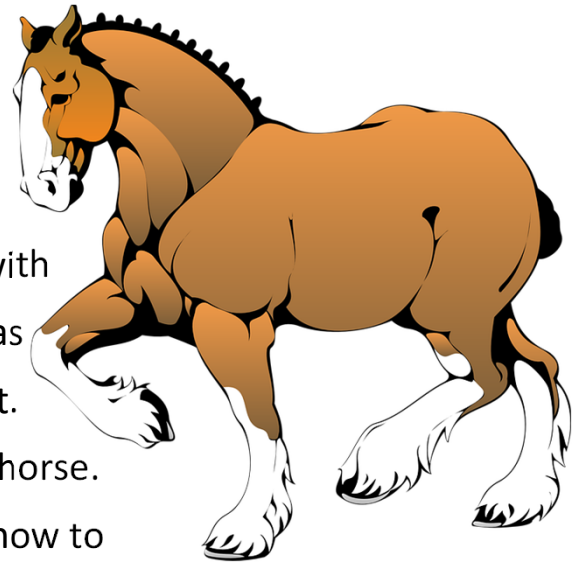


Blaze!



A horse named Blaze was born in the beautiful countryside of Kentucky. He was a beautiful horse, with a dark chestnut coat and four white stockings. He was a strong and loyal horse, with a kind and gentle spirit.

Blaze was trained from a young age to be a racehorse. His trainers taught him the basics of racing, such as how to respond to the jockey's commands and how to maneuver around the track. He quickly became a proficient racehorse and was soon winning races all over the state.

One day, Blaze was entered in a big race at the local track. He was eager to show the world what he could do. The race began, and Blaze ran faster than he ever had before. He galloped around the track, nimbly dodging his competitors. He was in the lead, and it looked like he was going to win the race.

Suddenly, there was a loud noise and the ground shook. It was an earthquake! Everything was in chaos, and the horses and jockeys were thrown off balance. Blaze was frightened, but he was able to keep his footing and stay on the track. He galloped to the finish line and won the race, despite the chaos.

Blaze became a hero that day. The crowd cheered as he completed the race. He was given a medal and treats for his victory. From then on, Blaze was known as the "Miracle Horse". He was admired for his courage and strength, and for being able to stay on the track despite the chaos of the earthquake.

Blaze went on to race in many more races, but he never forgot that first big win. He always remembered how he had managed to stay on the track in the midst of chaos and danger, and he was proud of himself for that. Blaze had become a champion racehorse and an inspiration to everyone who witnessed his incredible feat.

1. *Read the poem about "Blaze"*
2. *Underline any word or sentence you don't understand.*

Answer according to the reading passage:

1. Where was Blaze born?

- a. Indiana
- b. Kentucky
- c. a barn

2. What kind of horse was Blaze trained to be?

- a. riding horse
- b. race horse
- c. work horse

3. What does 'nimblely dodging his competitors' mean?

- a. ties with the others
- b. smartly beating the others
- c. having a triumphant win over the others

4. What was the loud noise at the race?

- a. tornado
- b. thunder storm
- c. earthquake

5. What was Blaze known as?

- a. the winning horse
- b. the miracle horse
- c. the amazing horse

Blaze!

Open Response Questions

Open response questions for thinking skills:

1. Inferring
2. Making Connections
3. Summarizing
4. Visualizing

1. Why do you think Blaze won the race?
 2. What experience do you have with horse racing? Explain
 3. In 3 sentences summarize "*Blaze*" in your own words.
 4. What comes across your mind and what do you visualize as you are reading about Blaze?
- What would be a good title for this if it wasn't called Blaze?
 - Write 3 persuasive statements encouraging somebody to read this passage about Blaze.
 - Could this story about Blaze be true? Why or why not?
 - Write 5 adjectives to describe Blaze.
 - Using Who, What, When, Where, Why and How – provide a statement for each of the 5 Ws and H about the story Blaze
 - What is the conflict in the story and how is it solved?
 - Does the author keep you interested? Why or why not?