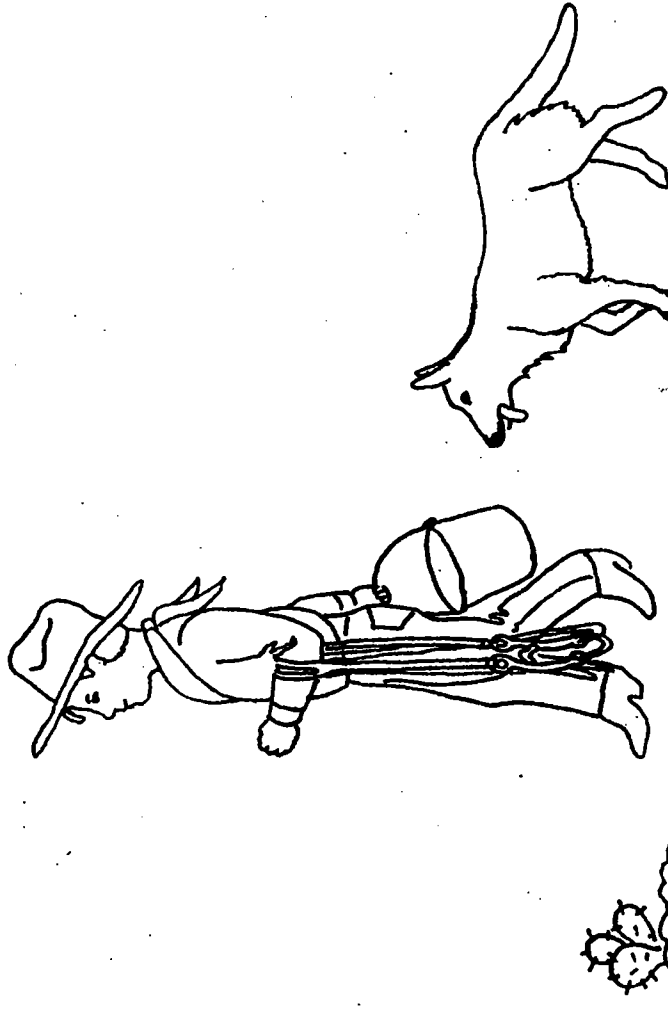


How To Improve Your Horse Safety Skills

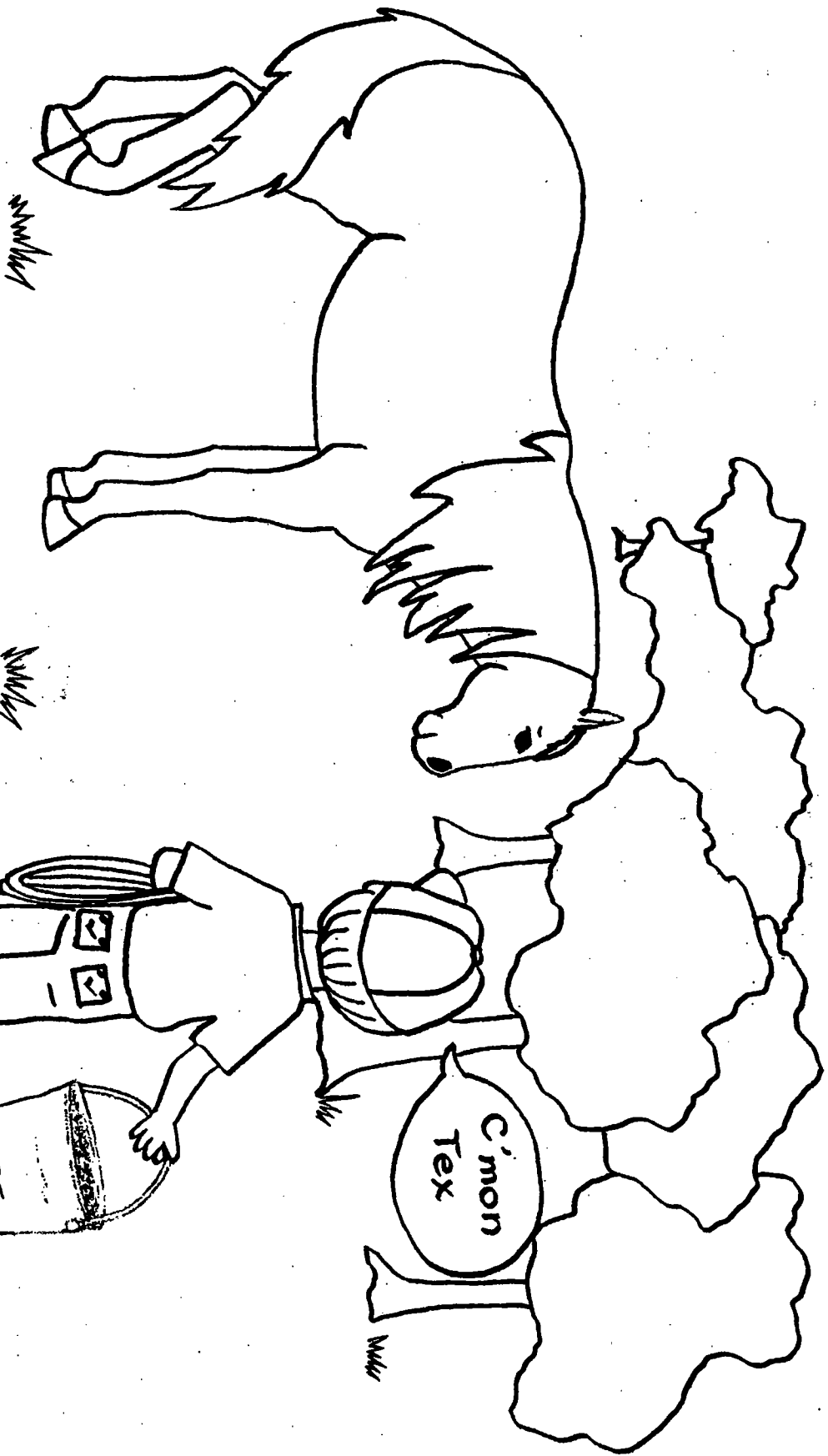
A quiz and colorbook



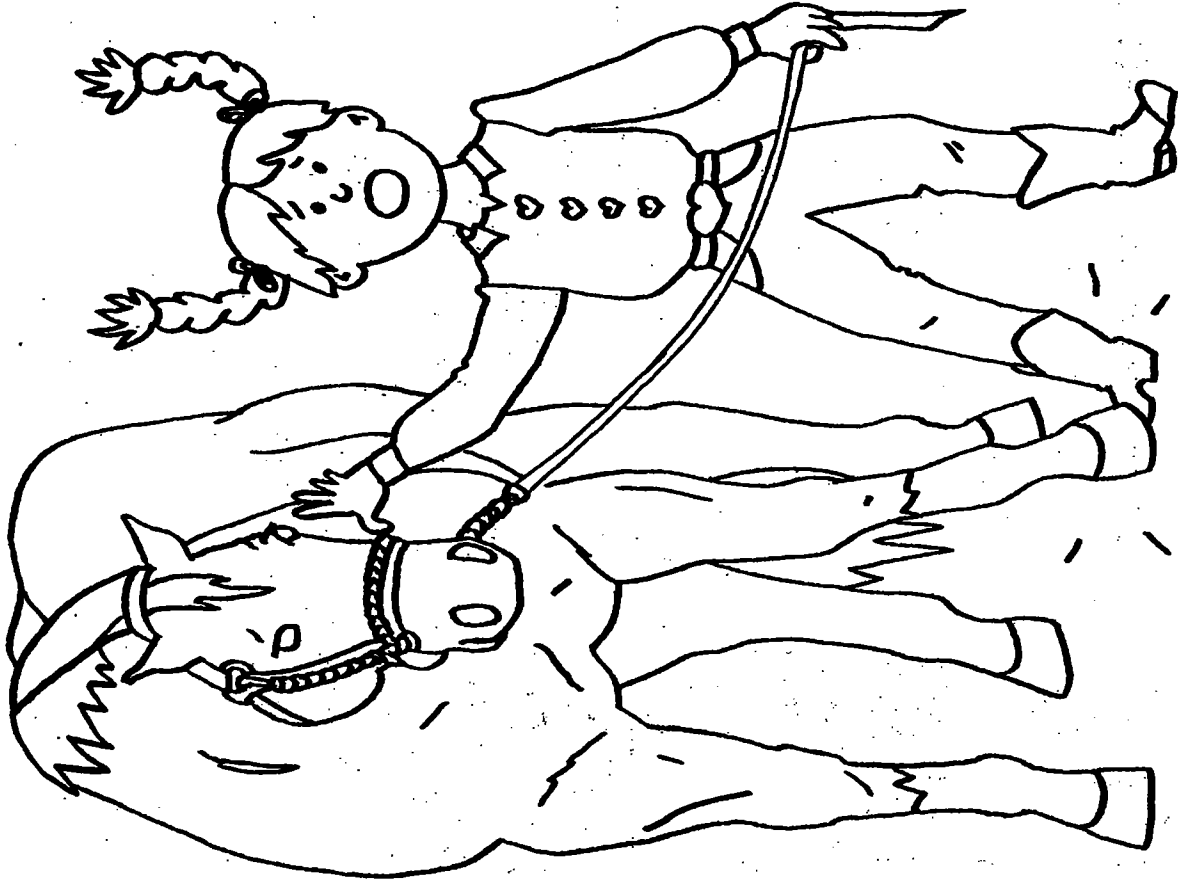
This book was written as one tool in increasing the awareness of hazardous situations around horses, as well as insight into some typical behavior of horses. This publication is in no way a guarantee against accidents, injury, or loss, nor is it a substitute for adult supervision of children and their horses. The authors and illustrators are not responsible for any accident, injury, or loss, and wish the best success and pleasure in your horse activities.



