

Chapter Books about Horses

Juv. Fiction and Series

Adventure

J F RYA *Paint the Wind*, Pam Munoz Ryan



Maya's life is strictly monitored except within the imaginary world she has created. In the Wyoming wilderness, a paint horse called Artemisia runs free. How Maya's and Artemisia's lives intertwine is at the heart of this adventure about freedom and captivity. *Grades 4-7.*

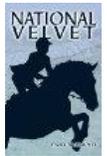
J F WIL *Firehorse*, Diane L. Wilson



Spirited fifteen-year-old Rachel Selby determines to become a veterinarian, despite the opposition of her rigid father and mother and the norms of Boston in 1872, a city that faces a serial arsonist and an epidemic spreading through its firehorse population. *Grades 5-8.*

Classics

J F BAG *National Velvet*, Enid Bagnold



A fourteen-year-old English girl wins a horse in a raffle, trains it, and rides it in the Grand National steeplechase. *Grades 4-7.*

J F OHA *My Friend Flicka*, Mary O'Hara



Through his intense devotion to the colt Flicka, a young boy living on a Wyoming ranch begins to learn about responsibility and gain a better understanding of his brusque father. *Grades 4-6.*

J F SEW *Black Beauty*, Anna Sewell



A horse in nineteenth-century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters. *Grades 4-7.*

Humor

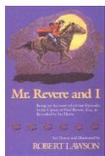
J F GIB *The Truth About Horses, Friends, & My Life as a Coward*, Sarah P. Gibson



As she begins learning to ride and manage the horses she never wanted her family to own, Sophie Groves also begins to acquire friends on the Maine island she calls home. *Grades 4-7.*

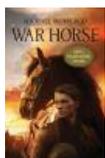
Way Back When

J F LAW *Mr. Revere and I*, Robert Lawson



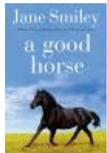
American historical novel about Paul Revere as told from the view of his horse. "Being and account of certain episodes in the career of Paul Revere, Esq., as recently revealed by his horse, Scheherazade, late pride of his Royal Majesty's 14th regiment of foot..."

J F MOR *War Horse*, Michael Morpugo



Joey the horse recalls his experiences growing up on an English farm, his struggle for survival as a cavalry horse during World War I, and his reunion with his beloved master. *Grades 3-7.*

J F SMI *A Good Horse*, Jane Smiley



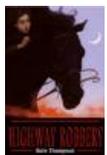
On her family's California horse ranch in the 1960s, eighth-grader Abby Lovitt faces the possibility of giving up her beloved colt, Jack, when it comes to light that his dam might've been stolen. *Grades 6-8.*

J F SMI *True Blue*, Jane Smiley



In 1960s California, eighth-grader Abby Lovitt has trouble with True Blue, the newest horse on her family's ranch, a beautiful dappled gray who is so often spooked, Abby wonders if he is haunted by the ghost of his deceased former owner.

J F THO *Highway Robbery*, Kate Thompson



On a cold day in eighteenth-century England, a poor young boy agrees to watch a stranger's fine horse for a golden guinea but soon finds himself in a difficult situation when the king's guard appears and wants to use him as bait in their pursuit of a notorious highwayman. *Grades 3-5.*

J F THO *Most Wanted*, Kate Thompson



In first century Rome, in the turmoil after a rumor circulates that mad Emperor "Littleboots" is dead, young Marcus brings home a horse that the emperor had proclaimed a consul and his family decides they must treat it as an honored guest. *Grades 6-8.*

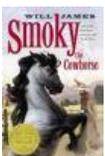
Newberry

J NEWB HEN *King of the Wind: the Story of the Godolphin Arabian*, Marguerite Henry



Sham and the stable boy Agba travel from Morocco to France to England where, at last, Sham's majesty is recognized and he becomes the "Godolphin Arabian," ancestor of the most superior Thoroughbred horses. *Grades 4-8.*

