



Welcome!

Therapeutic Riding, Inc. (TRI) is a volunteer-based, non-profit organization which provides the opportunity for personal growth through the horseback riding experience to children and adults with disabilities in Washtenaw County and surrounding areas. Our mission is to provide a therapeutic environment through horseback riding and other activities for people with disabilities or other challenges.

Social Story:

When I am at TRI, I will learn all about horses and experience the sights, sounds, and smells of a working horse farm! I will not get to ride or pet a horse while at TRI, but I will get to see them out in the pasture, and I will learn about *horsemanship*. Horsemanship involves feeding, grooming, and caring for horses.

Our Rules

TRI has "barn rules" to keep everyone safe. When I am at TRI I will follow these rules:

- U I will use a quiet voice.
- U I will walk only, and I will not run or jump—horses are easily frightened by sudden movements. *We always walk in the barn!*
- U I will always stay with an adult or with my family!
- U I will only go only where TRI staff & volunteers say it is safe to go.
- U I will only touch only things that TRI staff & volunteers say are safe to touch. *Horses are off-limits for this event.*



The Lounge

When I come to TRI, I will enter in the lounge where I will greet staff & volunteers and sign in. If I want to tour the farm, I will wait in the lounge for a TRI volunteer or staff member to take me and my family on the tour. The lounge has drinking fountains and bathrooms—it is also air conditioned. I am always welcome to come take a break in the lounge. There are lots of activities to do here:

Sit in a Saddle—I can try both English & Western saddles.

Riding instructors will help me on and off of the saddles.

Arts & Crafts—I can do a horse-themed art activity.

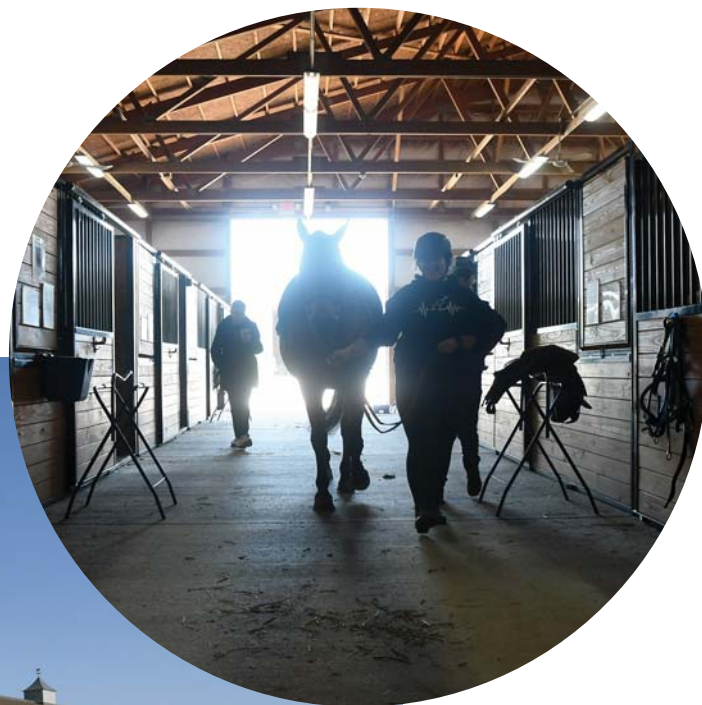
Coloring & Activity Pages—I can take a copy of each page, and stay to color if I'd like!

- Scavenger Hunt
- Color Your Own Horse
- Parts of the Horse
- Horse Tack

Farm Tour

TRI's farm is 46 acres, dedicated to the health and happiness of the horses. When I join a TRI volunteer or staff member for a tour, they will show me the horse barn, the equipment shed, the riding arenas, and the pastures.

I can mark what I see on the scavenger hunt activity page!



Meet the Horses!

When I visit TRI, all of the horses will be outside eating hay and spending time with their herd mates. I may go outside to see them in their pastures with help from TRI's staff or volunteers.

I will not touch the fence or stick my hands through the fence to try to pet the horses. This fence has an electric wire on it to keep the horses safe.

Instead, I will:

- Watch quietly and see what the horses do!
- Count how many horses I can see.
- Ask TRI volunteers & staff to learn the horses' names.
- Look at the different colors and sizes of the horses.



