



PONY CLUB



ACHIEVEMENT BADGES

COLOURS AND MARKINGS

Achievement Badge

Learning Objectives

Knowledge of more colours and markings.

Syllabus

- 1 Know the difference between an iron/steel grey, a flea bitten grey, and a white grey.
- 2 Recognise a palomino and know their body colours might vary in shade.
- 3 Realise that chestnuts can be either liver or light, or somewhere in between.
- 4 Be able to tell whether a roan is a strawberry roan, blue roan or bay roan
- 5 Know the descriptions of spotted horses and ponies, and that they are often described as appaloosas.
- 6 Appreciate what is an eel/dorsal stripe and what are black points.
- 7 Recognise a prophet's thumb mark.

Teaching Ideas and Resources

- 1 Ask members how the phrase 'flea bitten' may have chosen to describe this colour. (Many people suffered flea bites before hygiene was easy). Members of this age may not know what colour iron or steel are, show a piece of iron or a photograph of iron.
Explain that horses that look white are still called grey.
- 2 Ask if members have ever seen a palomino in the flesh or in a film, ask them to describe the colour to the rest of the group.
- 3 Hopefully there will be some variations of chestnut either in the yard or at the rally. Colour in at least two shades of chestnut.

- 4** Strawberry roans have a basic chestnut coat, blue roans a black. (In the spring) distribute some diagrams of 3 ponies with the basic under colour coats. Have a pool of grey hair and brown/bay hair and ask members to Sellotape the grey and brown/bay hairs to make their own roan diagrams.
- 5** 'Leopard Spot' is a white horse with evenly distributed coloured spots. 'Spotted Blanket' is mainly dark coloured with a white back and/or hindquarters within which there are coloured spots. With permission from the owners, spray temporary hair colouring onto a grey pony to make a leopard spot. Using white and dark colouring do the same for a blanket spot.
- 6** Points refer to mane, tail and lower legs. A dorsal stripe is a black line running through the mane, along the spine and down the dock. Usually found on dun horse/ponies

Look in the yard or rally to find a horse with these markings or colour them in on a diagram.
- 7** These dimples are said to be found in horses that are descendants of the Prophet Mohammed's horses, sacred because of their faithfulness. Legend says they are good horses. Alternatively, they may be because of a hoof pressing against a muscle in the womb. Make playdough horses and each member decides where to put the thumbprint on their model.

Recommended Reading

14th Edition The Pony Club Manual P12, 13, 14

Questions

- 1** Describe a flea bittern grey, a steel grey. What colour should a white horse be called.
- 2** What colour is a palomino?
- 3** What is the darkest shade of chestnut?
- 4** What is the basic colour coat of a strawberry roan?
- 5** What is another name for spotted horses? Name two different types of markings/spots?
- 6** Where do you find an eel or dorsal stripe?
- 7** If a pony has a prophet's thumbmark does it mean he is a good performer?

Answers

- 1** A flea bitten grey is almost white with little clumps/spots of grey or brown. A steel grey is a dark grey. A white horse is described as grey.
- 2** Bodies of pale to deep gold colour and a white mane or tail.
- 3** Liver
- 4** Chestnut
- 5** Appaloosa.
Leopard, blanket or snowflake
- 6** Along a horse's spine.
- 7** Not necessarily.