

Paint's Family Tree Skit

Heather, Jose, Zamen, and Kuan are studying heredity in their fifth-grade science class. They have been assigned, as a team, to investigate and report on the family traits of an animal one of them owns. They have decided to learn about Kuan's horse, Paint, and have met at her family's ranch.

Kuan: Lots of horses are almost all one color on their faces, bodies, legs, and even their manes and tails. Here's my horse, Paint. I like him because he has areas of white that make him unique. What traits do you see that he has?

Zamen: His body is black with white patches, and he has white legs.

Kuan: Right. He's called a pinto because he has patches of different colors on his body.

Jose: His tail is white with a black tip. His mane is white with a black forelock, which is the part that hangs down on his forehead.

Heather: His face is all white, but his ears are black.

Kuan: A white face is called a "bald" face on horses.

Zamen: His eyes are blue.

Kuan: One thing you can't see by looking at him is his well-mannered but lively personality.

Jose: Kuan, do you know who Paint's mother and father are?

Kuan: Yes, his mother is right over there. Her name is Fancy Lady.

Heather: Her body, face and mane are black, but she has white legs.

Zamen: Her tail is white with a black tip.

Jose: She has brown eyes. What's her personality like, Kuan?

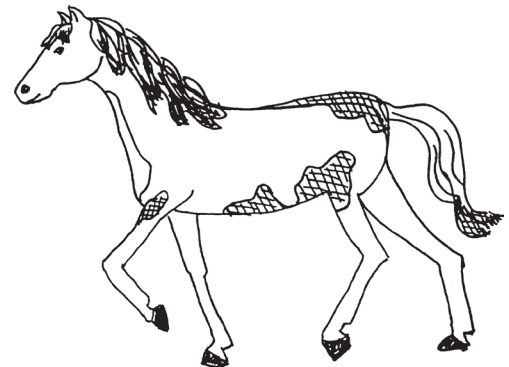
Kuan: She is very gentle.

Heather: Who is Paint's father, Kuan?

Kuan: His father is Blazing Away. He's in the separate pasture over there. He's a very calm horse.

Jose: Blazing Away is a different color. He's a light reddish brown on his body and legs.

Kuan: That color is called sorrel.



Jose: His mane and tail are the same color as his body.

Heather: He has a white stripe on his sorrel face that runs between his eyes down to his nose.

Kuan: That white stripe is called a blaze.

Heather: Oh! That's how he got his name!

Zamen: He has brown eyes, just like Paint's mother. That's a surprise, since Paint's eyes are blue.

Kuan: Yes, blue eyes are a trait that appears and disappears in Paint's family tree. His grandparents are getting rather old, but we're lucky to still have all four of them. His father's mother is Pretty Gal. She's over there under the tree.

Jose: She's dark red with a black mane and tail.

Zamen: Her legs are black except that she looks like she's wearing little white socks. She has brown eyes, too.

Kuan: She's very gentle. But Paint's father's father is a bit wild and difficult to work with. His name is Daredevil, and he's in the pasture with Paint's father.

Heather: He's a sorrel with white socks only on his hind legs.

Zamen: He has brown eyes, too, just like most of the horses in Paint's family tree.

Jose: What about Paint's grandparents on his mother's side?

Kuan: Paint's mother's mother is right over there. Her name is Spotted Beauty. We liked to ride her when we were younger because she was so gentle.

Jose: Her body is black with white patches, and she has a black mane and tail.

Heather: She has a white face and four white legs.

Kuan: High Stepper is the father of Paint's mother. He's also very gentle.

Zamen: He's a sorrel with four white socks on his lower legs.

Heather: He has brown eyes, too.

Jose: Now that we have all of the information about Paint's family tree, it's time to see if we can figure out who he inherited each of his traits from. I'm really interested in where he got those blue eyes!