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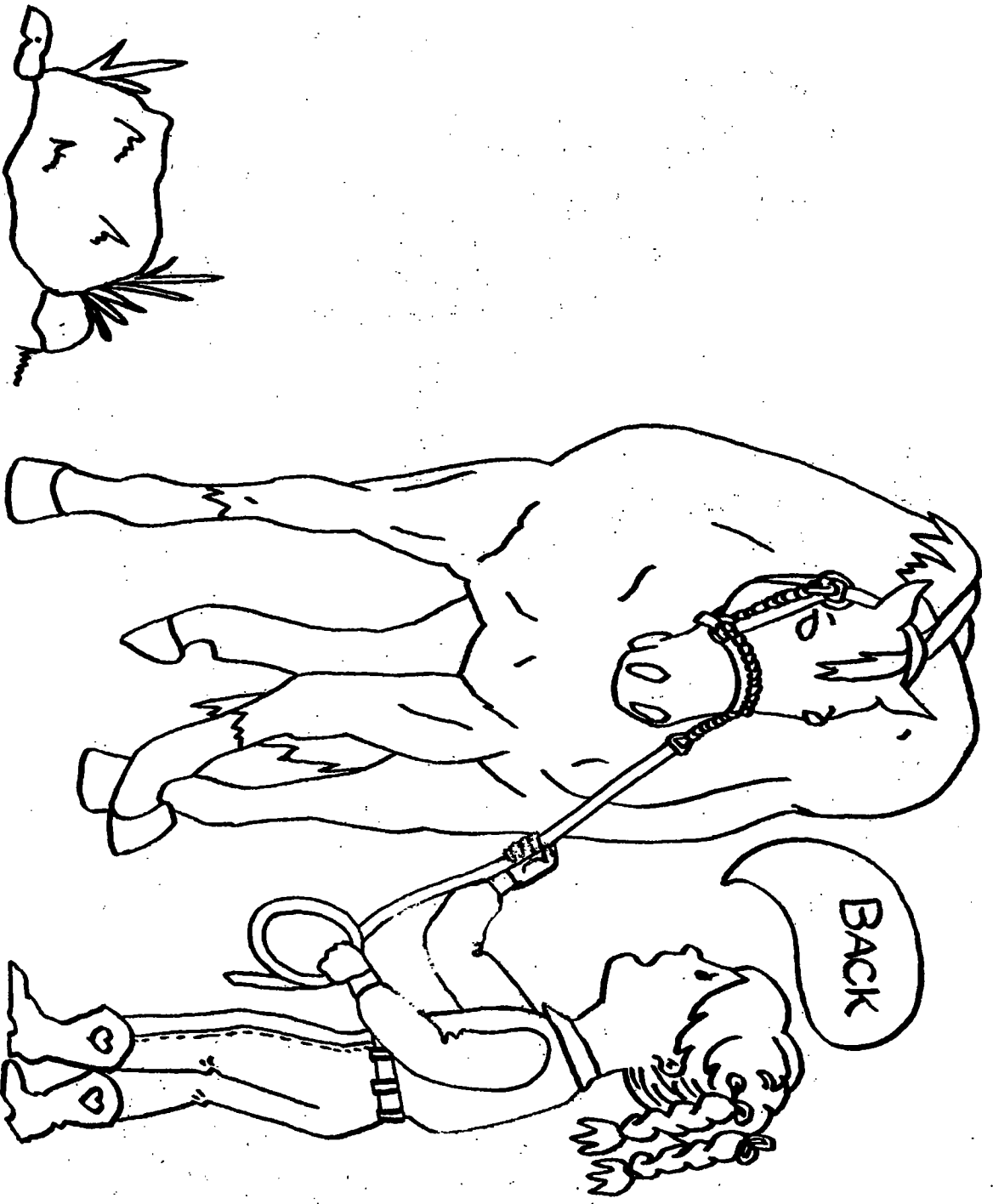


Horses often appear awake when they are really asleep. As you approach your horse, speak to him so he won't become frightened and kick.



Answer: 1000 pounds

How much does this horse weigh? _____
He weighs a lot when he is standing on your foot. Teach your horse to stay away from your feet!



When your horse gets too close for safety, say "BACK". Use your lead shank with firm tugs to move your horse back.



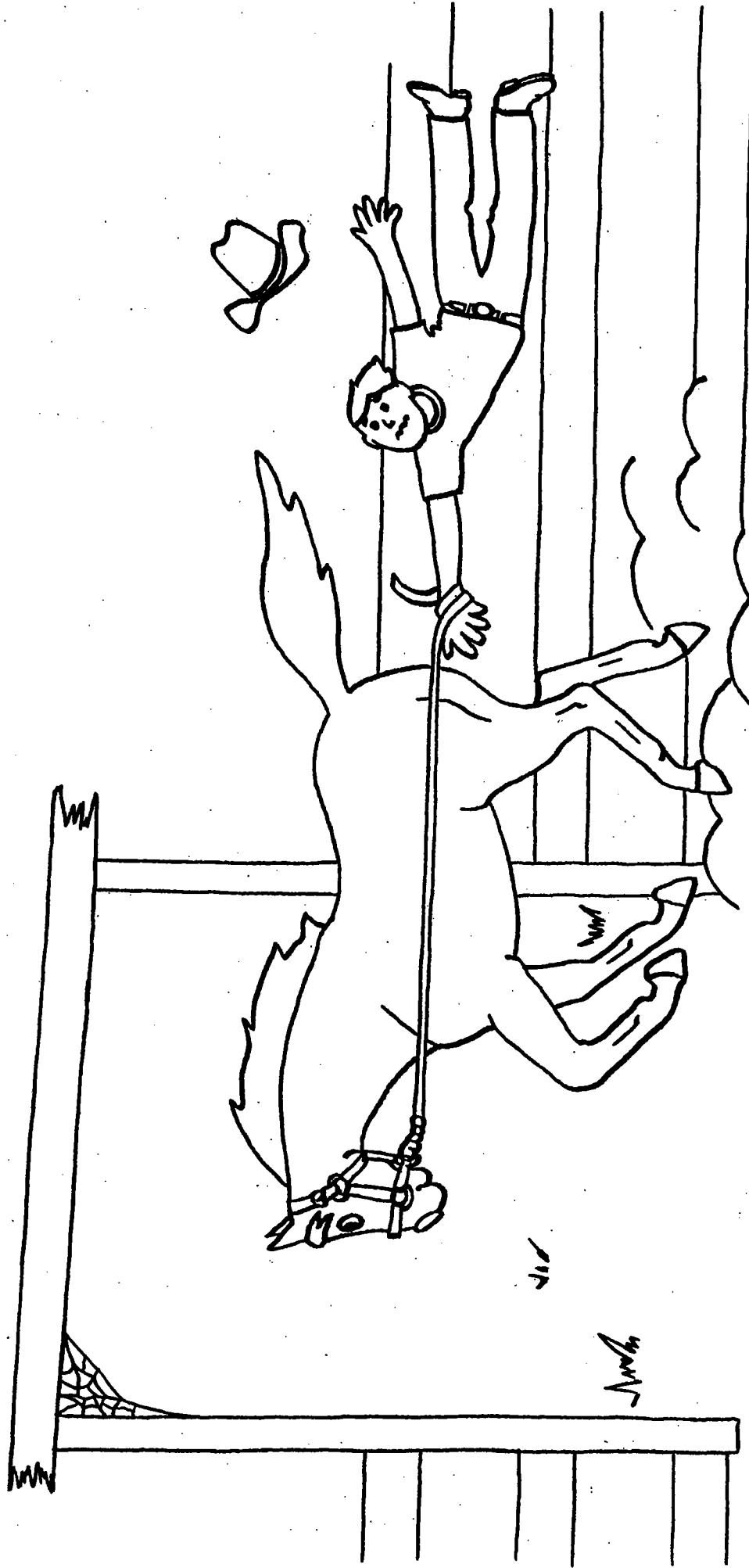
Even a gentle horse can become frightened and rush forward into you. Always stand by the horse's side, at his neck to lead or to hold him.



If your horse should rear up, you can release
your right hand hold on the lead strap, and still have hold
of the lead with your left hand. When turning, always turn
your horse to the right and walk around him.

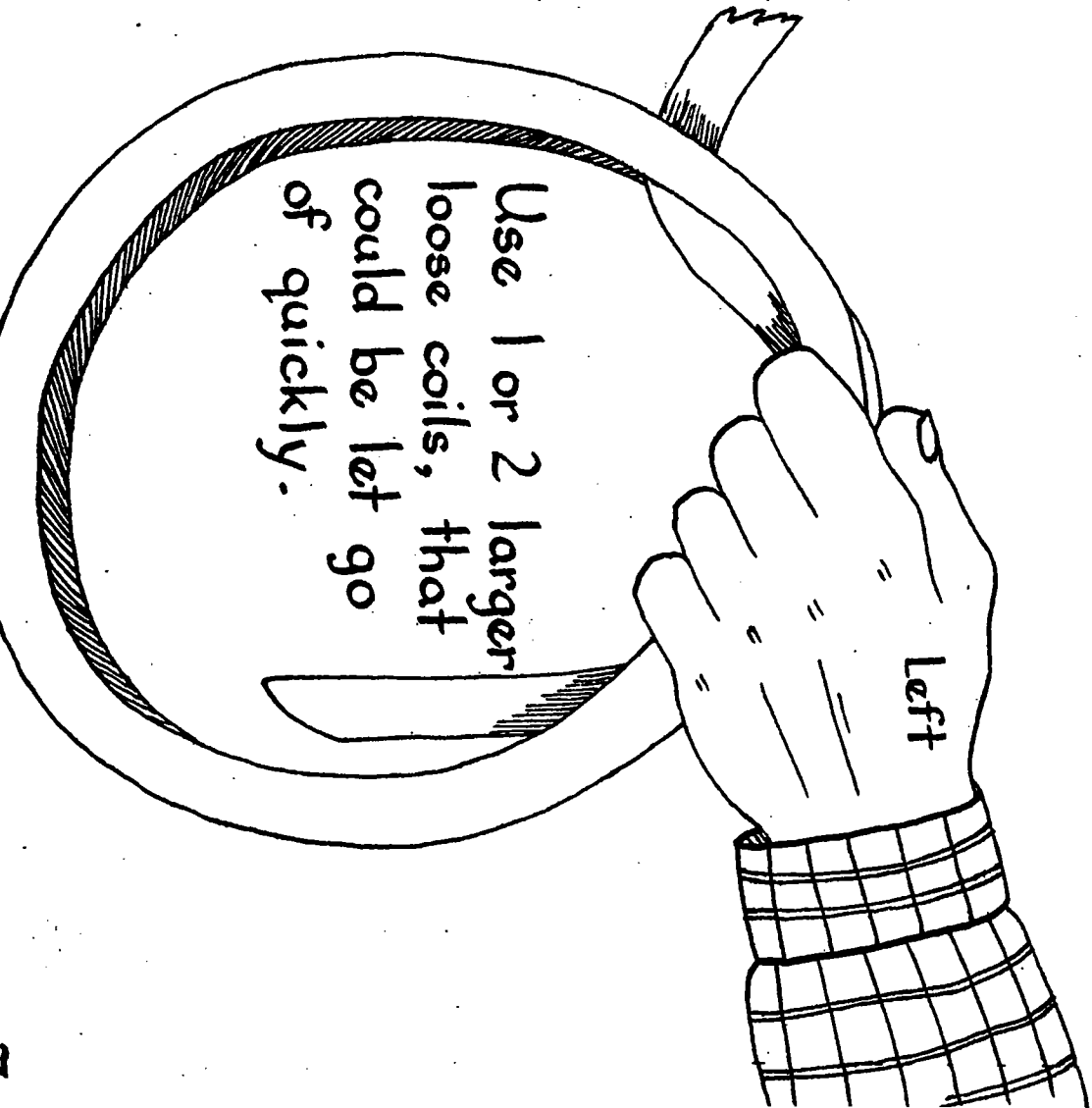
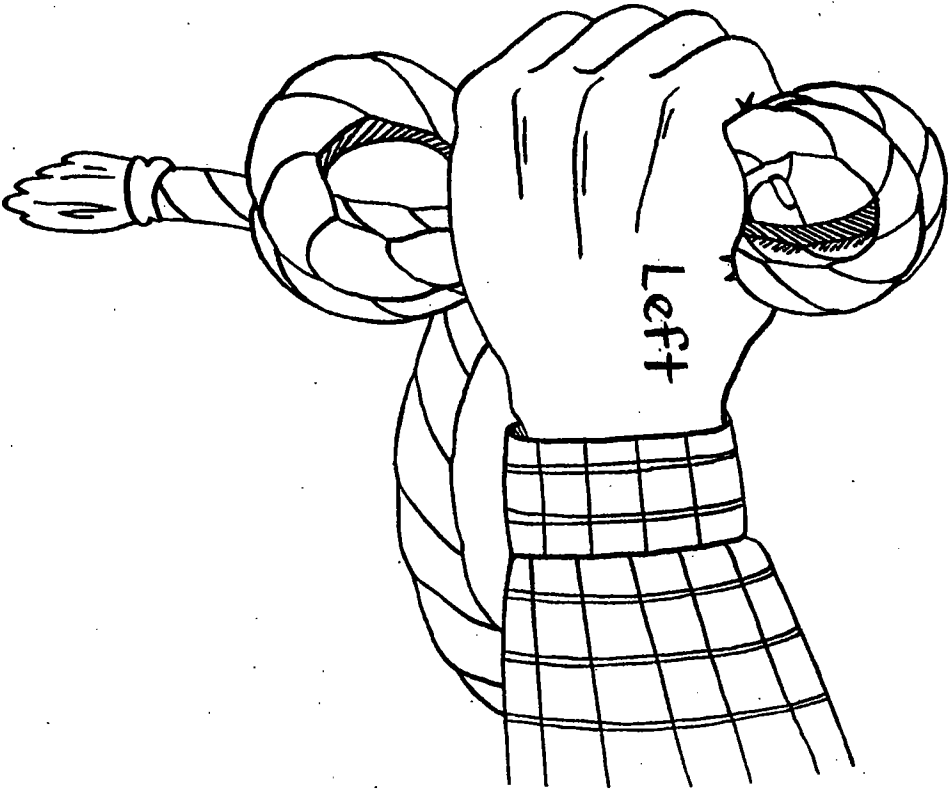