J NEWB JAM *Smoky, the Cowhorse*, Wil James



The experiences of a mouse-colored horse from his birth in the wild, through his capture by humans and his work in the rodeo and on the range, to his eventual old age. *Grades 4-8.*

Fiction

J F AMA *Chancey of the Maury River*, Gigi Amateau



After being abandoned, Chancey, an albino Appaloosa horse, finds a new home with Claire who needs him as much as he needs her, but as his eyesight deteriorates, he and Claire start anew as a therapeutic team. *Grades 4-7.*

J F BYA *Little Horse on His Own*, Betsy Cromer Byars



Little Horse confronts lightning, fire, and dangerous animals in his effort to return home to his mother and the valley of the little horses. *Grades 1-3.*

J F DEL *The Best Horse Ever*, Alice DeLaCroix



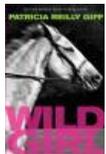
Nine-year-old Abby is finally going to have her own horse, but she doesn't understand why her best friend is afraid of Abby's horse. But when Abby's horse arrives, he does seem awfully big and hard to handle. Can Abby learn to manage her horse and her friendship? *Grades 3-5.*

J F GHE *No Small Thing*, Natale Ghent



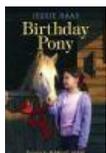
In Ontario, Canada, in 1977, twelve-year-old Nat and his sisters find that owning, training, and caring for a pony they acquired for free makes it easier to cope with the poverty they have faced since their father abandoned them. *Grades 5-8.*

J F GIF *Wild Girl*, Patricia Reilly Giff



When twelve-year-old Lidie leaves Brazil to join her father and brother on a horse ranch in New York, she has a hard time adjusting to her changed circumstances, as does a new horse that has come to the ranch. *Grades 3-6.*

J F HAA *Birthday Pony*, Jessie Haas



Grandma Aggie tries to help her granddaughter Jane and the independent pony Popcorn, who were born on the same day, become riding partners. *Grades 2-4.*

J F HAA *Runaway Radish*, Jessie Haas



When Radish the pony grows too big for the girls who own him, he goes to live at a horse camp where there are always new children for him to train. *Grades 2-4.*

J F HEN *Dream of Night*, Heather Henson



Told from their different points of view, twelve-year-old Shiloh, a troubled foster child, Dream of Night, an abused former racehorse, and Jess, a woman who cares for both, find healing by helping one another through their pain. *Grades 5-8.*

J F NER *Ghetto Cowboy*, Greg Neri



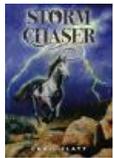
Twelve-year-old Cole's behavior causes his mother to drive him from Detroit to Philadelphia to live with a father he has never known, but who soon has Cole involved with a group of African-American "cowboys" who rescue horses and use them to steer youths away from drugs and gangs. Grades 5-8.

J F PLA *Astra*, Chris Platt



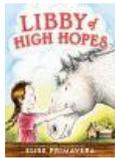
Forbidden to ride after her mother's death in a riding accident, thirteen-year-old Lily nurses her mother's beloved horse, Astra, back to health, hoping that someday Astra will win the Tevis Cup endurance race. Grades 5-8.

J F PLA *Storm Chaser*, Chris Platt



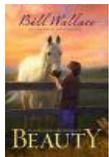
When a fire forces her family to turn their home into a guest ranch, aspiring horse trainer Jessica finds herself working once again with her favorite horse, Storm Chaser, to tame the wild filly for snobbish, spoiled Ariel, Storm Chaser's future owner. Grades 4-6.

J F PRI *Libby of High Hopes*, Elise Primavera



When 10-year-old Libby Thump stumbles upon High Hopes Horse Farm and finds her dream horse, Princess, a prize-winning jumping horse that has been put out to pasture, Libby tries to convince her parents to give her riding lessons. Grades 2-5.

J F WAL *Beauty*, Bill Wallace



Unhappy about his parents splitting up and moving with his mother to Grandpa's farm, 11-year-old Luke finds comfort in riding and caring for a horse named Beauty. Grades 3-6.

