

# Horsing Around with Letters

## Materials Needed:

- Large flashcards for 'H' and 'h'
- Flashcards for sight words 'the' and 'see'
- Pictures or small toy figures of horses
- Whiteboard or large paper, markers
- Worksheet with letter 'H' tracing practice
- Simple picture book about horses (e.g., 'National Geographic Kids: Horses' or similar)
- Construction paper and crayons/markers for drawing
- Optional: Horse sounds audio clip
- Optional: Hay (clean straw) in a shallow tray for sensory tracing

## Lesson Procedure:

### 1. Introduction: Horsing Around! (5 mins)

- Start by talking about horses! Ask: What sound does a horse make? (Neigh!) What do horses like to eat? (Hay!) Show pictures or toy horses. Play a horse sound clip if available.
- Say: "Horses are amazing! The word 'horse' starts with a special letter sound. Let's learn about it!"

### 2. Meet the Letter 'H' (10 mins)

- Introduce the letter 'H'. Show the uppercase 'H' flashcard. "This is uppercase H. It's a tall letter!" Trace its shape in the air together.
- Show the lowercase 'h' flashcard. "This is lowercase h. It also has a tall part." Trace its shape in the air.
- Practice the sound: "The letter H makes the /h/ sound, like you're breathing out hard. /h/ /h/ /h/. Can you make that sound? Think of h-h-horse or h-h-hay or h-h-happy!"
- Activity: Have the student trace the letter 'H' and 'h' on the worksheet. For extra fun (differentiation), let them trace the letters in the optional hay tray using their finger.

### 3. Sight Word Roundup (5 mins)

- Introduce the sight word 'the'. Show the flashcard. "This word is 'the'. We see it all the time when we read! Let's say it together: the, the, the." Clap it out.
- Introduce the sight word 'see'. Show the flashcard. "This word is 'see'. Like 'I see you!' Let's say it: see, see, see." Point to your eyes when you say it.
- Practice: Quickly flash the 'the' and 'see' cards and have the student say the word.

### 4. Reading Corral (10 mins)

- Use the whiteboard or large paper. Write the word 'horse'. Ask the student what letter it starts with ('H'). Practice the /h/ sound again.
- Build simple sentences using the sight words and 'horse'. Write: "See the horse." Read it together slowly, pointing to each word. Use a toy horse as a prop.
- Write: "I see the horse." Read it together.
- Write: "The horse is happy." (Introduce 'happy' if the student is ready, emphasizing the 'h' sound). Read together.
- Activity: Have the student point to the word 'the', 'see', and 'horse' in the sentences.

### 5. Story Time Stampede (5-10 mins)

- Read a simple picture book about horses. Pause occasionally to point out the letter 'H' or the sight words 'the' and 'see' if they appear clearly.
- Ask simple questions about the story, related to the pictures: "What color is the horse?" "Is the horse running?"

#### **6. Creative Canter (Assessment & Closure - 5 mins)**

- Review the letter H sound and the sight words 'the' and 'see'.
- Assessment: Give the student construction paper and crayons. Say one of the sentences you practiced, like "Draw the happy horse." Ask them to draw a picture of what the sentence says. This checks their listening comprehension and connection to the words.
- Praise their effort and beautiful artwork! "You did a great job horsing around with letters and words today!"