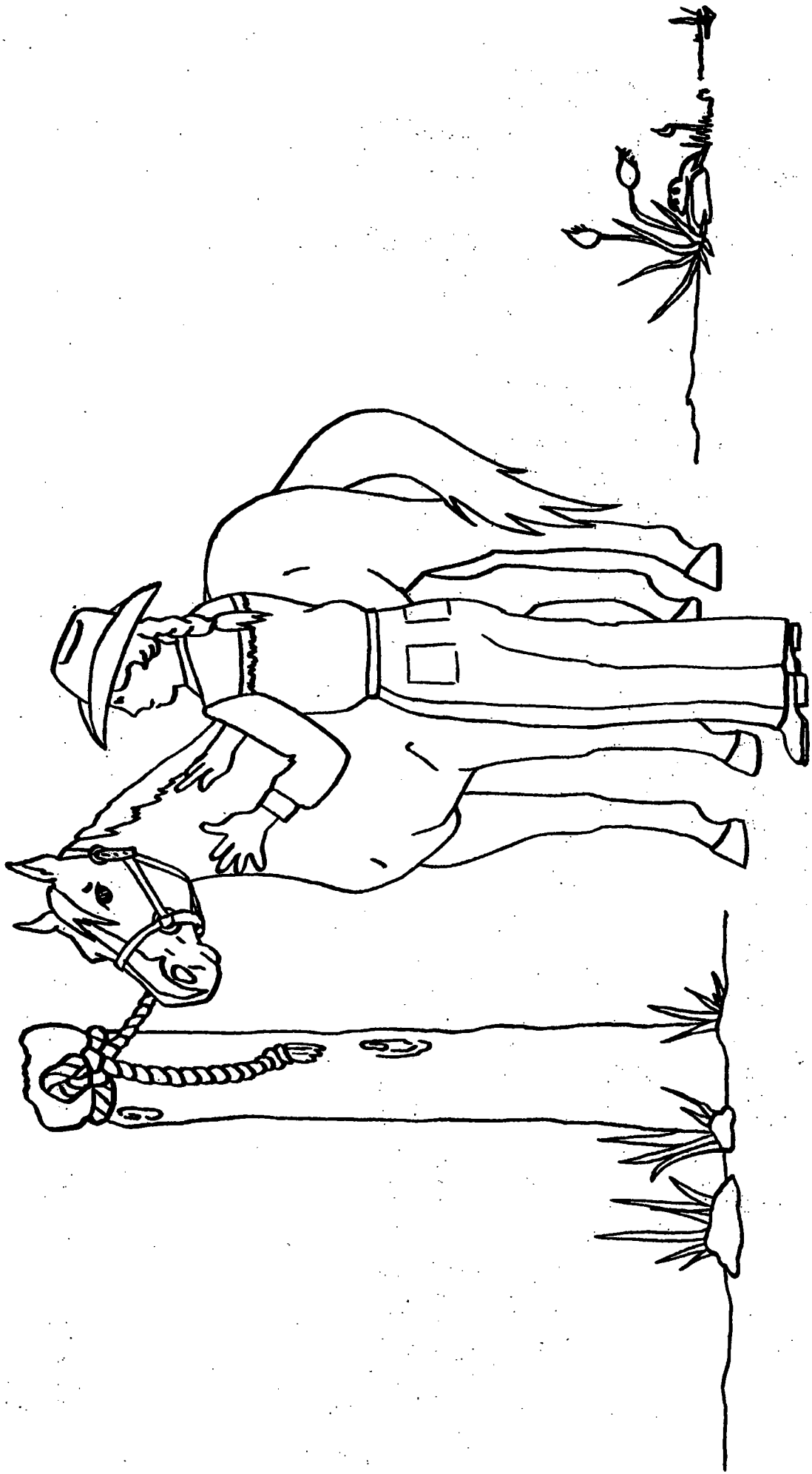
she



Wrapping reins or lead ropes around your hand or
body is dangerous.

Here are the ways you can coil the extra lead strap in your left hand.





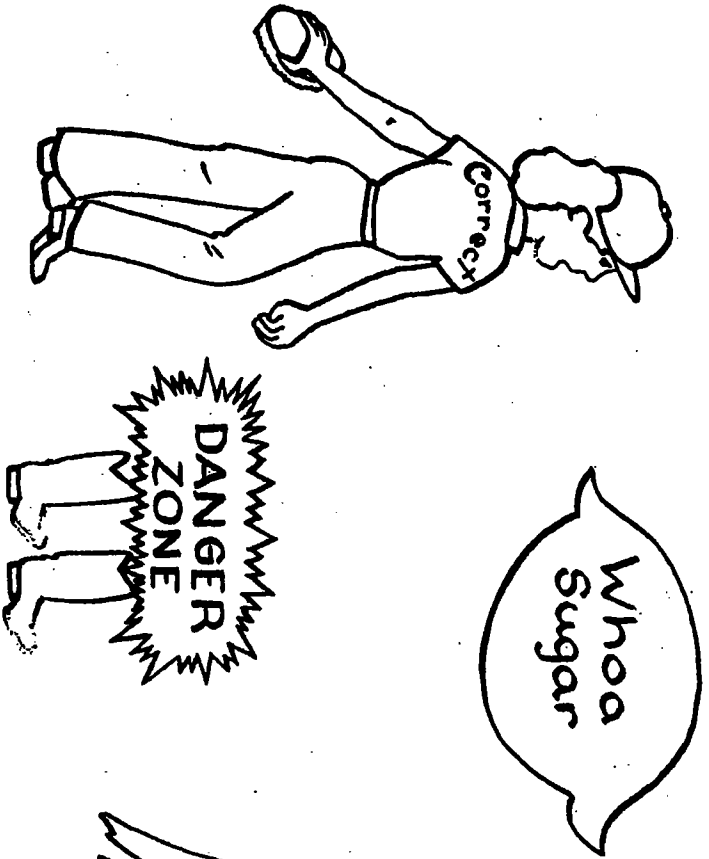
Approach your horse from the front, around his shoulder when possible. The neck and shoulder area is the place to pet your horse.



Petting his nose encourages biting.

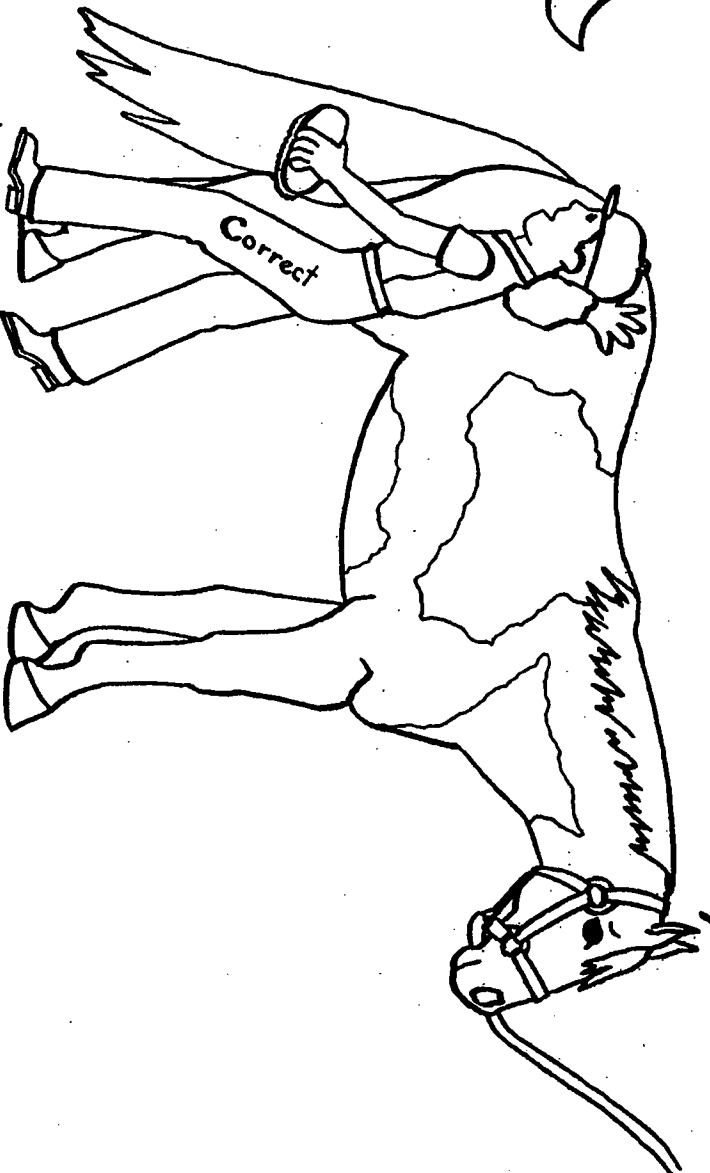
Tie your horse higher than his withers, close to a well anchored post, and with a slip knot. Use a sturdy halter, not a bridle.

How to get to the other side safely.



DO'S

1. Speak to your horse to let him know where you are.
2. You can choose to walk very close to your horse, or to walk completely out of kicking range.
3. If you pass close, speak soothingly and stroke him gently.