Series



J SER BEW *Beware the Mare* (Beware the Mare series), Jessie Haas

The mare which Gramp brings home seems perfect in every way; neither Lily nor Gramp himself can find anything the matter with her. Still, Gramp is cautious, warning Lily that there must be some reason the horse has been named "Beware." Grades 3-5. (Followed by *A Blue for Beware* and *Be Well, Beware*).



J SER BLA *The Black Stallion* (The Black Stallion series), Walter Farley

Young Alec Ramsay, pulled to a deserted island by the wild black stallion he has freed during a shipwreck at sea, spends his days slowly building trust with "Black" while working to keep them both alive until they can be rescued. *Grades 4-7.*



J SER HEA *Coming Home* (Heartland series), Lauren Brooke

The daughter of a respected horse healer, 14 year-old Amy has a powerful connection with horses. With her mother's help, she is developing her skills as a horse whisperer while tending to the animals at Heartland, a refuge for horses that have been emotionally or physically traumatized. But when her mother is killed in a tragic trailer accident, Amy realizes she will never see her world the same way again. *Grades 4-7.* (Followed by *After the Storm, Breaking Free, Taking Chances...*)



J SER HOO *Katie and the Mustang* (Hoofbeats series), Kathleen Duey

Series features the relationships between several girls and their horses at different points in history, including medieval Ireland, pioneers in the American West, revolutionary America, and others. *Grades 3-5.* (Followed by *Katie and the Mustang* books 1-4; *Lara and the Gray Mare, Lara and the Moon-Colored Filly, Lara at Athenry Castle, Lara and the Silent Place, Silence and Lily: 1773 and Margret and Flynn: 1875*)



J SER HOR *Elska* (Horse Diaries series), various authors

Around the year 1000, the Icelandic horse named Elska is born and learns about life and her role in the herd, as well as love and friendship, when she rescues the girl to whom she originally belonged. Includes facts about Icelandic horses and Iceland. *Grades 3-6.* (Followed by *Bell's Star, Koda, Maestosa Petra...*)



J SER HOR *Wild Horses* (The Horses of Half Moon Ranch series), Jenny Oldfield

There is no greater trust than the one between a rider and her horse. Kirstie Scott lives for horses. She is leading a horse trek through Miners' Ridge when a sudden storm causes a landslide. She is trapped alone in Dead Man's Canyon with a herd of wild horses whose leader - a proud stallion - has been hurt by falling rocks. Cold, wet, and alone in the gathering storm - can she find a way out and help the injured stallion? *Grades 4-6*. (Followed by *Rodeo Rocky*, *Crazy Horse*, *Johnny Mohawk*, *Midnight Lady* and *Third-Time Lucky*)



J SER MIS *Misty of Chincoteague* (Misty series), Marguerite Henry

On an island off the coasts of Virginia and Maryland lives a centuries-old band of wild ponies. A boy and girl capture the colt of one such wild pony – the loyal and gentle Misty. *Grades 4-7*. (Followed by *Sea Star*, *Stormy*, *Misty's Foal* and *Misty's Twilight*).



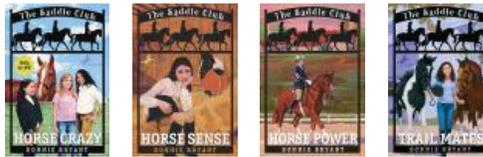
J SER PHA *The Wild One* (The Phantom Stallion series), Terri Farley

After recovering from a near-fatal accident, Sam must return to the ranch and have the courage to ride again on a wild horse. *Grades 4-7*. (Followed by *Mustang Moon*, *Dark Sunshine*, *The Renegade*, *Free Again*, *The Challenger...*)



J SER RAC *Gabriel's Horses* (Racing to Freedom trilogy), Alison Hart

In Kentucky, during the Civil War, the twelve-year-old slave Gabriel, contends with a cruel new horse trainer and skirmishes with Confederate soldiers as he pursues his dream of becoming a jockey. *Grades 5-8*. (Followed by *Gabriel's Triumph* and *Gabriel's Journey*)



J SER SAD *Horse Crazy* (The Saddle Club series), Bonnie Bryant

Series features the friendship of three girls who love to ride horses and their adventures at Pine Hollow Stables. *Grades 4-6.* (Followed by *Horse Sense, Horse Power, Trail Mates...*).



