This book was written as one tool in increasing the awareness of hazardous situations around horses, as well as insight into some typical behavior of horses. This publication is in no way a guarantee against accidents, injury, or loss, nor is it a substitute for adult supervision of children and their horses. The authors and illustrators are not responsible for any accident, injury, or loss, and wish the best success and pleasure in your horse activities.
Frightened and kick, approach your horse, speak to him so he won't become sleepy. As you are really asleep, they often appear awake when they are really asleep.
How much does this horse weigh? ______

He weighs a lot when he is standing on your foot. Teach your horse to stay away from your feet!
When your horse gets too close for safety, say "BACK." Use your lead shank with firm tugs to move your horse back.
Even a gentle horse can become frightened and rush forward into you. Always stand by the horse's side, at his neck to lead or to hold him.
If your horse should rear up, you can release your right hand hold on the lead strap, and still have hold of the lead with your left hand. When turning, always turn your horse to the right and walk around him.
Wrapping reins or lead ropes around your hand or body is dangerous.
Here are the ways you can coil the extra lead strap in your left hand.

Use 1 or 2 larger loose coils, that could be let go of quickly.
Approach your horse from the front, around his shoulder when possible. The neck and shoulder area is the place to pet your horse. Petting his nose encourages biting.

Tie your horse higher than his withers, close to a well anchored post, and with a slip knot. Use a sturdy halter, not a bridle.
1. Don't walk in the danger zone. That is where a kick could be the strongest.
2. Walking over or under the head is risky business.
3. Crawling under the belly is extremely dangerous.

!DO's!

1. Speak to your horse to let him know where you are.
2. You can choose to walk very close to your horse, or to walk completely out of kicking range.
3. If you pass close, speak softly.

!DON'T's!

1. Injuy and stroke him gently.
Practice this Slip Knot with a friend.

1. Draw lead rope around pole left to right.
2. Do you see the 4 shape?

3. Turn over your left hand. Do you see an 8 shape?
4. Put right loop through the bottom of the 8 shape.

Warning: Keep your fingers on the edges of the rope, and out of the loops to avoid serious injury!
the only safe place to tie up your horse.

With a brown crayon, color the picture that would be

If you need to leave

post in a safe place?

Did you use a good stout

Did you keep your fingers?

Pull Snug.

Pull end of rope to unite.

Did you use a good stout

Did your horse halt, lead rope & snap?

Did your horse higher than the

Knot from working loose.

The loop to keep the

The lead rope through

 awhile, put the end of

your horse tied for

or

With a brown crayon, color the picture that would be
While reaching for the butt chain, put yourself in the safety zone by standing to the side of the trailer.
If you must approach your horse from behind, talk softly and stroke his hip gently. Be sure he is aware of you before you touch him.
CAN YOU COMPLETE THIS STORY?

YOUR CATCHING, HANDLING and LEADING SKILLS

Horses by nature are usually _e_t_ and like people. However, they may become _g_t_n_ and by instinct they may attempt to run away. If you don’t want to _r_t_your horse when you approach him, be sure to _l_to him. Talking to your horse in a _l_m_and _o_o_voice will lessen the chance of him _c_k_in fright. By watching your horse’s _r_and his _x_p_s_ you can learn to understand what he is thinking.

Warn your horse before you handle him. One way you can do this is by placing your hand on his hip and sliding your hand down his leg to pick up his _f_. If you reach suddenly for the hoof, you could be kicked. Stand at your horse’s left _d_to lead him. When turning your horse, turn him to the _g_t.
Will learn to handle horses successfully and safely.

Handle your horse with kindness and firmness. By practicing safety precautions you will learn to handle horses successfully and safely.

Choose a horse with a good disposition. Because some horses do have bad dispositions, they may become aggressive toward people after having tasted. A mare that is normally gentle can be unpredictable and should be handled by experienced riders.