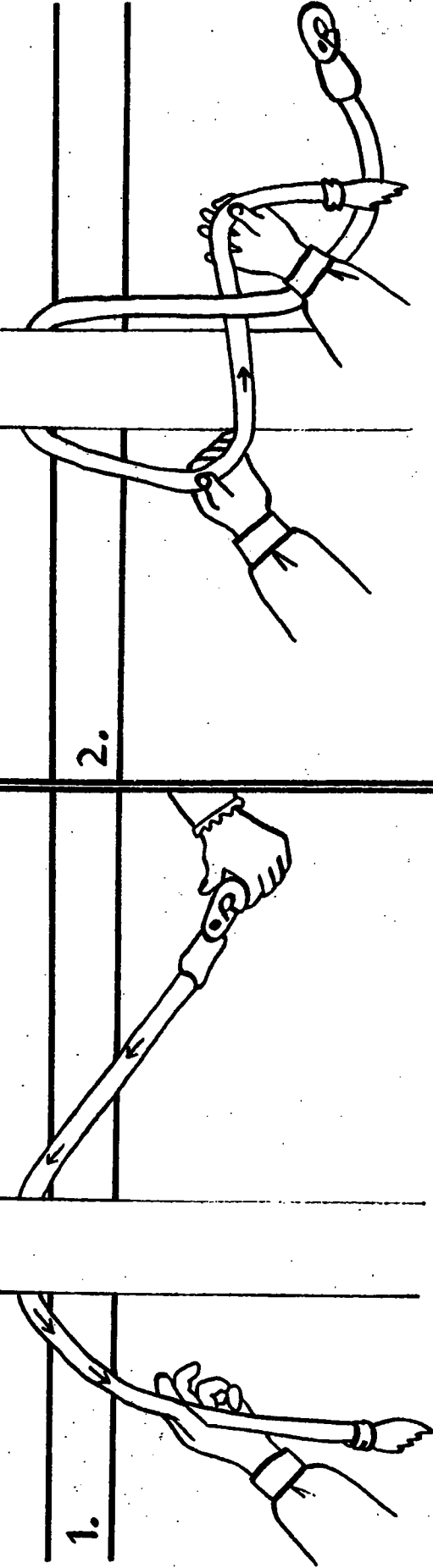


DONT'S

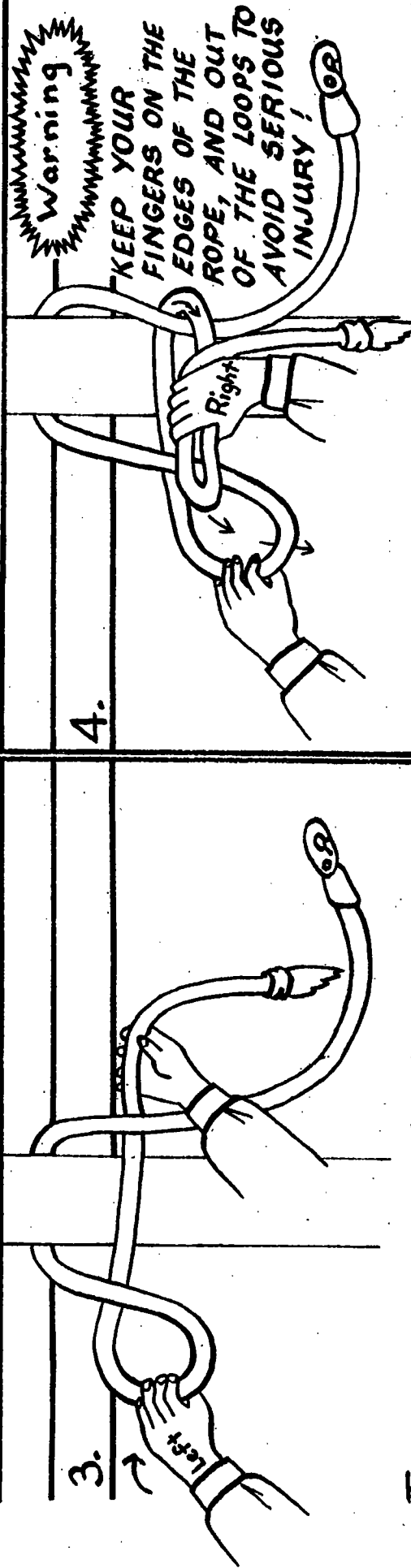
1. Don't walk in the Danger Zone. That is where a kick would be the strongest.
2. Walking over or under the lead is risky business.
3. Crawling under the belly is extremely dangerous.



Practice this Slip Knot with a friend.



1. Draw lead rope around pole left to right.

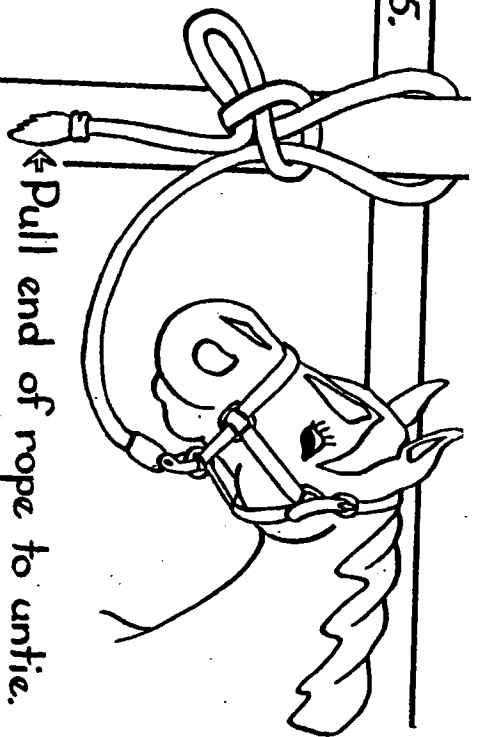


2. Do you see the 4 shape?

3. Turn over your left hand. Do you see an 8 shape?

4. Put right loop through the bottom of the 8 shape.

5.

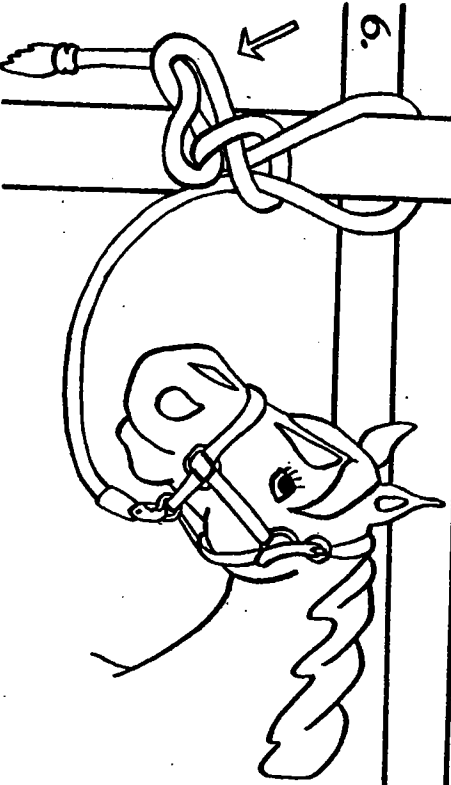


← Pull end of rope to untie.

Pull Snug.

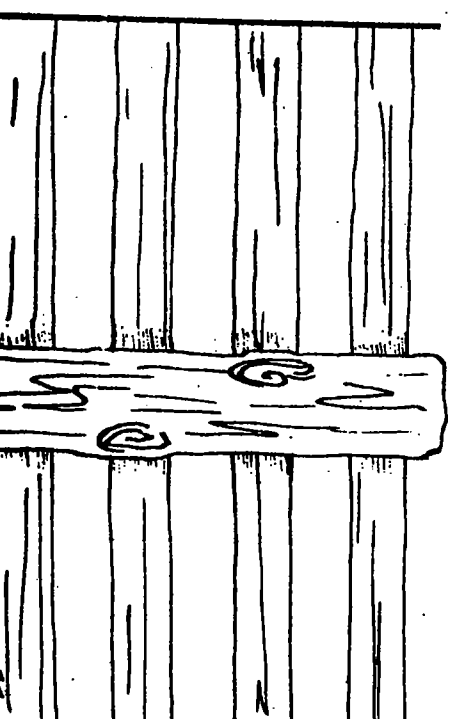
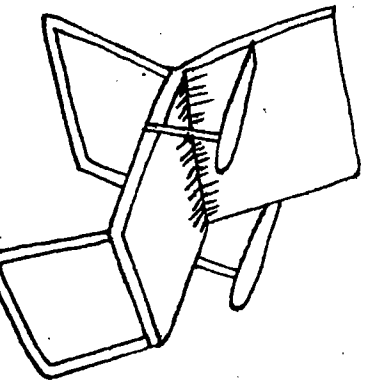
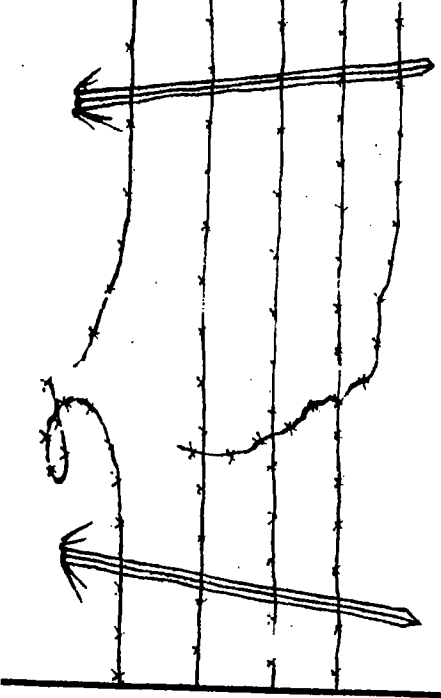
Did you keep your fingers out of the loops?
 Did you use a good stout halter, lead rope & snap?
 Did you tie your horse close, higher than his withers, & to a stout post in a safe place?

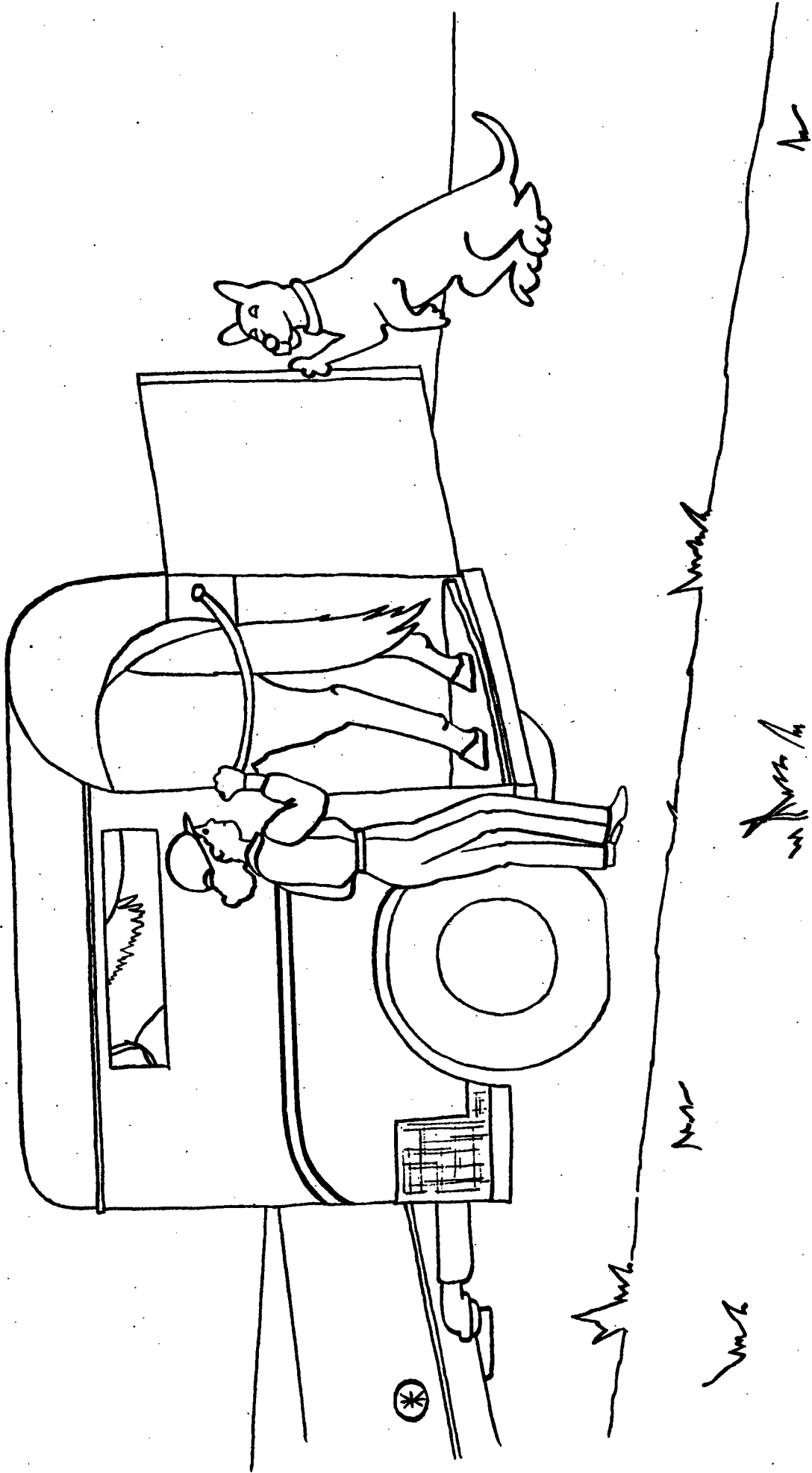
6.



