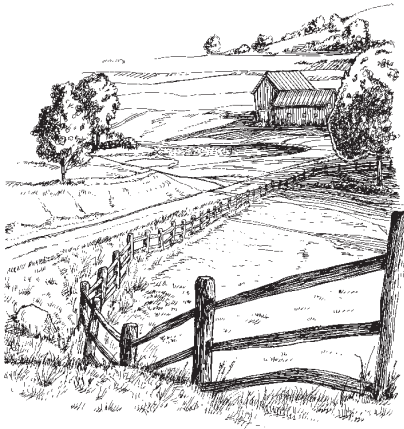


1. Listen to your teacher read the vocabulary words.

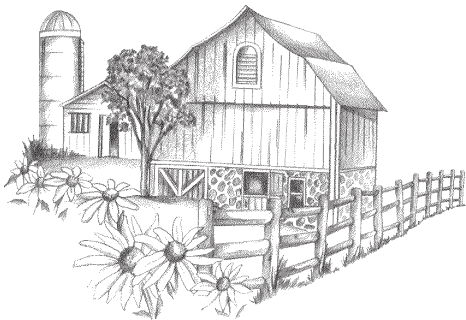
Vocabulary			
Tilda	Tennessee	troublemaker	chicken
visitors	special	invited	outwit
enough	bridle	saddle	reins
different	comfortable		

Begin reading the story “Tilda the Troublemaker.” You will have time tomorrow to finish the story.

Tilda the Troublemaker



As a little girl, going to my grandpa’s farm was the best trip. Mom, Dad, and I would drive to Grandpa’s little town. We would leave on Friday, and it would take hours to get there. Riding in the car was fun because we ate chicken out of a box. Sometimes, my mom would play games with me while we drove. Sometimes, I would read or draw to pass the time; sometimes, I would sleep. Finally, we would get to the small town where my grandpa lived.

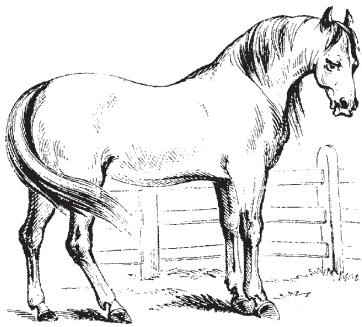


My grandpa’s old farm was always a special place for me. He had lived there for many years. Grandma and Grandpa were always happy to see us, and they invited us to the best tasting dinners I ever ate. Chickens and cows were there, as were the pecan and pear trees. All the things on the farm seemed wonderful. The one thing that was best though was Tilda.

Tilda was a Tennessee Walking Horse. This was funny because she didn’t like to do much walking. A better name for her would have been a Tennessee Resting Horse. She had lived there ever since the first time I visited Grandpa’s old farm. Tilda had been

Grandpa's horse for a long time. She was a warm dark brown with a black tail and mane. Her face had a smart look to it, as if she were trying to outwit the people around her. She had a white blaze on her head that made her look pretty.

If you came to see Tilda, it was best to bring food — and lots of it. She would lift her head to look at visitors, and then she would come if you held out your hand as if you had a snack. We would bring sugar cubes, which were her favorite, and carrots. Mom showed me how to feed her so I wouldn't get a bite from her big teeth. (Carrots and fingers can look alike.)



The best part of visiting Tilda was getting to ride her. While it was best for me, it was not something she liked to do. If you weren't quick, like Grandpa, Tilda would run away when she saw the bridle. Grandpa would call her to come. They seemed to fuss at each other, until the bridle was on. She would wait while he saddled her without too much fussing. I found that a sugar cube every now and then helped. Then she would be ready to ride.

Mom, Dad, or Grandpa would ride her first because sometimes she would show her temper. After that, I would get to ride her. I had to hang on to the saddle horn. The world looked very different from Tilda's back. She seemed so tall, and I felt very tall then as well. Until I was nine or so, someone always held the reins while I rode. Then I got to hold the reins sometimes but only for Tilda to walk around the farmyard.

Tilda was a very smart horse. She would think of ways to get a rider off her back. One time, my dad was riding her in the pine forest. Tilda decided enough was enough. She turned and came trotting back to the barn.

My dad talked to her and pulled on the reins, but Tilda didn't listen. Her sights were set on the barn. Soon he had a very big problem. Tilda was tall, and my dad was taller sitting on her. The barn door was much shorter than they were. Watching Tilda running into the barn with my dad ducking and yelling was a funny sight. I think even Tilda was laughing!

After a few years, I got to ride Tilda around the farm by myself. She was getting older, but she didn't seem to be any fonder of riding. One day, I was riding her in the pine forest. Well, do you know what happened? She decided she had had enough riding, and off to the barn she went. She ran very closely to the trees to bump my legs. I stayed in the saddle. Then she tried a new trick on me. She ran towards a fence and jumped over it. I was so busy holding on that I don't remember much, but when we got back to the barn, I started to fuss at her.

As I stood looking at her, she snorted and stamped her foot. She seemed to be telling me what I already knew. She and Grandpa had an understanding. The two of them had been together for a long time. Tilda felt comfortable with Grandpa on her back. She only let us ride her because we fed her sugar and carrots. I still think that Tilda liked going for those rides with the rest of us. She just had to tell us when enough was enough. To me, she was a troublemaker. She was also the best horse ever.



