

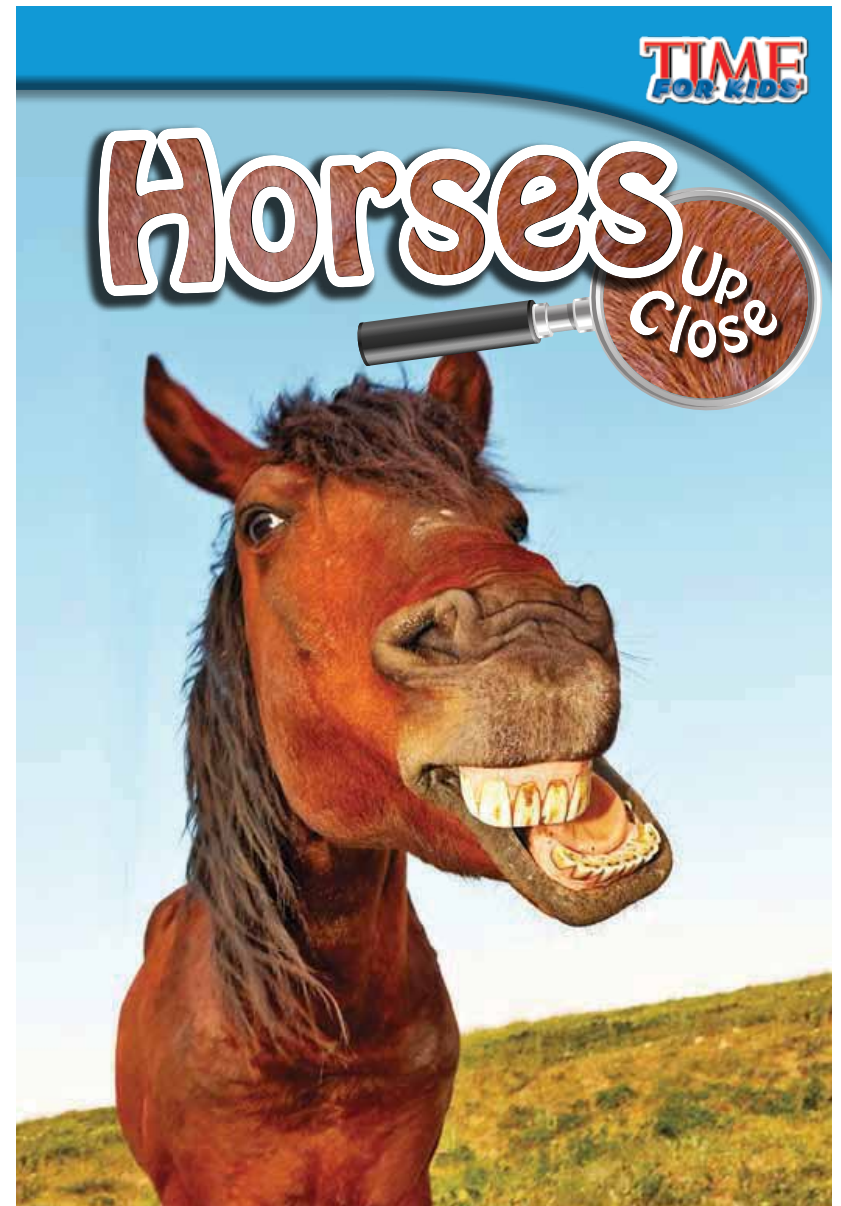
TIME
FOR KIDS

Horses

Up
Close



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If You Were a Horse

Have you ever wished you were a horse?





If you were a horse, you
would run like the wind.

You would have a long tail
and **mane**.



You would be powerful and
strong.

Oh, how wonderful to be
a horse!

All About Horses



Horses are beautiful animals with strong muscles. A horse can easily carry a person on its back.



A horse's powerful legs help the animal run far and jump high. Some horses can run more than 50 miles per hour!

Horses are fast, too. They are one of the fastest animals in the world. People like to watch horse races and guess which horse will run the fastest.



A white spot at a horse's eye level or above is called a star. Any white mark below its eyes but above its nostrils is called a stripe.