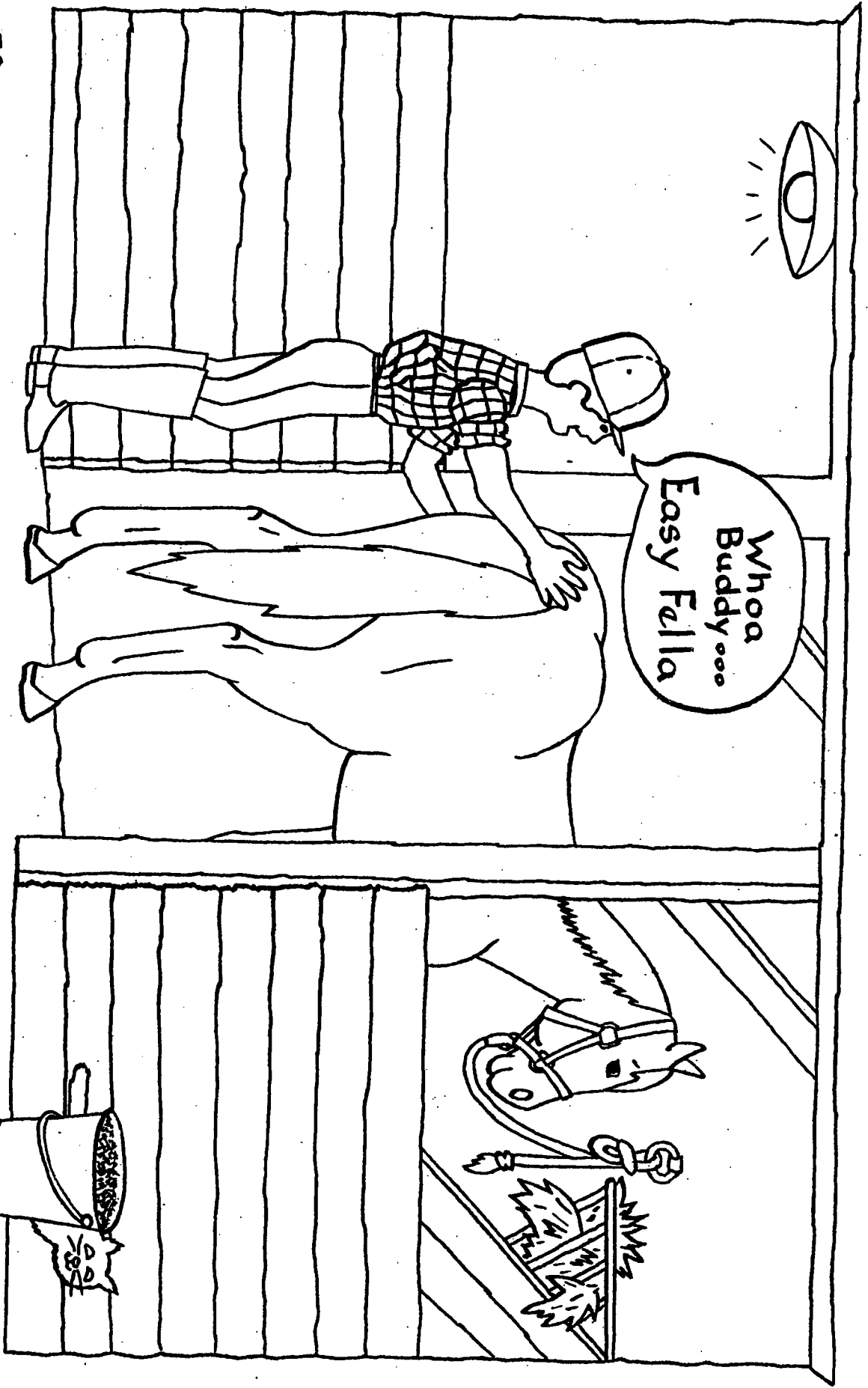
If you need to leave your horse tied for awhile, put the end of the lead rope through the loop to keep the knot from working loose.

With a brown crayon, color the picture that would be the only safe place to tie up your horse.





While reaching for the butt chain, put yourself in the safety zone by standing to the side of the trailer.



If you must approach your horse from behind, talk soothingly and stroke his hip gently. Be sure he is aware of you before you touch him.

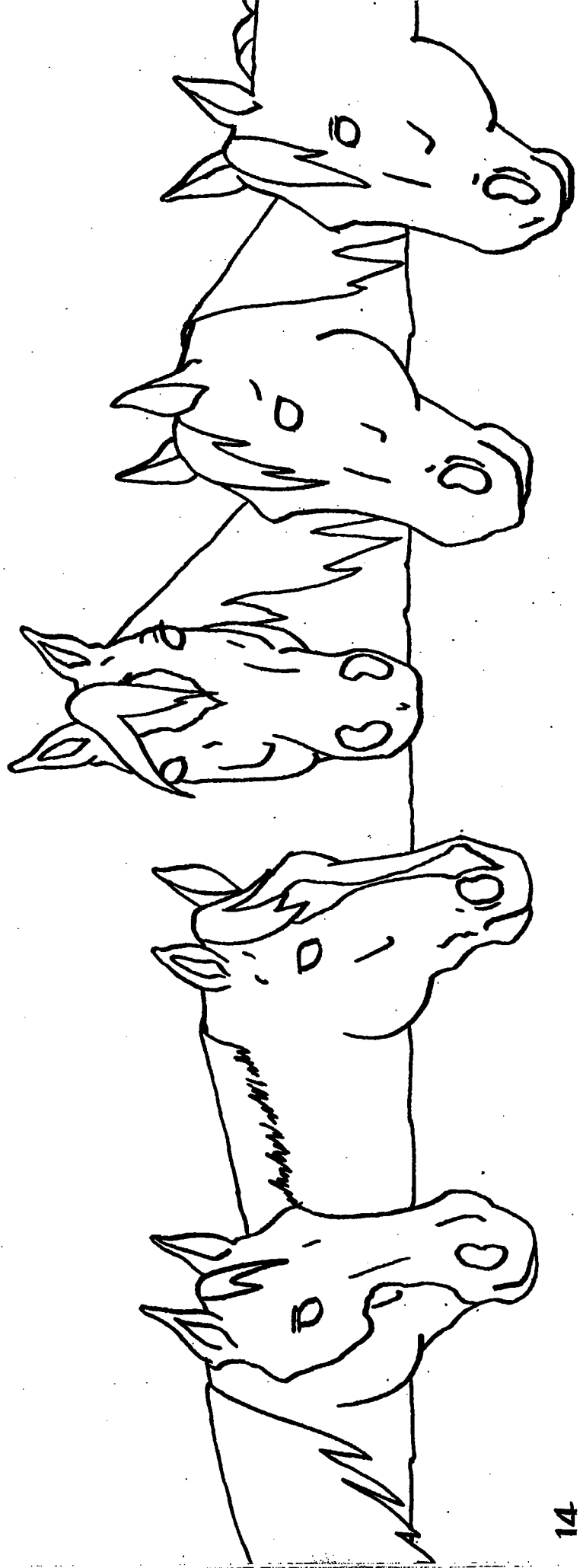
CAN YOU COMPLETE THIS STORY?

YOUR CATCHING, HANDLING and LEADING SKILLS

Horses by nature are usually e t and like people. However, they may become g t n and by instinct they may attempt to run away. If you don't want to r t your horse when you approach him, be sure to l to him. Talking to your horse in a l m and o o voice will lessen the chance of him c k in fright. By watching your horse's r and his x p s you can learn to understand what he is thinking.

Warn your horse before you handle him. One way you can do this is by placing your hand on his hip and sliding your hand down his leg to pick up his f . If you reach suddenly for the hoof, you could be kicked.

Stand at your horse's left d to lead him. When turning your horse, turn him to the g t .



Keep the extra lead strap off the ground by holding _____ r _____ g _____ coils in your left hand. Never wrap a lead rope _____ r _____ u _____ your hand or body.

Stallions can be unpredictable and should be handled by experienced _____ u _____ t _____. A mare that is normally gentle, may become aggressive toward people after having foaled. Because some horses do have bad dispositions, choose a horse with a good _____ t _____ d _____ for a more enjoyable equine experience.

Handle your horse with _____ n _____ i _____ e _____, kindness and firmness. By practicing safety precautions you will learn to handle horses successfully and safely.