1. Expressions
   1. Ear
   1. Tail
   0. Side
   9. Around
   8. Gentle
   7. Startle
   6. Adity
   5. Talk
   4. Confidence
   3. Hoof
   2. Rightened

Keep the extra lead strap off the ground by holding it in your left hand. Never wrap a lead rope around your hand. Never wrap a lead rope around your hand.
Find and color these good safety habits on the next page.
1. Horse brushed and free of dirt, sand, and burrs.
2. Hoofs cleaned out and free of rocks.
3. Bit adjusted to cause slight smile at corners of mouth.
4. Loose bridle straps put in keepers.
5. Curb strap adjusted with room for two fingers.
6. Blanket evenly placed and thick enough to protect withers.
7. Leather oiled and in good condition.
8. When saddling lay cinch over saddle so it doesn’t swing down and hit the off knee.
9. Saddle up on withers, not back on the loin.
10. Front girth snug enough to keep saddle in place.
11. Girth adjusted so center rings lie evenly between front legs.
12. Leather loop connecting front and back girths.
13. Back girth adjusted with room for one hand.
15. Breast collar snap attached with pointed side toward the ground.
16. Extra girth strap in strap keeper.
Remember When saddling, ALWAYS fasten the FRONT cinch FIRST! When unsaddling, unfasten the FRONT cinch LAST! Check your cinch often for snugness, especially soon after you have started your ride.

Lead your horse a few steps before mounting.
and torn equipment? I'll do is replace worn again, the first thing when I can ride.
You can teach your horse to bridle safely and easily.

- Be gentle with his mouth and avoid bending his ears.
- Teach him to lower his head by pressing on either side of the poll. Release your pressure as soon as he responds for his reward.
- Should your horse toss his head, keep your head far enough away to avoid getting bumped.
Be just as gentle removing the bit. Gently guides the bit into his mouth. Use your right hand to lift the bridle as your left hand.
Boots are a MUST for safe riding.
Tightly, as this will cause your horse to buck. Avoid holding him in his mouth. Now you can stop him, but don't move. Hold your reins evenly and keep light contact with his mouth. Hold your horse standing still. The ONLY safe way to mount and dismount, is on a horse that is standing still.
WRANGLER JOE

There was a young wrangler from Podem,
Who had a horse Totem and he rode him!
One day, Totem took to shyin',
And lost his rider a cryin',

"Listen to Joe, keep those heels low
And your reins nearby,
Cause if your a leanin' Clear over ol' Totem,
Just hope you remember how to fly!"
How Wrangler Joe Stays in the Saddle

- Seat deep in saddle
- Body upright
- Fingers firmly around reins
- Heels low
- Heels not too tight
- Reins not too loose
- Reins not too tight
- Help from Toflem stay calm
- Joe's relaxed manner
- Joe stays in charge and relaxed.
1. Do you let a car go wherever it wants?  
   Yes  No

2. Do you let a horse go wherever he wants?  
   Yes  No

3. Do you let a car go as fast as it wants?  
   Yes  No

4. Do you let a horse go as fast as he wants?  
   Yes  No

5. Who is always in charge?  
   You  You

Answers: 1) No 2) No 3) Yes 4) Yes 5) You, You!
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE BRAKES ARE?

HORSE BREAKS

Stay calm and lean slightly back. Before the stop by taking a deep seat, keeping your heels in your stirrups. Gradually tighten them. Gently, give a slight pressure. Lighten only one rein and take it back. Talk to your horse softly.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR HORSE BECOMES SPOOKED

AND RUNS OFF.
WHICH RIDER IS READY FOR THE UNEXPECTED?

A  or  B

- Reins held in her hand with light contact for control.
- She's aware of surroundings.
- She's wearing boots and jeans.

- She isn't holding her reins.
- She's sitting on her horse backwards.
- Wearing shorts & sneakers.

RIDER A IS READY FOR THE UNEXPECTED.
Can you draw some more hazards?

1. Bareback
2. Tennis Shoes
3. Showing off
4. Reckless Racing
5. Low Branches
6. Gopher Hole
7. Running on Rocks
8. Riding with Halter
9. Riding in barbed wire

Can you find 6 riding hazards in this picture?
CAN YOU FIND 6 PLACES YOU SHOULD SLOW YOUR HORSE TO A WALK?
If you would like to jump your horse, you will need a competent instructor, a willing horse, helmet, and boots.
Keep a horse’s length in front of, beside, and behind your horse, to prevent being kicked. Be extra alert in group riding.
"Mostly you can prevent accidents,"