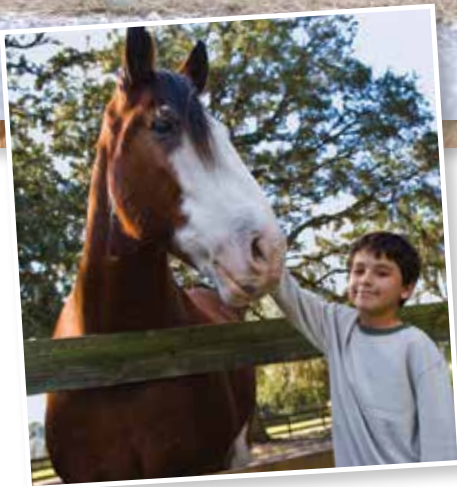
Horses come in many colors. They can be black, white, brown, gray, red, yellow, and more. Sometimes they are two or three colors at once.



Did you know that a zebra is a type of horse?

Some horses have spots. Some horses have stripes. Some have both, and some have none.





Horses can be tall or short.
Many horses are taller than
people, but some horses are very
small.

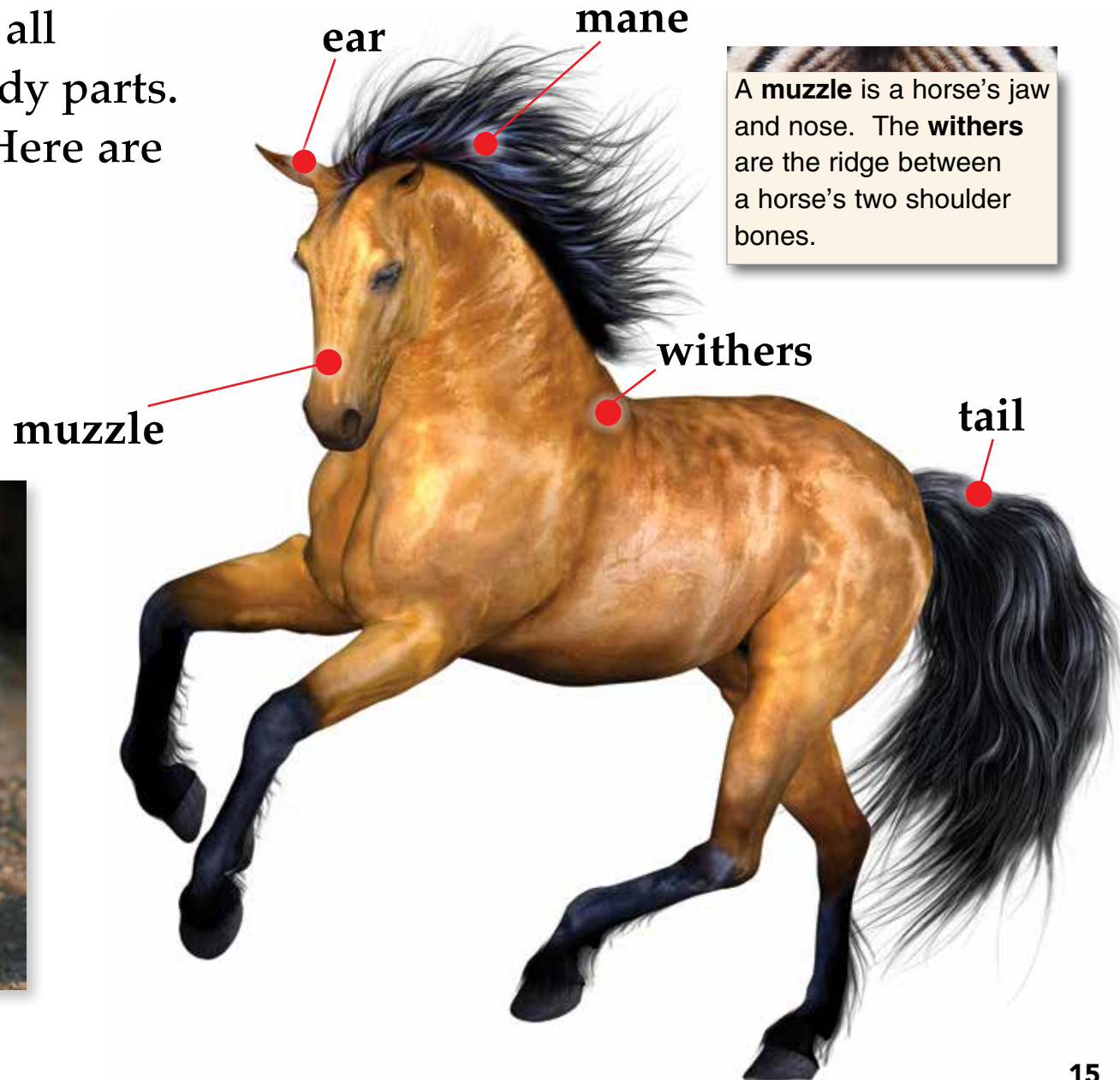


Some miniature (MIN-ee-uh-chur)
horses are trained to help blind people.
They are like seeing-eye dogs.