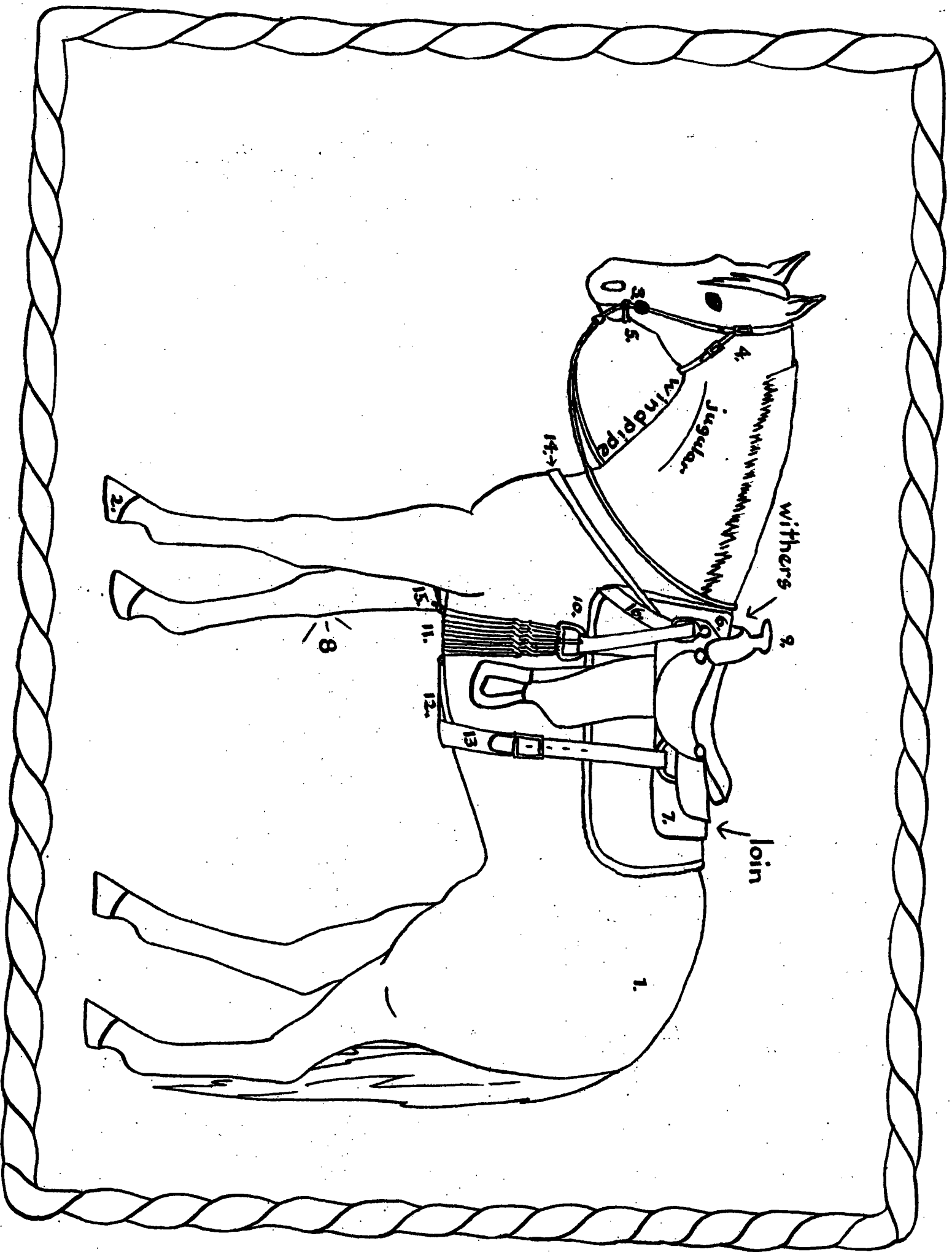
- | | | | |
|----------------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| 1. expressions | 5. talk | 9. around | 13. large |
| 2. frightened | 6. adults | 10. soothing | 14. side |
| 3. hoof | 7. startle | 11. kicking | 15. right |
| 4. confidence | 8. gentle | 12. attitude | 16. ears |
| | | | 17. calm |



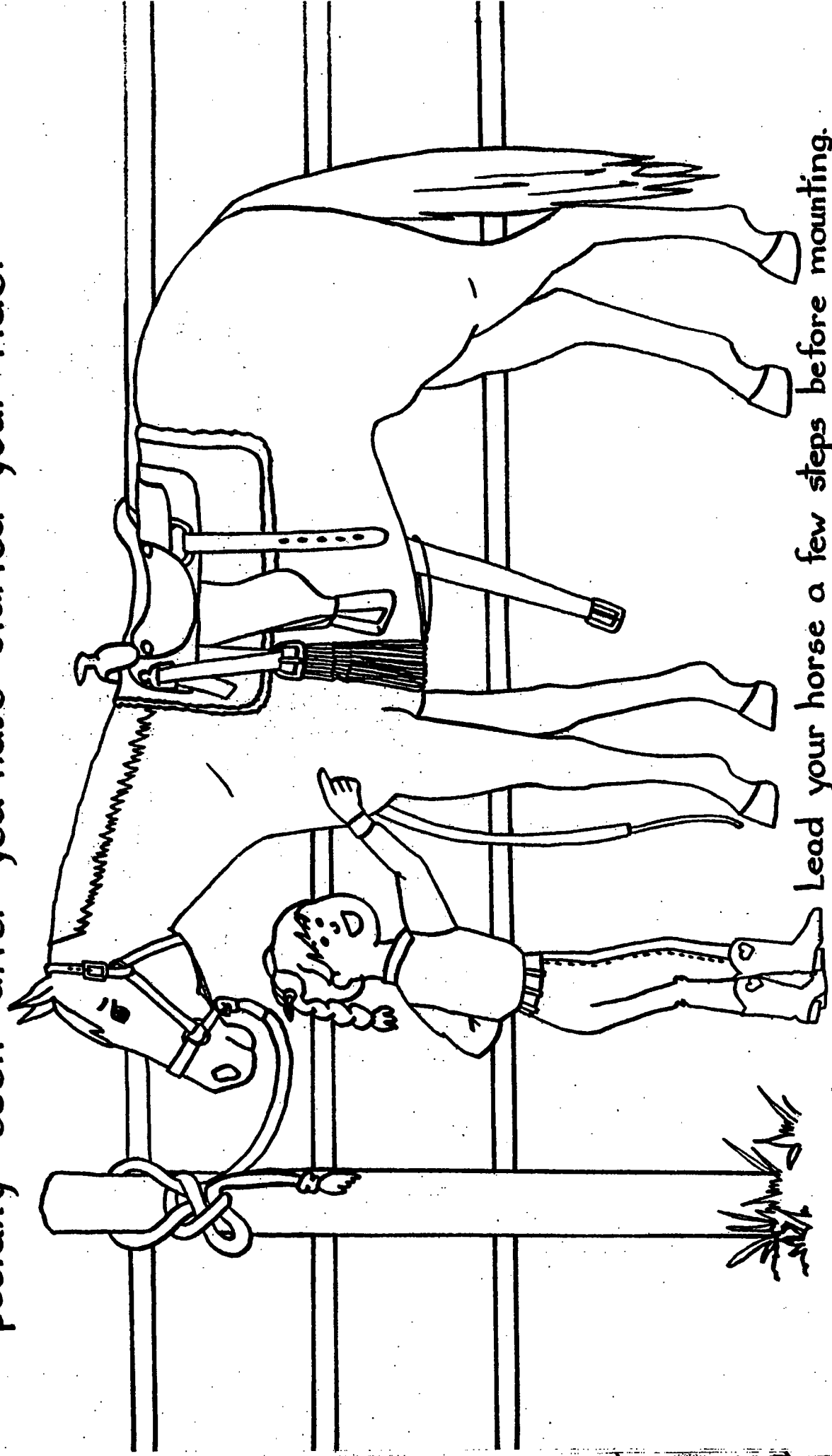
Find and color these good safety habits on the next page.

1. Horse brushed and free of dirt, sand, and burrs.
2. Hoofs cleaned out and free of rocks.
3. Bit adjusted to cause slight smile at corners of mouth.
4. Loose bridle straps put in keepers.
5. Curb strap adjusted with room for two fingers.
6. Blanket evenly placed and thick enough to protect withers.
7. Leather oiled and in good condition.
8. When saddling lay cinch over saddle so it doesn't swing down and hit the off knee.
9. Saddle up on withers, not back on the loin.
10. Front girth snug enough to keep saddle in place.
11. Girth adjusted so center rings lie evenly between front legs.
12. Leather loop connecting front and back girths.
13. Back girth adjusted with room for one hand.
14. Breast collar adjusted lower than windpipe & jugular veins.
15. Breast collar snap attached with pointed side toward the ground.
16. Extra girth strap in strap keeper.





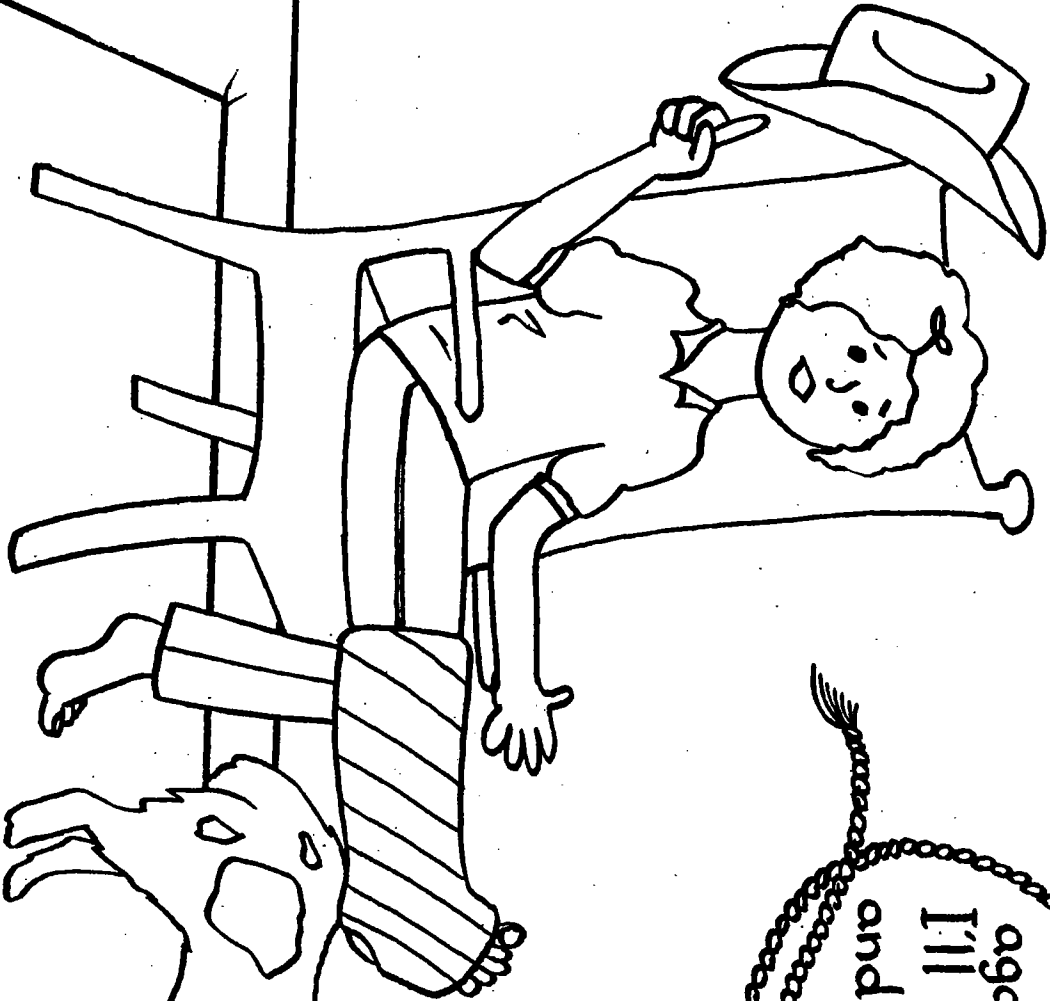
☆ Remember ☆ When saddling, ALWAYS fasten the FRONT cinch FIRST! When unsaddling, unfasten the FRONT cinch LAST! Check your cinch often for snugness, especially soon after you have started your ride.



