

Horse SenseAbility's Virtual 2020 Program

When Covid-19 prevented on-site City to Saddle programming, Horse SenseAbility at Wildstar Farm ran a virtual program. Below is the summary they sent to their program sponsors.

We just wrapped up our week of virtual City to Saddle horse camp. While we all know there's nothing like being here at the farm with the animals, the program was very well received given our limitations.

As sponsors, I want to let you know how it went and have included a few pictures for you. We had 20 participants aged 6 to 13 years old plus 1 young adult. 48% of the kids came from Framingham and Boston, 10% from Somerville and Grafton, and 5% (1 child) from each of Chelsea Maynard, Foxboro, Westwood, Dover, Medfield and Sherborn. Here are two of the comments we received on the evaluations:

- 1. We have been having a real rough time, between remote learning, being seperated from friends, having our routine change, but this was definitely a much needed break. Thank you so much for including M. in this program. She and I greatly appreciate it. It definitely put a smile on her face, even if it was only for a short period. You went way overboard with the packages you sent and the tee-shirts. Hoping she can remain involved with this program.*
- 2. Thank you for having us! Of all the virtual classes we've had, this was the most interactive, engaging, and extremely well organized. You can tell a lot of thought and work was put into it. We hope we can come back in person next time! Be safe and be well!*

Overall, parents and participants rated the experience as a 5 on a scale from 1 (disappointing) to 6 (awesome). The kids loved receiving their individual box of supplies so they could do the projects and many of them wore their program t-shirts on the calls. Below are the supplies each participant received, a screenshot from one of our live meetings, a photo one of the families sent to us and examples of two activities.





Make Your Own Obstacle Course!

Posted Jul 14

Would you like to make your own course for the horses to ride through?

Try organizing 6-9 popsicle sticks and pipe cleaners in any way you would like on a regular sheet of paper. You can use your beads from your camp kit to serve as up to 6 cones.

Then, draw a solid line to show the path you want the horse to take around, through or over the obstacles. A dashed line like this - - - - is a trot, while a solid line is a walk _____ . A circle is a "whoa".

We will take the first two courses from each age group and ride them live time for you in tomorrow's movement demonstration!



Design your own obstacl...

Video



Day 3: Walk, Trot, Canter

Posted Jul 15

Horses have special ways of moving their feet in each of their gaits.

First, watch Ruby, our Gypsy Cob, work on her cues in the round pen.

Then, take a look at Dazzle, our American Warmblood mare, as she shows off her colorful legs to help you learn these foot placements, or footfalls, in each gait.



Walk, Trot, Canter

Video



Footfalls: where the fee...

Video



How do horses jump?

Video



Guess the Gait!

Video



2020-01-05 14.01.57.jpg

Image

We hope that we'll be doing City to Saddle in person next year and can count on your continued support. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to me.

Polly