Leon



Majic



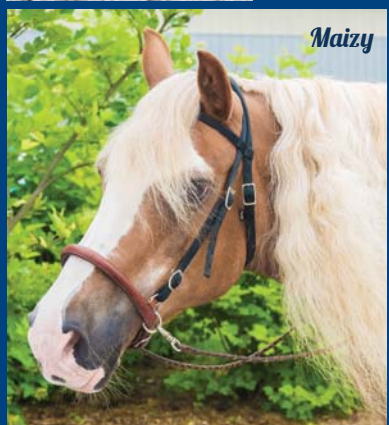
Serena



Dakota



Ariel



Maizy



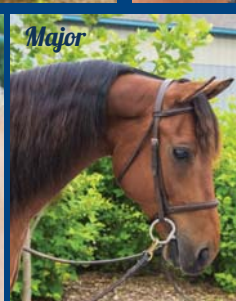
April



Ella



Sigbjorn



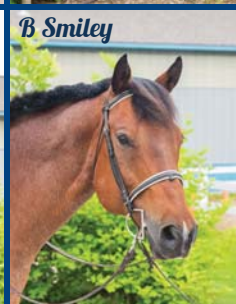
Major



Miko



Garuda



B Smiley



Hey Dobbs!

Indoor Arena



The indoor arena is where participants in TRI's programs ride. When I visit the indoor arena, I will not get to ride a horse, but I will get to learn some basic riding skills:

Riding Aids— When horses are ridden, their riders communicate with them using their voice and reins. TRI's horses know special words—I can learn these words, too! I can also practice using reins to steer.

"Walk On!"—tells my horse to go forward.

"Whoa!"—tells my horse to stop and wait for me.

Reins—are rainbow-colored, and I will hold these. I can pull them left or right to practice steering.

Obstacle Course—An instructor will show me how to do the obstacle course. I will pretend I am riding and practice my riding skills. I may play in the indoor arena! The arena has a sand floor—soft and comfortable for our horses—but I may get dirty.



Tack Room



Horse "tack" is important equipment that is used to ride safely. It includes: saddles, bridles, halters, reins, stirrups, bits, and many other things! In the tack room I can:

Touch Tack—and learn what each piece is used for. I can feel different textures: leather, metal, fleece & more!

Tack Up—I can put a saddle on in the correct order. Staff & volunteers will show me how.

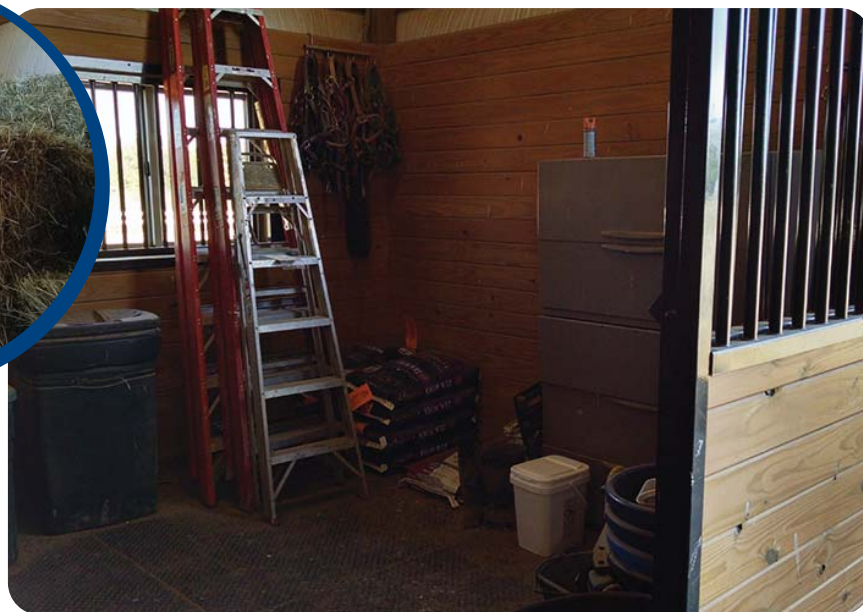


Feed Room

Horses are grazing animals and need to eat a lot of food each day! They eat both hay and grain to keep them happy & healthy. In the feed room, I can:

Touch & smell horse feed—Hay looks and smells much like grass. It is stored in large square bales. Each bale can weigh around 50 pounds! Grain comes in large bags, and looks like small pellets. Horses get different types of grain based on their age, weight and health needs. In the feed room, I can touch and smell both hay and grain.

Feel how much a horse eats in a day—I can try to pick up a bag filled with the amount of hay each horse eats in a day. It is very heavy!



Grooming Stall

Horses must be groomed before they are ridden. It is important to make sure their skin and hair coat remains healthy. Horses also really enjoy being groomed! In the grooming stall, I can:

Try Grooming Tools—each one has a different texture and works differently. I will learn how to use each type of grooming tool. I can feel the difference between brushes, combs, and hoof picks.

