

LET'S TALK ABOUT HORSE SENSE



★ A HORSE'S SENSES ARE MUCH MORE DEVELOPED THAN OURS. WHY? BECAUSE IN THE WILD, A HORSE IS EASY PREY AND MUST COUNT ON HIS EYES, EARS, AND NOSE TO SENSE APPROACHING DANGER!

★ I see you!

We horses have a wide field of vision. We can see the grass we're grazing on and the fence in the distance—all at the same time. But we can't see four feet in front of our face! We have a blind spot there, so please approach us from the side instead.



★ I HAVE STRONG EARS

When you want to pinpoint a sound, you turn your whole head. Not me! With sixteen muscles each, my ears can turn in all directions—all by themselves. My ears can hear ultrasonic (very high-pitched) and infrasonic (very low) tones while you hear... only silence.



★ I have big eyes

You have eyes on the front of your head. I have one on each side. This allows me to see all around—except right in front and right behind me. I can even see you when you're up on my back. So please don't make any sudden moves up there; it gives me quite a scare!

★ BOY DO I SMELL!

I live in a world of smells that you know nothing about... For example, I can smell your fear by the odor of your sweat! With my nose in the wind, I can sniff out an enemy, find food, and even locate water from many miles away.



★ I HAVE GOOD TASTE...

First I sniff—then I eat! My nose can tell me if a plant is tasty or toxic! Like you, I can distinguish between four flavors: bitter, acidic, salty, and sweet. I have a preference for the last one. How about you?



★ YUCK! MOST OF US HORSES DON'T LIKE THE SMELL OF PERFUME OR CIGARETTES!



★ A NOSE-Y HANDSHAKE

To get to know one another, two horses will sniff each other for a long time. Each will remember the odor of the other for the rest of his life! Your horse recognizes you this way as well: to say hello, blow softly into his nostrils.

