



Arabian Horse Reading Literacy Project

INNOVATIVE EQUINE-ASSISTED LEARNING





About Us

THE ARABIAN HORSE READING LITERACY PROJECT is an innovative, experiential learning program—Equine Assisted Learning. This program is committed to motivating children to want to read, enhancing their literacy skills and developing their confidence in reading.

It is an amazing adventure for the children to enjoy the opportunity to read to the horses and experience the exhilaration and joy of spending time with these amazing non-judgmental teachers. "It is important to teach children to read, but we haven't achieved anything if children know how to read ... but don't!"

To register for a session or for more information about "The Kids are Reading to the Horses"

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The Purpose to motivate children to discover the joys of reading and learning through the magic of contact with live horses.

The Goal to spark the imagination of children so they will want to read and enjoy their own sense of creativity as they escape into a world of adventure.

DR. BRENDA E. ABBEY - *I earned a Doctorate in Applied Research/ Cognitive Psychology and am an educator who is passionate about understanding and promoting Intelligent Behaviours. I am a continuous life long learner and enjoy researching and writing about emotional and social intelligence.*

HOW CAN EQUINE-ASSISTED THERAPY RE-PATTERN THE LIMBIC SYSTEM? *I have written a research article which supports the benefits of Equine-Assisted experiential learning sessions for children.*

Recently, I had the unique opportunity to visit the Greater Edmonton area and participate as a guest in The Arabian Horse Reading Literacy Project. I was able to see first hand the special bonding moments and the real interactions that were taking place. The experience was magical as I participated in the learning activities and interacted with the elementary students, the horses and the DONKEY who was a star!!

Check out my full article and two other links to articles within their website that I have written called Equine-Assisted Learning-Healing with Horses as well as Praise versus Encouragement.

School Programs

A live horse visits the school- The First Connection

- After an informative discussion about horses and good books the children get to meet the horse, face-to-face.
- They touch the horse and are then handed their book ... *connection made*. The book is theirs to keep.
- A large colour poster is left with each class and the challenge is made ... *practice reading to the horse on the poster*.

Students Visit the farm - The Second Connection

- In groups, the 'kids' participate in a series of well organized activity centres
- At the conclusion of each activity, the 'kids' read to the horse at their station, one at a time.

Home School Programs

Farm Visit - The First Connection

- Students and parents visit the farm to meet the horses, receive their very own books to keep and see the farm.
- The 'kids' then practice reading their books at home to prepare for the next farm visit.

Second Farm Visit - The Second Connection

- Returning to the farm, the 'kids' participate in a series of well organized activity centres, in groups.
- At the conclusion of each activity, the 'kids' read to the horse at their station, one at a time.



It is pure magic! ... the horses seem to listen attentively to every word.