

Junior Master Horseman

Horses in the Classroom - Become a Leader!

Hey 4-H teen leaders! Do you want to help kids in your area learn more about horses? Do you want to become a leader in your community?

Contact your local 4-H or school to ask about using Junior Master Horseman (JMH) during school or in after-school programs! We challenge you to visit at least two schools a semester and let your leadership skills shine by leading a JMH program. JMH is a non-breed specific educational horse curriculum for kids between 7-11 years old. Choose from a variety of activities in JMH level 1, 2 or 3. Be sure to keep a log (with photos) of your leadership and activities to use on your 4-H Teen Leaders record books!

Below you will find some tips and suggestions for visiting a school.

HOW TO BECOME A LEADER

1. You'll need a copy of a JMH activity book. If you or your local 4-H county office doesn't have one, be sure to order a copy by calling (806) 376-4811 or visit juniormasterhorseman.com.
2. Your target audience is children between the 2nd and 5th grades. Younger ages will require you to adjust your lesson.
3. Call the school, a teacher or group leader to obtain permission to visit the class. Ask how many students are in the class. You probably do not want your lesson to be more than 30 minutes.
4. Review your materials and get organized before you go to the school. Be sure you are comfortable with the lesson. If you have any questions, contact us at (806) 376-4811 or e-mail jmb@aqha.org.
5. Dress in business casual and come prepared with a thank you letter to the teacher.
6. Show up to the school at least 15 minutes before your start time so you can find your way to the classroom.
7. If the school asks you to bring a horse, it is totally up to you. Remember safety first!
8. Have fun and learn from the experience. These students will automatically think you are cool... well, because you are.

CLASSROOM TIPS and EXAMPLES

1. Don't forget, kids get bored fast. Try your best to keep their attention.
2. Try to use the kids names - they usually have name tags on their desks.
3. When you talk with them, ask questions. A good opening is "Has anyone ever ridden a horse?" "Does anyone own a horse?" "Is a horse anyone's favorite animal?"
4. Get them excited about horses from the start. Most kids this age love horses anyway so breaking the ice should not be too hard.
5. Introduce yourself and say a little about your involvement with horses.
6. Introduce Junior Master Horseman.
7. **EXAMPLE:** Educate them on the horse's different gaits using JMH Level I on page 101.
Demonstrate the different gaits enthusiastically.
Now play Concho Says (JMH Level I starting on page 100).
Always tell them good job and encourage them throughout the entire activity.
8. Visit with the teacher and explain JMH. Leave sample lessons and order forms. Always make yourself available to return!
9. Be sure to thank the teacher and let the class see how excited you are to be with them!

**** KEEP A RECORD OF ALL YOUR ACTIVITIES! JUNIOR MASTER HORSEMAN IS A GREAT WAY FOR YOU TO EARN 4-H RECORD BOOK LEADERSHIP POINTS, WHICH COULD HELP YOU EARN FUN 4-H TRIPS THROUGH YOUR COUNTY AND STATE 4-H PROGRAM! WHEN YOU ARE READY TO WORK ON YOUR 4-H RECORD BOOKS, SEND THE ATTACHED FORM TO jmb@aqha.org AND WE'LL SEND YOU AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT LETTER FOR YOUR RECORDS!**

DON'T FORGET: BEING A JMH LEADER CAN BE VERY VALUABLE TO YOUR COLLEGE AND CAREER RÉSUMÉS!

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ABOUT YOU

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

HORSES IN THE CLASSROOM - JMH / CLASSROOM AGREEMENT

(Required for acknowledgement)

Start date ____/____/____

End date ____/____/____

School Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

How many students? _____

How many visits did you make to the school to complete your JMH agreement? _____

Brief summary of your experience: _____

HORSES IN THE CLASSROOM - JMH / CLASSROOM AGREEMENT

(Required for acknowledgement)

Start date ____/____/____

End date ____/____/____

School Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

How many students? _____

How many visits did you make to the school to complete your JMH agreement? _____

Brief summary of your experience: _____

For acknowledgement from AQHYA, please complete the form and attach two photos from each classroom visit. You may also e-mail the above information with your pictures to jmb@aqba.org.

Is the form completely filled out (attach extra pages if necessary)? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are photos attached? Yes ☐ No ☐

If you answer **Yes** to both questions above, send your completed form to:

American Quarter Horse Association

C/O: Junior Master Horseman

PO Box 200

Amarillo, TX 79168

Questions? Call us at (806) 376-4811 or visit juniormasterhorseman.com!



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Teen Leader Progress Chart

Example Log Sheet Entry:

Dates	School or 4-H club	Activities	Hours Spent
April 5-6	Johnson County 4-H Horse & Pony	Taught the gaits of a horse and played Concho Says	4+1 hours

Notes/Comments

There were 15 kids ages 9-12 who participated. At the end of the session, the 4-H leader asked us to return with new activities. We spent 4 hours preparing for this session. Parents of 4 kids asked about AQHYA membership.

Dates	School or 4-H club	Activities	Hours Spent

Notes/Comments

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Add extra pages if necessary.

Make 1 copy for your 4-H record book and 1 copy to send with your project completion forms to AQHA for your total hours credit!

