

INTRODUCING LESSONS

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Give your name and qualify your presence.
[My name is Sue Smith and I'm an A pony clubber.]
- B. Get to know your student(s) and their horse(s).
[What is your name? What is your rating? Your horse's name?]
- C. Make a cheat sheet for remembering names.

II. SAFETY CHECK

1. Safety checks are a mandatory check for all Pony Club lessons. And you, as the Instructor, are responsible for seeing that a thorough check is carried out.
2. Prevention is The Pony Club Way. And The Pony Club Way is the safest way.
3. Do a thorough check of all equipment:
 - All tack, especially stress points on tack
 - Check that helmet is ASTM/SEI and that it fits well
 - Check lead ropes, longe lines, halters, surcingles
4. Ask riders if there is anything you should know about them or their mounts.
 - Riders may fail to tell you that their horse flips over backwards when asked to back. This could prove hazardous if your lesson includes backing.
 - Or a D2 may fail to tell you that his horse pulls back when tied. In this case, you would have to find another horse to teach this D2 how to tie a horse up safely or get a new lesson plan.
5. Also check to see that the area where you plan to work is safe.

III. REVIEW PAST LESSON; CORRECT ERRORS OR MISCONCEPTIONS OR MISINTERPRETATIONS BY THE STUDENTS

- Students don't always hear what you say;
- Sometimes students misunderstand or misinterpret the information from a lesson;
- Take the time to clear up any of these misunderstandings as they arise.
- Watching your students' take a lesson from another instructor will tell you a lot about what your students understand from their regular lessons.
- Listening to your students' explain a concept to another instructor or another rider, will tell you a lot about what your students understand from their regular lessons.

IV. EXPLAIN NEW TOPIC

1. Announce goals for lesson.
 - "Today we're going to master our emergency dismounts."
 - "Today we're going to talk about longing."
2. Explain, give examples, reasons, demonstrations etc.

V. DEMONSTRATE NEW TOPIC

1. Find out if anyone knows how to do the exercise.
2. Have that person demonstrate to the rest of the group.
3. Point out what was done correctly and what was not quite the way you want it done.
4. Reiterate the steps required doing the exercise.

VI. TRY NEW SKILLS

- While Pony clubbers are practicing you should supervise, give constructive comments and praise accomplishments.

VII. CORRECTIONS, POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

- Bring group in together. Talk constructively about errors.
- Re-explain if necessary.
- Add on if necessary.

VIII. PRACTICE NEW SKILLS

- Same as above. Have each student practice again.

IX. CORRECTIONS, REINFORCE

X. ELABORATE ON NEW SKILLS

XI. CORRECTIONS, REINFORCE

XII. REVIEW: DISCUSS IMPROVEMENTS, PRAISE

- Bring the entire group together and reiterate the goals of the lesson.
- Discuss whether or not those goals were reached.
- Praise for the goals that were met.
- Suggest ways of reaching goals that were not reached.
- Suggest new goals for homework.
- Thank your students for being good learners.
- Always finish on a positive note.

XIII. QUESTIONS: ASK, AND ANSWER

1. Always provide students an opportunity to ask any further questions.
2. If students don't ask questions, you may want to ask them some questions to make sure they understood the lesson.

XIV. ASSIGNMENT: TO WORK ON FOR NEXT LESSON

- Leave them some specific assignments and a goal to accomplish.