

Other Fun Activities

Overnight Winter Camping: Many YMCAs will rent their facilities for the evening. Ponyclubbers will have use of the gym or pool and "camp" overnight at the Y. You can set up all kinds of stations, games or activities as knowdown prep, rating prep etc. for part of the evening.

Winter Projects: Can be posters or models. Assign each child a topic based on the rating they are working for. They do the poster or model and do a 5 minute presentation to the group. Posters can be kept for teaching aids for years to come.

Barn inspections: Use a local barn and have the kids in groups go through the barn in a scavenger hunt type set up. You can give them a list of all kinds of things to find. You can "set up" some things or just let the kids see what they can find.

Mock rally days: Plan a day's instruction with a local clinician. Divide into groups and have the kids ride and do unmounted lessons through the day. Throughout the day the ponyclubbers are judged on horse management, turnout, set up, turn back etc.

Use a local barn and assign each group a horse. Ask them to assess its health (TPR etc.) condition, breed, conformation, age whatever is appropriate to your group.

Bridle Races: Have pony clubbers put together a bridle, see who is the fastest. Cs have to do it blindfolded!

Attend a local auction: Have kids look over horses and decide which they would buy and why-should discuss conformation, unsoundnesses, temperament etc.

Check with your local veterinary hospital: See if they can supply you with skulls, legs, hearts, whatever, and have ponyclubbers examine along with the local vet.

Visit a local tack shop that sells used equipment: Examine some of it and discuss its usability and safety. Have the ponyclubbers pick out items that would fit their horse and be suitable, safe and the best buy.