Handwritten signature

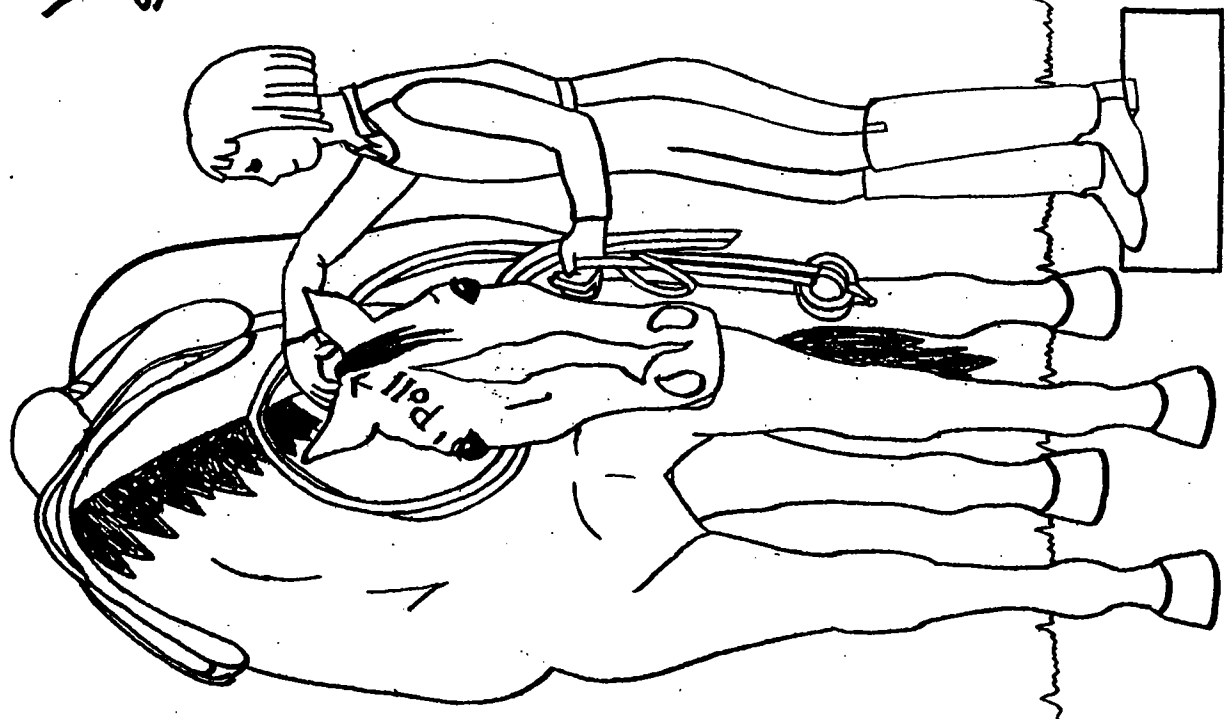
Lead your horse a few steps before mounting.

When I can ride
again, the first thing
I'll do is replace worn
and torn equipment!



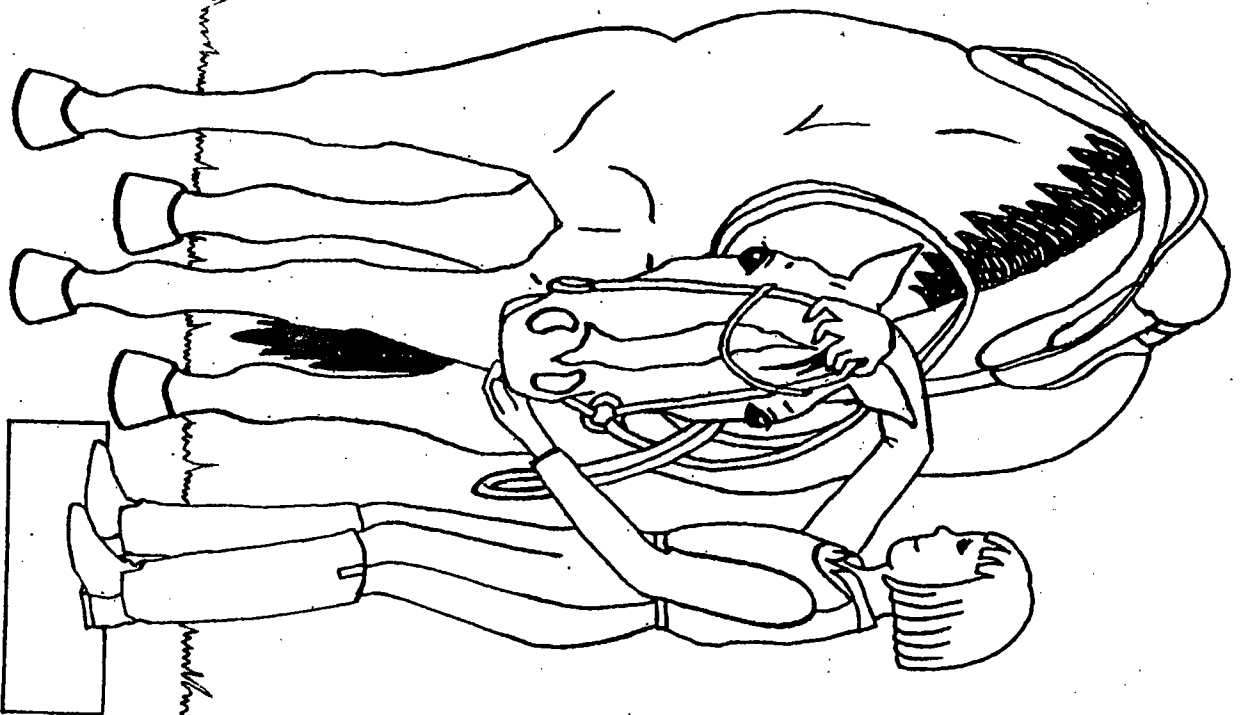
You can teach your horse to bridle safely and easily.

- Be gentle with his mouth and avoid bending his ears.
- Teach him to lower his head by pressing on either side of the poll. Release your pressure as soon as he responds for his reward.
- Should your horse toss his head, keep your head far enough away to avoid getting bumped.

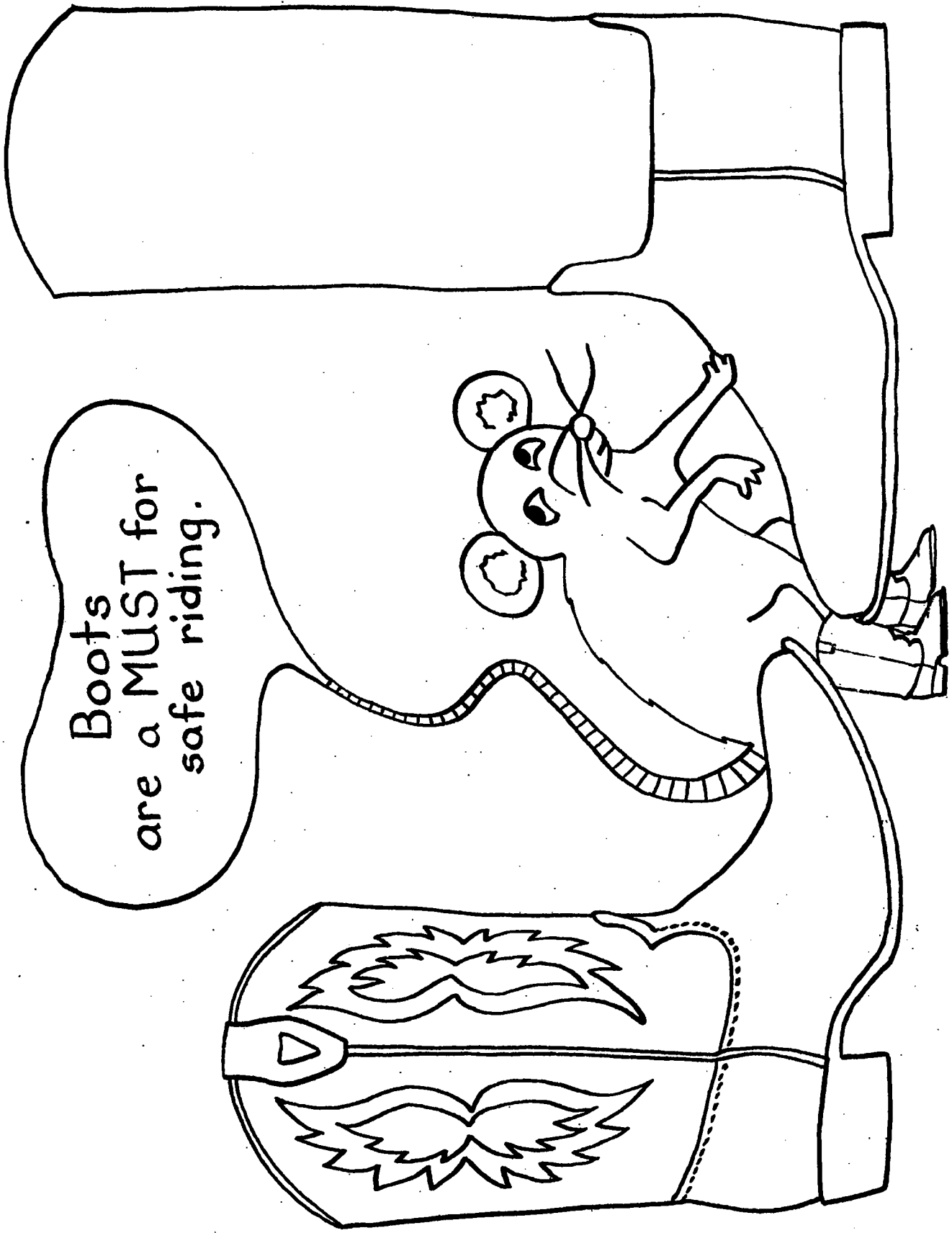


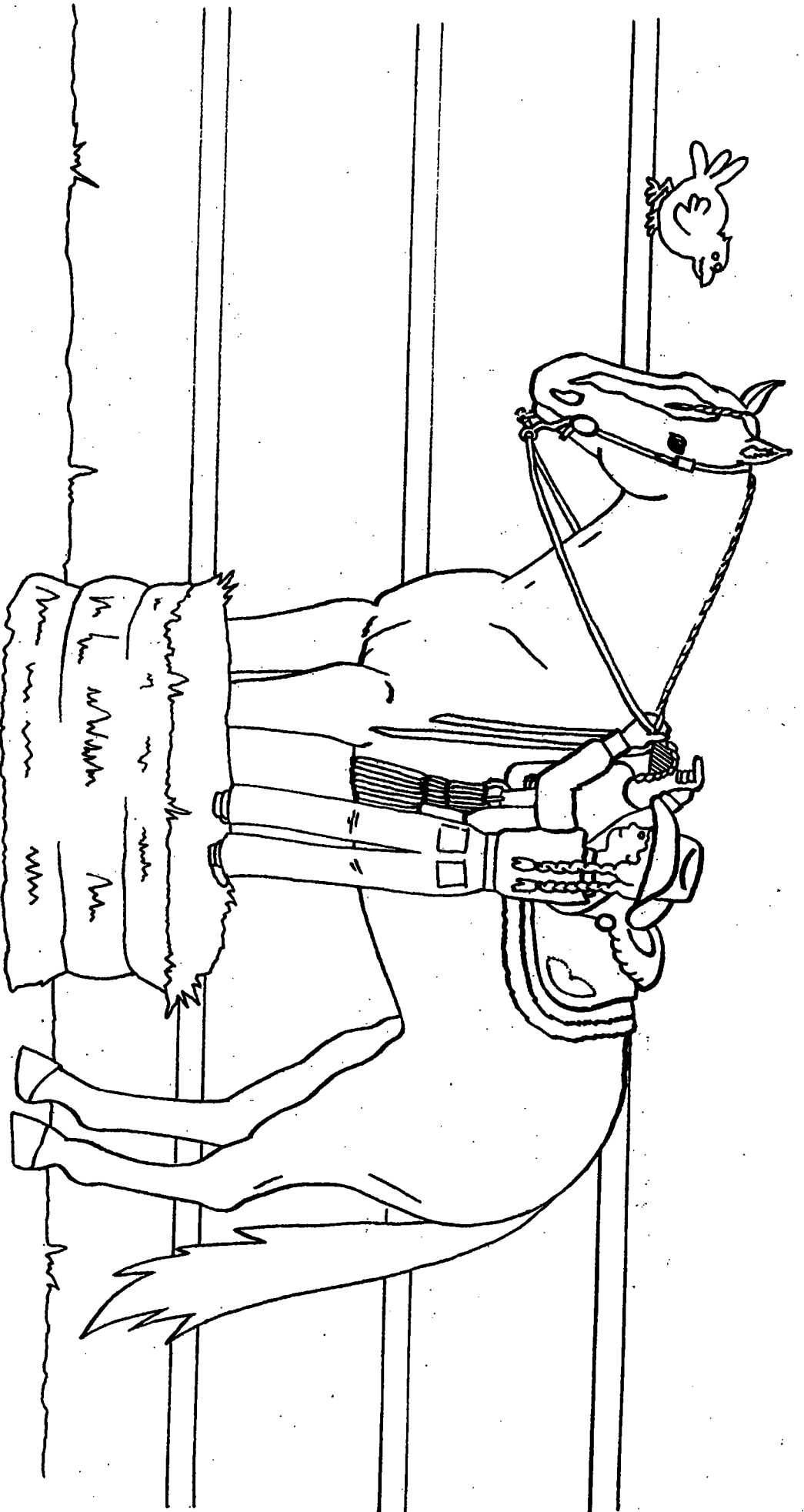
Remember to be gentle with the horse's mouth and ears when adjusting the bridle.

