Look at some different styles of travel equipment (boots, bandages etc.) that the group may have available. Possibly a rug if it is cold. Show a picture of a pony dressed for travel or if it is safe and appropriate, use a quiet pony to show off the travel kit.
- 3 Discuss with the group the reason why an adult should load and the safety procedure. If possible, use a trailer or lorry again, to look at ways of securing the pony with back bars, partitions etc.

- 4 Give out diagrams of a person who is going to load a pony. Ask the members to draw and colour in hats, boots, gloves and a coat that is done up. Ensure class understands why each of these pieces of clothing is important.
- 5 Use a lorry or trailer. Discuss with class what can happen if a pony does not walk quietly up or down the ramp. With help allow them to find how far away they need to stand if a pony comes off the side of a ramp, runs backwards etc. Reiterate how fast, and without warning, these problems can happen, especially if a pony is excitable and strong in a new place.

Questions

- 1 Name 2 occasions when you may need to travel your pony?
- 2 What should your pony wear when travelling?
- 3 Who should load your pony and what should they wear to be safe?
- 4 If a lorry or trailer is available ask the member to show where they will be safe to stand when a pony is being loaded. What can go wrong so they need to stand so far back?

Answers

- 1 To get to a rally, competition, vet.
- 2 A well fitting head collar, boots or bandages, possibly a rug if the weather is cold.
- 3 An adult, who should wear a hat, gloves and sturdy boots.
- 4 Member stands a sensible distance from the vehicle.
They need to stand so far away because a pony may come off the side of the ramp, run past the ramp or run backwards.