J SER THO *A Horse Called Wonder* (Thoroughbred series), various authors

After disease wipes out her family's breeding farm, Ashleigh determines she will never care for a horse again until a small, sickly foal is born at the new farm that her family manages. *Grades 4-6.* (Followed by *Wonder's Promise, Wonder's First Race...*)



J SER WIN *Wild Thing* (Winnie the Horse Gentler series), Dandi Daley Mackall

Twelve-year-old Winnie Willis wants to buy the horse of her dreams and settle down with her father and sister in one place, but both seem impossible. As Winnie teaches her horses about blind trust, God shows Winnie that he can be trusted too. *Grades 4-6.* (Followed by *Eager Star, Bold Beauty, Midnight Mystery...*)

Also consider:

J SER ARK *Animal Ark* series, Ben M. Baglio *Grades 4-6.*

J SER VET *Vet Volunteers* series, Laurie Halse Anderson *Grades 4-6.*

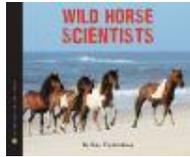
Non-Fiction

J 398.208 GOB *Mystic Horse*, Paul Goble



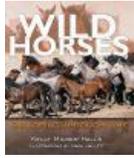
Paul Goble's detailed paintings evoke an almost forgotten world as he recounts a stirring legend based on the oral tradition of the Pawnee. Focusing on a poor boy and his grandmother, adventure begins when the boy discovers an old, limping horse. Though ridiculed by his tribe, the boy cares for the horse and brings it back to health. In turn, the animal helps his friend achieve greatness, only to be betrayed. The boy's remorse is sincere, but will he be forgiven? *Grades 1-5.*

J 599.665 FRY *Wild Horse Scientists*, Kay Frydenborg



Traces the work of two wildlife veterinarians who protect and chart the lives of Assateague Island's wild horses, describing their shared efforts to balance the horses' ecosystem and raise awareness. *Grades 5-9.*

J 599.665 HAL *Wild Horses: Galloping Through Time*, Kelley Milner Halls



Introduces the horse family tree including the relatives of today's modern horse that are now extinct, as well as the species of zebras and asses that still live in the wild. *Grades 3-8.*

J 599.665 MOM *Face to Face with Wild Horses*, Yva Momatiuk



The sleek stallion, the magnificent mare, and the gentle foal look like any happy family. But don't get too close. These are wild horses, untamed by humans. Now photographers Yva Momatiuk and John Eastcott take you inside the world of the wild horse. *Grades 4-7.*

J 599.665 STA *Running Free: America's Wild Horses*, Frank Staub

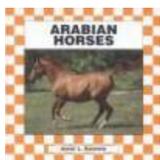


A question-and-answer format provides information about America's wild horses, from where they live and how they care for their young to how wild horses came to be in America and how they are being protected today.

J 636.1 ARA *Arabians and Other Horses*

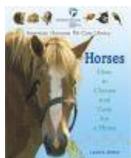
An introduction to Arabians and Other Horses, presented in a highly illustrated, question and answer format. Features include fun facts, glossary, resource list, index, and scientific classification list. *Grades 4-7.*

J 636.1 GAM *Arabian Horses*, Janet L. Gammie



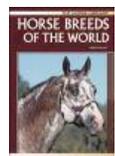
This book describes the Arabian horse, including its history, physical features, and uses today. *Grades 3-7.*

J 636.1 JEF *Horses: How to Choose and Care for a Horse*, Laura S. Jeffrey



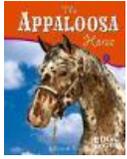
Provides information on owning a horse, including how to choose among different breeds and how to groom, house, feed, and keep a horse healthy. *Grades 3-5.*

