



WHAT IS HIPPOLOGY?

EDUCATION | BUILDING A VIBRANT CLUB



EDUCATION

The elements of a vibrant club meeting are designed to meet youth needs of belonging, independence, mastery and generosity.

- Welcome (10-20 min)
- Education (20-30 min)
- Recreation (20-30 min)
- Business Meeting (10-20 min)

CONCEPT

- Participate in a Hippology type contest.
- Learning and responding to questions on horses.

AUDIENCE

Intended for youth ages 4-12. The activity can be conducted individually or in teams.

PRIORITY AREA

- Ag and Natural Resources
- STEM

LIFE SKILLS

- Decision making
- Critical thinking
- Cooperation
- Teamwork

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Hippology is the study of horses. Learning hippology means learning about horse anatomy and physiology, history and origins, diseases, parasites, reproduction, the horse industry, horse management, breeds, conformation, competitions horse perform in, genetics, colors, parts of the saddle, bridles and bits, types of bits, gaits, and nutrition.

The contest is composed of an examination and station phase. The examination phase consists of written multiple-choice questions, and slide questions with pictures to be identified as to breed, color, color pattern, activity, and so forth. The station phase consists of a series of six to ten picture sets. A grouping of 10 pictures represents one station. Examples of stations may include identification of various types of saddles, parts of the saddle, tack, bits, bridles, horseshoes, tools and equipment, grains and forages used in horse rations, items related to the health of the horse, blemishes and unsoundness, and ages of equine based on teeth. Senior teams must also complete a team problem where each team is presented with the same problem, and the youth have to present an oral solution or series of suggested procedures relative to the problem. Examples of team problems may include farm management recommendations, recommendations for location and purchasing a horse, behavior problems, training and condition programs, and teaching lessons to beginners.

At the annual Iowa Equine Extravaganza, youth have the opportunity to compete against other youth in their age group. The contest is divided into junior and senior divisions. For more information visit the Extravaganza webpage <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza>.

Each year, the top-scoring senior team is selected to represent Iowa at the Eastern National 4-H Horse Round-up. Many youths compete annually, showing their knowledge of all things related to a horse. It's a fun way to learn about horses with other horse-loving kids just like you!

DO

1. Watch the What is Hippology video?
2. Design a mini-contest. Before the club meeting, select written examination questions, slide identification questions and stations from the sample hippology materials.



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MATERIALS

All materials can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/mr35j63s>

- What is Hippology? video
- Hippology written practice questions
- Hippology slide identification practice questions
- Answers are on the last page
- Hippology practice stations
- Hippology station answer sheet
- Hippology stations answers

SPACE NOTES

This activity should be done inside. Meeting room with tables to allow youth access to materials.

VIRTUAL ADAPPTIONS

This activity can be used in a virtual setting by watching the video together and then providing Hippology written examination questions, slide identification questions and practice stations. Consider possibly using a power point and sharing your screen or creating a Kahoot or Quizlet and also sharing your screen as a way to go through questions virtually.

3. Divide the youth into teams of no more than four members each, or individuals can compete against one another.
4. Provide each youth with written examination questions, slide identification questions and stations.
5. Use the Hippology station answer sheet to answer the station questions
6. Start with easier topics, before moving to more difficult items.

REFLECT

- How did you feel about answering the questions?
- Which questions were familiar and which were new to you?
- Would you be interested in learning about creating a hippology team?

APPLY

- Compete as an individual or with a team at the annual Equine Extravaganza
- Research the Iowa and Eastern National 4-H Roundup Hippology Rules <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza>
- Provide a chapter or section of one of the resources, and utilize club members for writing questions. Questions should provide the answer and the source.
- Create interactive power points, videos and activities to design multiple-choice questions, slide identification questions, and stations.
- Encourage them that this is a fun way to learn about horses especially if you don't have one.

RESOURCES

- Iowa 4-H Horse Hippology Contest Rules <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/equineextravaganza>
- AYHC HIH Horse Industry Handbook, by the American Youth Horse Council AYHC, www.ayhc.com
- AYHC HS Horse Smarts: An Equine Reference & Youth Activity Guide, by the American Youth Horse Council AYHC, www.ayhc.com
- Illustrated Dictionary of Equine Terms by New Horizons Equine Education Center. Alpine Publications, PO <http://www.alpinepub.com/>
- Equine Science by Jean T. Griffiths www.ayhc.com
- Feeding and Care of the Horse (2nd edition) by Lon D. Lewis. <https://www.wiley.com/en-us>
- The Coloring Atlas Of Horse Anatomy, by Robert A. Kainer & Thomas O. McCracken. www.alpinepub.com.
- The Horse by J. Warrant Evans, et al., 3rd edition. Waveland Press, Inc., 4180 IL Route 83, Suite 101, Long Grove, Illinois 6004. (www.waveland.com) (847) 634-0081
- Dover Saddlery - Apparel, tack and horse care items, for the English rider. To request a free catalog please visit <https://www.doversaddlery.com/>
- Schneider Saddlery – Apparel, tack and horse care items for the Western and the English rider. Web site: <https://www.sstack.com/>

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For more information on the elements of a vibrant club, please see publication 4H 4004, Building a Vibrant Club at <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12893>.
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