

A Horse of a Different Color

Objective

Students will explore the diversity of horse coat colors, reproduce an existing color and develop and name a new color.

Background

Horses, just like people, come in all different shapes, sizes and colors. Arabian horses originated in the Middle East, while the Trakehner had its origin in East Prussia. Size among different breeds of horses varies greatly. The American Miniature Horse does not grow taller than 34 inches at the withers, while the American Quarter Horse must be no less than 14 hands at the withers to be eligible for registration. (1 hand = 4 inches)

Just like people have different hair colors, horses have different coat colors. The color of bay horse's body ranges from reddish tan to reddish brown. The mane and tail are both black. The tips of its ears, muzzle and lower legs are black.

A black horse's body is true black without any light areas. The mane and tail are also black.

The body of a brown horse can be either brown or black, with lighter areas around the muzzle, eyes, flank and inside upper legs. The mane and tail are black.

The body of a chestnut horse ranges from dark red to brownish red, with a mane and tail the same color. Sometimes the mane and tail may be flaxen (pale yellow).

The white horse is born white and remains white its entire life. The mane and tail are also white. Eyes can be brown, hazel or blue.

Vocabulary

flank—the fleshy part of the side between the ribs and the hip

flaxen—of a pale yellow color

hand—unit of measure equal to four inches (about 10.2 centimeters) used especially for the height of horses

muzzle—the nose and lips area of an animal

withers—the ridge between the shoulder bones of a horse

Procedures

1. Read and discuss background and vocabulary.
2. Provide each student with a copy of Student Worksheet A.
—Students will follow along as you read the directions and the descriptions of the coat variations.
3. Provide copies of Student Worksheet B
—Students will use crayons or tempera paint to develop new colors.
—Students will name their colors and explain the names.

Oklahoma Academic Standards

PREKINDERGARTEN

Creating

KINDERGARTEN

Creating

GRADE 1

Creating: 1; Connecting: 4

GRADE 2

Creating: 1; Connecting: 4

Name _____

A Horse of a Different Color A

There are five basic horse coat colors listed below. Choose one to color the horse below. You may have to mix or blend more than one crayon to achieve the correct color.

BAY

The horse's body color ranges from reddish tan to reddish brown. The mane and tail are both black. The tips of its ears, muzzle and lower legs are black.

BLACK

The horse's body is true black without any light areas. The mane and tail are also black.

BROWN

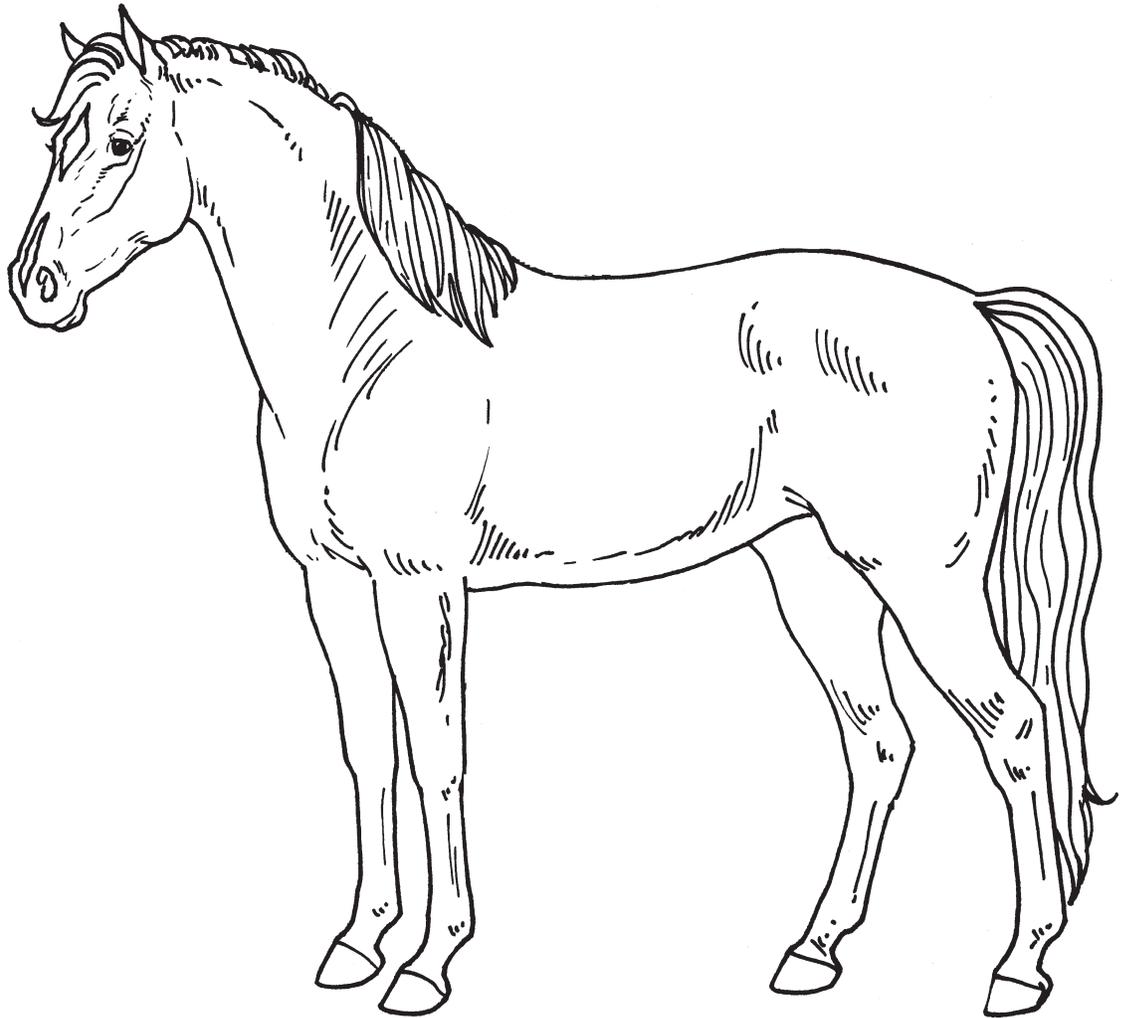
The horse's body color can be either brown or black, with lighter areas around the muzzle, eyes, flank and inside upper legs. The mane and tail are black.

