

Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc.
Council's Own Brownie Try-it



Horsin' Around Brownie Try-It

Horses can be a lot of fun and you can learn a lot from spending time with them. Although some of the activities below can be completed without a horse, this try-it is intended to be completed by interacting with a horse. Make sure that as you work through this try-it you follow the safety guidelines located on page 102 in the Girl Scout Safety-Wise book.

All girls must complete the starred #1 activity plus at least three others to earn this try-it.

- *1. Learn safety rules for being around horses and then follow them as you complete the try-it and do other horse activities.
2. Learn the main parts of a horse and label the parts on a picture.
Here are some important parts to include:

Muzzle	Withers	Girth	Knee
Ears	Neck	Hindquarters	Leg
Mane	Belly	Back	Tail
Shoulder	Breast	Hoof	Elbow

3. Practice grooming a horse using tools such as a curry comb, hard brush, soft brush and mane/tail comb. What does each brush feel like?
4. Find out how to care for a horse (i.e. What do horses eat and how often do they eat it? Where do horses sleep?, etc.). Visit a place where horses live and see for yourself!
5. Before you ride a horse, it's important to know how to communicate with them. How do you know if a horse is angry, relaxed, or excited? What does it mean when a horse stomps its foot on the ground or flicks its tail? Learn how to approach and lead a horse from the ground.
6. What does a horse need to wear for a ride? Be able to tell the difference between basic English and Western tack. Learn several important parts of the tack that you would use when riding.
7. Ride in a ring or corral. Show that you can get on a horse. How do you ask a horse to move forward? How do you stop or slow down? Can you turn a horse to the left and right? Learn how to do these things.
8. After your ride is complete, your horse may need additional care. Learn what steps should be taken after a ride to ensure a happy, healthy horse.

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