A miniature horse may be
only two feet tall!

No matter their size, all horses have the same body parts. They are called points. Here are some of a horse's points.

A horse has only one toe on each foot. Each toe is covered by a horny **hoof**. A horseshoe is used to protect the hoof.



A **muzzle** is a horse's jaw and nose. The **withers** are the ridge between a horse's two shoulder bones.

How Horses Live



Horses live all over the world. In the wild, they live on plains.



With people, they may live in fields, stables, and corrals.



Since they are so active, horses are big eaters. They eat plants.



They especially like grasses and grains and sweet treats like apples and sugar cubes.



There are seven million horses in the United States.

A **stallion** is a male horse. A female is a **mare**. Boy horse babies are called colts. Girl horse babies are called fillies. All horse babies are called **foals**.



A mare nurses her foal to feed it. She keeps her foal near her while it is growing.

A mare also protects her foal. If there is danger, she will kick or bite anything that may harm her baby.



A horse's eyes are on the side of its head. Because of this, a horse can see almost everywhere around itself without turning its head. It can also see two different things at once because each eye sees something different.

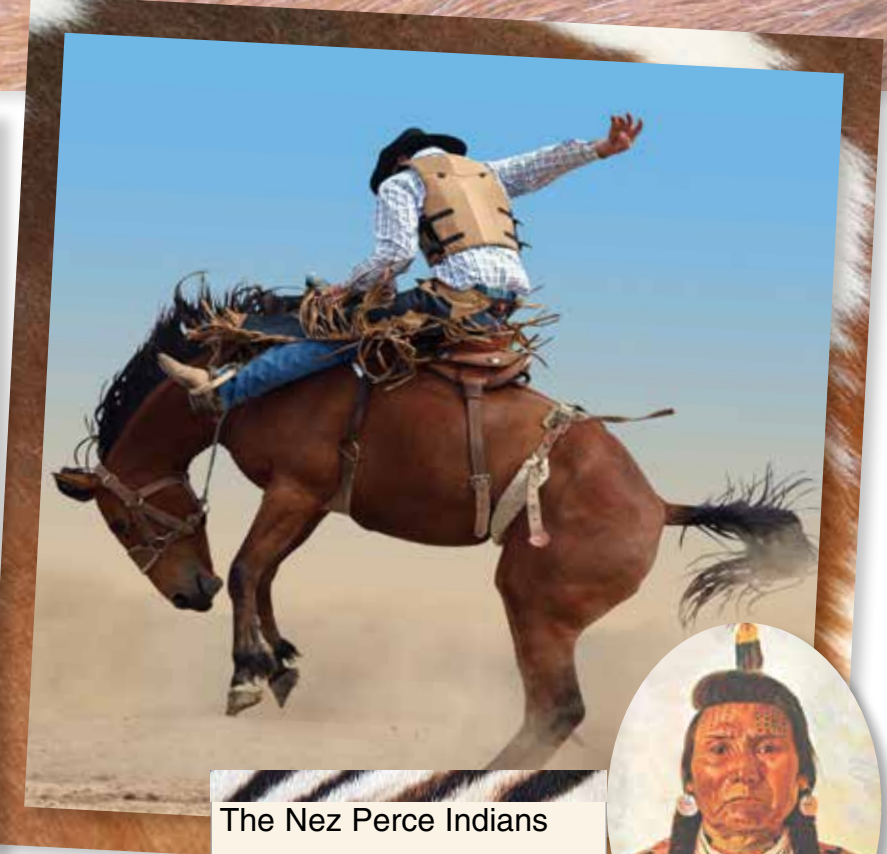


One thing a horse cannot see is whatever is right in front of its head! So, a horse can't see the food it eats.

Horses at Work



Horses have been helping people for thousands of years. They make people's lives easier by doing the hard jobs.



The Nez Perce Indians were once the best horse riders and breeders in the United States.



Nez Perce chief

Some horses pull wagons and farm machinery. Some work for the police. Some work in the circus. Some help cowboys ride the range.



Throughout time, people have needed horses to help them.

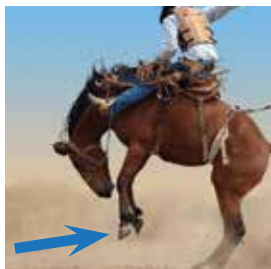


Many people say that dogs are people's best friends. But horses may be even more important.

Glossary



foal



hoof



mane



mare



muzzle



stallion



withers