

# HERD HARMONY

Are you a herd hero or does your pony's posse need a little more help? Take our quiz to find out!

**1** First things first, you need to keep safe while handling ponies in and around the field. What should you be kitted out in?

- A. Hat, trainers and gloves
- B. Gloves, hat and sturdy boots
- C. Hat and body protector

**2** If your pony and his herd mates are going into a new field, what should you do beforehand?

- A. Make sure they're groomed and rugged properly
- B. Divide it up with electric fencing
- C. Check fencing, water and for poisonous plants

**3** If your pony's water source is moveable, where is it best positioned?

- A. Along a fence line where they graze the most
- B. Right next to the gate
- C. In an open area of the field with plenty of space around it

**4** If there are five ponies in a field and you're putting hay out, how many piles should you split it into?

- A. At least seven – one each and some spare
- B. Keep it in one big pile – eating together will help them bond
- C. Two – one for the boss of the herd and another for the rest

**5** If your pony's grazing the other side of the field with his herd mates when you go to catch him, how should you get his attention?

- A. Shake a bucket of nuts at the gate to encourage him over
- B. Calmly call his name to make him aware you're approaching
- C. Shout and whistle as you walk up to him

**P**onies are sociable animals and love being in a herd where they can play, eat and sleep happily. But do you know how to keep your pony happy and safe within his herd? Our quiz will test your knowledge!

**6** What should you do if all the ponies in the herd are standing in the gateway while you're trying to get your pony out of the field?

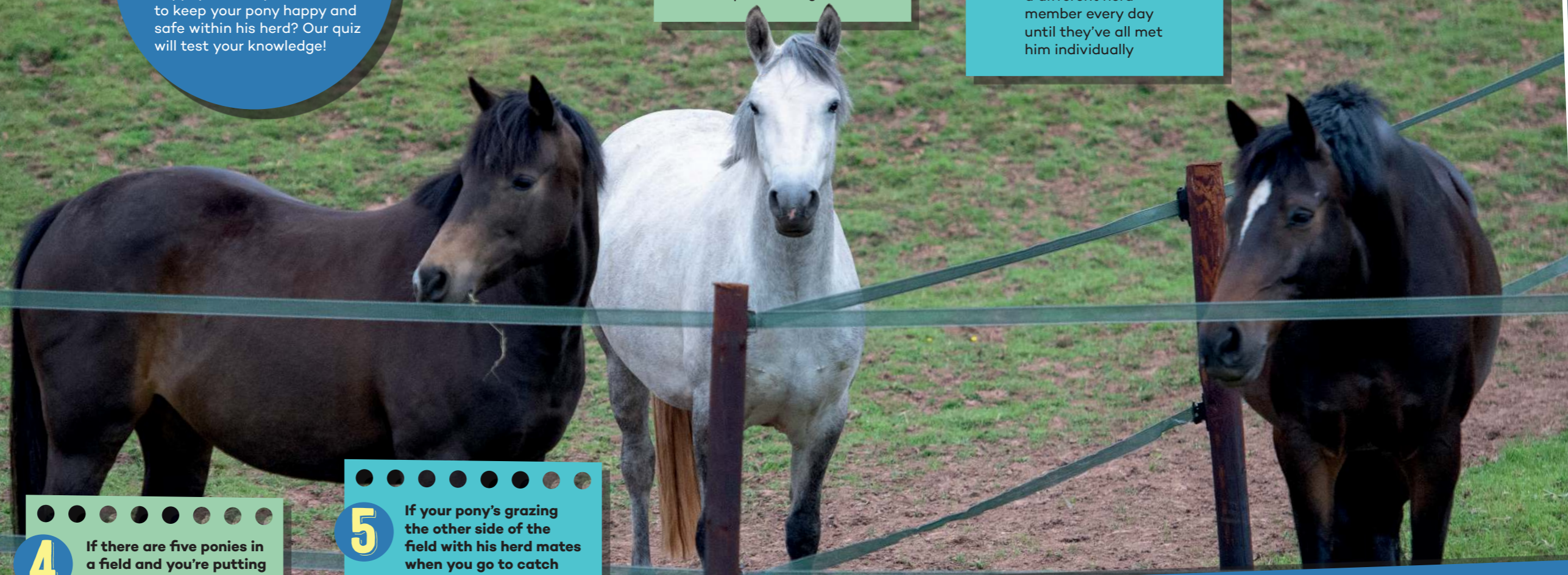
- A. Wave your hands in the air to shoo them all away
- B. Do it as quickly as possible – you want to get outta there!
- C. See if any other ponies are coming in from the field, too, and ask an adult to help with the gate

**7** What's the first step to take when introducing a new herd member?

- A. Put the new herd mate in the field next door so they can see and smell each other from a safe distance
- B. Put them straight into the field together – they'll soon work out a hierarchy
- C. Put the new pony in the field with a different herd member every day until they've all met him individually

**8** What sort of body language might indicate that your pony isn't feeling happy in his herd yet?

- A. Ears back, kicking out and chasing around the field
- B. Mutual grooming
- C. Tail swishing when standing head to tail



**WELL DONE!**

## 0-2 POINTS

Uh oh – looks like you need some **herd help!** Try watching ponies in a herd and focus on how they interact with one another to learn more.

## 3-5 POINTS

You have a **happy herd!** Ask your yard manager more about herd dynamics and behaviour and you'll soon be a hero.

## 6-8 POINTS

Awesome work, **herd hero!** All the ponies in your herd are thriving in their safe environment – well done.