2. a. Finish reading the book or story from yesterday.
- b. **Discussion Questions for *The White Stallion*:**
 - 1) How many families are in the wagon train? Who is in Gretchen's family that is traveling West?

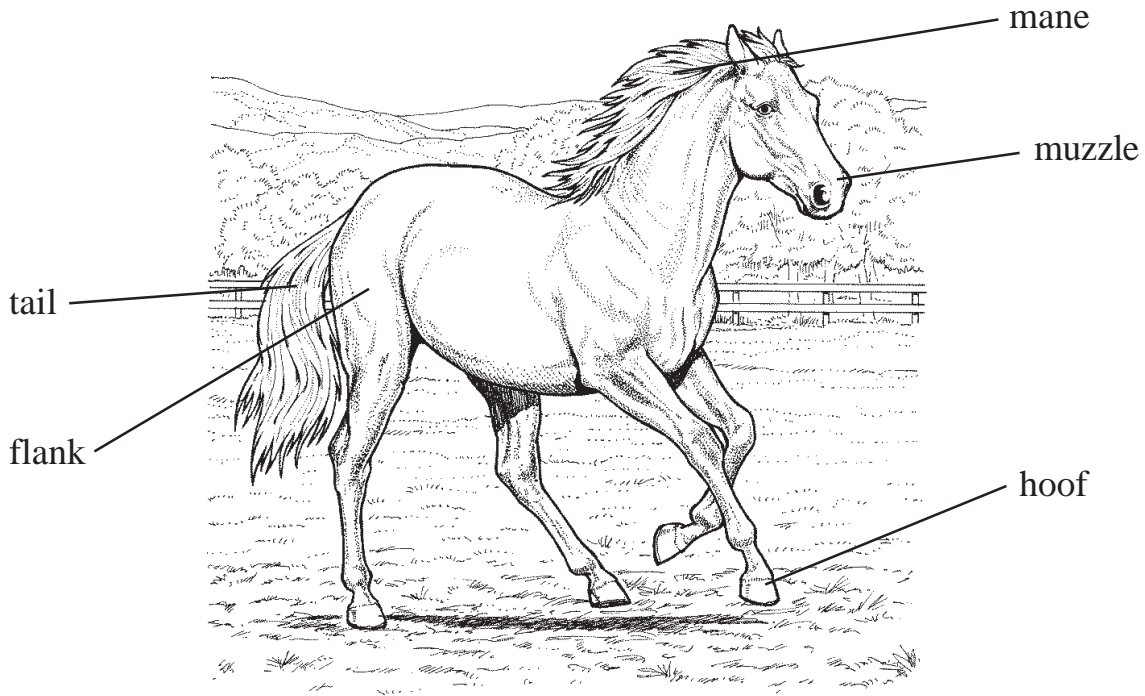
- 2) Who is Anna? Why did Father tie Gretchen to Anna's back?
- 3) When did Father and Mother discover that Gretchen was missing? What did they do then?
- 4) How do you think the family felt during the night? How did Gretchen feel?
- 5) Tell how the wild horses acted friendly to Anna. What did the horses do that frightened Gretchen?
- 6) What amazing thing did the white stallion do? Do you think he was trying to help Gretchen?
- 7) What did Mother tell her to do if she were ever lost? Did she obey Mother?
- 8) How did Gretchen get back to her family? Do you think the white stallion helped again?

Discussion Questions for "Tilda the Troublemaker":

- 1) Who is traveling to Grandpa's farm? Make a list of the people mentioned in the first paragraph.
- 2) Who is Tilda? Does the name of her kind of horse seem to fit her? Tell why or why not.
- 3) What did Tilda like best about visitors? Name her favorite snacks.
- 4) What did the little girl in the story like best about visiting Tilda?
- 5) Choose the word that best describes Tilda's temperament, or attitude:

calm mean stubborn
- 6) Tell some of the ways Tilda would try to get riders off her back.
- 7) Tilda would let some people ride her, and then she would get tired of it and decide to go back to the barn. What phrase in the story best describes Tilda getting to this point? (Paragraphs 6 and 8)
- 8) How do you think the little girl really feels about Tilda? If you don't know, read the last line of the story.

4. a. Here is a chart that shows the parts of a horse. Read the names of the parts to your teacher. You may want to color the horse or trace your own horse picture by placing white paper over the chart.



- b. Fill in the sentence blanks with the correct parts.

mane muzzle flanks hoof tail

- 1) The hair on the horse's neck is called his _____.
- 2) Often a horseshoe is put on a horse's _____.
- 3) On summer days, a horse will use his long _____
to swish away flies.
- 4) The horse's nose and _____ are very soft
and sensitive.
- 5) The horse's strong _____ help him run
fast and work hard.

I C.A.N. Assessment
for the
Literature Link on Horses

After the *Literature Link* is completed, check off each I C.A.N. objective with your teacher.

C I can **complete** my work.
I can be **creative**.

A I can be **accurate**.
I can do my work with a good **attitude**.

N I can do my work **neatly**.

