



Equine Hoof Chat with a Farrier

- Supplies:**
- Video:
At Home with Horses, episode 5
[Equine Hoof Chat with a Farrier](#)
 - Activity: Worksheet on page 2
 - Farrier quiz online –
<https://share.nearpod.com/vsph/G3Q8o7i1Lu>



- Resources:**
- [AYHC Horse Smarts](#), page HS 375-1 – 375-25

Age: 9-18

Time: 45 minutes

Rationale: Farriers are incredibly important for horses. They maintain and protect the health of horse hooves. To own a horse, a farrier will need to come on a regular basis.

- Project Goal:**
- Determine how often the farrier should visit your horse.
 - Identify types of hoof supplements and dressings to improve hoof health.
 - Familiarize yourself with farrier tools and identify which ones to have at home.

- What to Do:**
- Watch [4-H at Home with Horses, episode 5](#)
 - Read the AYHC Horse Smarts pages on hoof care if you have access to that book. Please inquire with your Extension agent if you do not have access to this resource. There are many other reliable resources on hoof care on the market as well.
 - Complete the worksheet on page 2
 - Check answers using the Key on page 3

- Reflect:**
- Why is it important to schedule regular appointments with your farrier?
 - When should you consider putting shoes on your horse?
 - What did you learn from extra reading about hoof care?
 - What new terms can you use and explain to your parents on this topic?

- Apply:**
- Research local farriers near you and schedule an appointment for your horse.
 - How do you keep track of farrier visits to your farm?
 - What questions do you need to ask your farrier specific to your horse’s needs?

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Virginia 4-H Horse Project @ Home Activity

Farrier Worksheet:

After watching the video, fill in blank spaces below with your answers.

Check your work with the key on page 3.

1. A horse should be trimmed or shod every _____ weeks.
2. Name a riding discipline that requires a horse to wear shoes: _____
3. It is painful for the horse when shoes are nailed on. True or False? _____
4. List one hoof supplement and one hoof dressing that can improve hoof health.

5. Explain the difference between a hoof supplement and hoof dressing

6. If your horse has ever _____ be cautious of allowing them to eat too much spring grass. Consult your veterinarian for proper care.
7. Which two farrier tools are recommended to have on hand in the barn or trailer? Draw and label them below.

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Virginia 4-H Horse Project @ Home Activity

Farrier Worksheet Key:

1. 4-6
2. Jumping, trail riding, eventing, foxhunting, driving, any discipline where horse's hoof needs protection and/or traction.
3. False
4. Biotin, Vita-hoof (there are others as well)
5. Hoof supplements are fed to the horse. Hoof dressings are topical, meaning applied to the outside of the hoof.
6. Foundered
7. Crease Nail Puller and Shoe Puller (notice knobs on handles)



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