CHESTNUT

The body color ranges from dark red to brownish red, with a mane and tail the same color. Sometimes the mane and tail may be flaxen (pale yellow).

WHITE

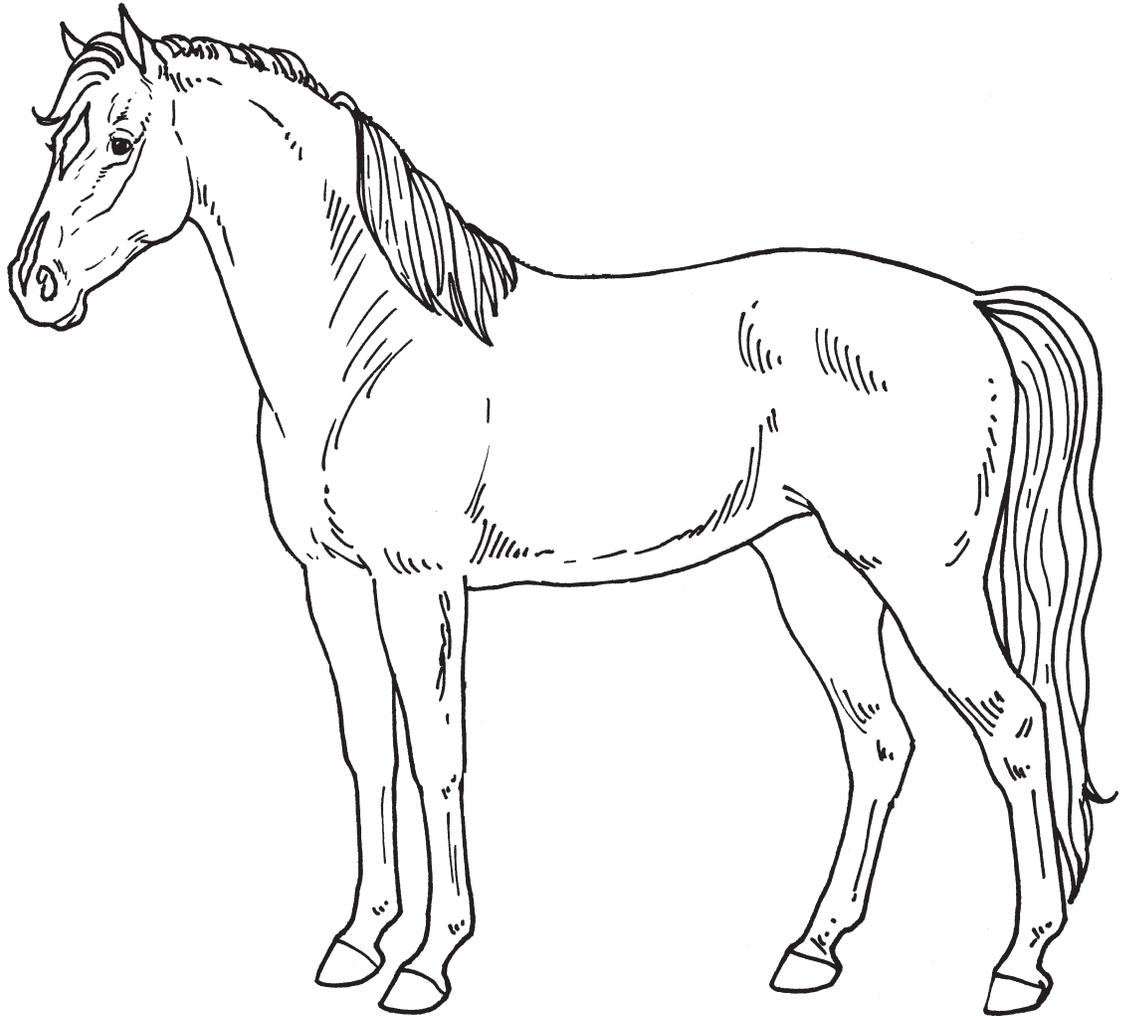
The white horse is born white and remains white its entire life. The mane and tail are also white. Eyes can be brown, hazel or blue.



Name _____

A Horse of a Different Color B

Create your very own horse coat color. Mix or blend colors and patterns to create a unique coat for the horse below.



The name of my new color is _____.

I named it this because _____.