- Use your right hand to lift the bridle as your left hand gently guides the bit into his mouth.
- Be just as gentle removing the bit.



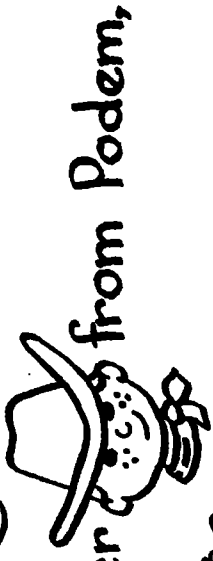
Handwritten notes in the left margin, partially obscured and difficult to read.



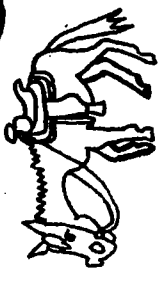


The **ONLY** safe way to mount and dismount, is on a horse that is standing still. Hold your reins evenly and keep light contact with his mouth. Now you can easily stop him should he move. Avoid holding him tightly, as this will cause your horse to back.

WRANGLER JOE



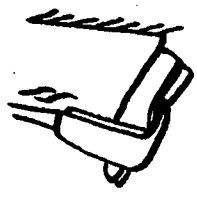
There was a young wrangler from Podem,



Who had a horse Totem
and he rode him!



One day, Totem took to shyin',
And lost his rider a cryin',




"Listen to Joe, keep those heels low
And your reins



nearby,



Cause if your a leanin' 
Clear over ol' Totem,

Just hope you remember how to fly!"



HOW WRANGLER JOE STAYS IN THE SADDLE

Joe stays "in charge" and relaxed.

Fingers firmly around reins.

Joe's relaxed manner helps Totem stay calm.

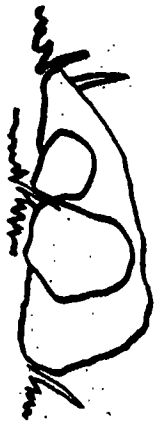
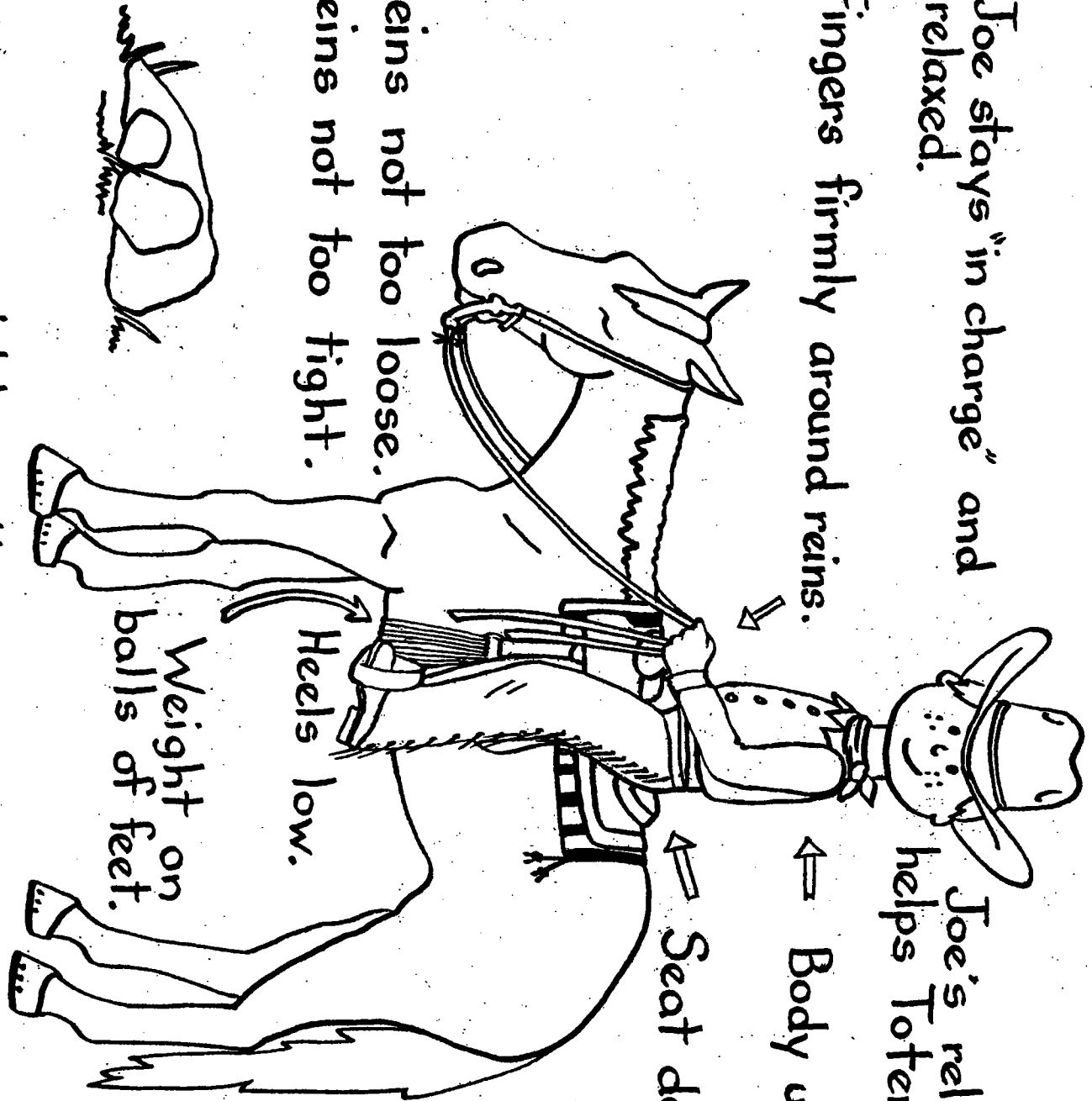
Body upright.

Seat deep in saddle.

Reins not too loose.
Reins not too tight.

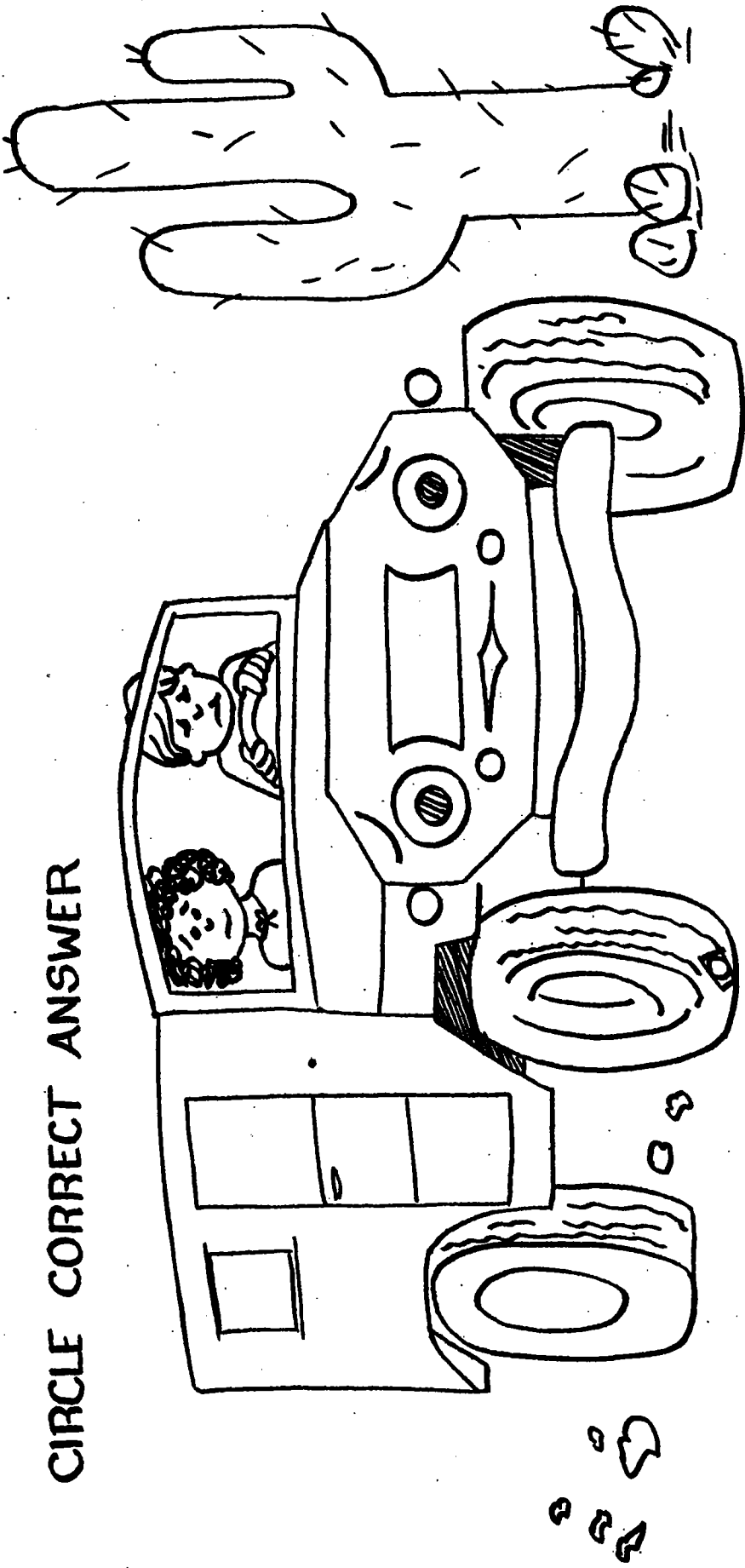
Heels low.

Weight on balls of feet.



Keep your weight on the balls of your feet. If you should fall, you can free your feet from the stirrups quicker.

CIRCLE CORRECT ANSWER



1. Do you let a car go wherever it wants ? Yes No
2. Do you let a horse go wherever he wants ? Yes No
3. Do you let a car go as fast as it wants ? Yes No
4. Do you let a horse go as fast as he wants ? Yes No
5. Who is always in charge ? You You

ANSWERS : 1.) NO 2.) NO 3.) NO 4.) NO 5.) YOU, YOU, YOU !