J 636.1 KEL *Horse Breeds of the World*, Brent P. Kelley



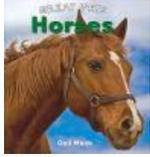
Presents information on the evolution and domestication of horses and surveys the world's various breeds. *Grades 4-8.*

J 636.1 MAA *The Appaloosa Horse*, Sarah Maass



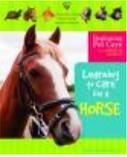
Describes the Appaloosa horse, including history, physical features, and uses today. *Grades 3-7.*

J 636.1 MAC *Horses*, Gail Mack



Describes the characteristics and behavior of pet horses, also discussing their physical appearance and place in history. *Grades 3-7.*

J 636.1 NIV *Learning to Care for a Horse*, Felicia Lowenstein Niven



Learn about different types of horses. Read about where to get a horse, what to have before you bring your new pet home, and how to care for your horse.

J 636.1 OTF *Horses*, Steven Otfinoski



Provides comprehensive information on the anatomy, special skills, habitats, and diet of horses.

J 636.133 PAR *The American Quarter Horse*, Amanda Parise-Peterson



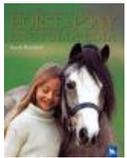
This book describes American Quarter Horses, including their history, physical features, and primary uses.

J 636.16 PAR *The Shetland Pony*, Amanda Parise-Peterson



This book describes the Shetland pony, including its history, physical features, and uses today.

J 636.1 RAN *The Kingfisher Illustrated Horse & Pony Encyclopedia*, Sandy Ransford



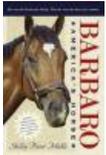
Provides an introduction to horses, explaining their care, riding lessons, breeds, health care, training, competitions, and more. *Grades 4-6.*

J 636.108 *Care for a Pet Horse*, Claire O'Neal



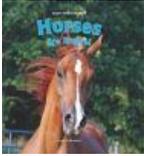
“How to convince your parents you can care for a horse”: features a brief, how to select the right pet, and how to care for it, all the while making recommendations about how to bring parents onboard (and also warning about what will upset them). *Grades 1-3.*

J 636.12 MIC *Barbaro: America's Horse*, Shelley Mickle



Everyone said he would be one of the greatest racehorses of all time and history. Then, in a moment, he was no longer racing for glory; he was fighting for his life. And the horse bred to be a champion became a symbol of hope and courage for an entire nation. *Grades 4-8.*

J 636.1 ROC *Horses are Smart!*, Leigh Rockwood



Horses have played a big role in crucial moments in human history and technological advances. The equine continues to inspire animal lovers today, and this fascinating book will do the same.

J 743.69 AME *Draw 50 Horses*, Lee J. Ames



Step-by-step instructions for drawing different breeds of horses in various poses. *Grades 4-8.*

J 743.696 *Horses*, Ann Becker



Learn basic art techniques and interesting facts about horses.

J 798.4 HOD *Assault, the Crippled Champion: the King Ranch Racehorse*, Marjorie Hodgson Parker



Relates how the colt Assault recovers from an accident that leaves him crippled and grows up to win the Triple Crown, "thoroughbred racing's highest achievement," in 1946. *Grades 2-4.*

J 978.004 PAT *The Horse and the Plains Indians: A Powerful Partnership*, Dorothy Hinshaw Patent



The image of a Native American on horseback has become ingrained in the American consciousness. But the Plains Indians and the horse were not always inseparable. Once, Native Americans used dogs to help carry their goods, and even after the Spaniards introduced the horse to the Americas, horses were considered so valuable that the Spanish would not allow the Indians to have them. But soon horses escaped from Spanish settlements, and Native Americans quickly learned how valuable the horse could be as a hunting mount, beast of burden, and military steed. Follow the story of this transformative partnership, starting in the early sixteenth century and continuing today. *Grades 4-6.*



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