

Black Beauty

Book key

1 You put these on a horse: *saddle reins harness bit*
A horse pulls these: *cab cart carriage*

2 Open answers

3 a 1 b 5 c 3 d 2 e 4

4 Merrylegs: small fat pretty head

Ginger: bites red-brown angry eyes

5 a Black Beauty's mother b Mr Gordon

c Farmer Grey d Merrylegs e John Manly

f Mrs Gordon

6–7 Open answers

8 a groom b carriage c water d middle

e hotel f floor g smoke h coat i stable

j harnesses

9–10 Open answers

11 a Who Doctor White.

b Why Black Beauty will go as fast as he can.

c Why Joe didn't put anything over him. / Joe gave him cold water when he was hot.

d What He wants to open a school and teach young horses.

e Who Lady Westland.

f What It pulls a horse's head up.

12 a Doctor White b Mrs Gordon c Joe Green

d Lord Westland e Mr York f Lady Westland

13–14 Open answers

15 a ✓ b ✗ c ✗ d ✗ e ✓ f ✗ g ✓ h ✓

16–18 Open answers

19 a ✓ c ✓ f ✓ g ✓

20–29 Open answers

Discussion activities key

1–4 Open answers

5 Suggested answer:

- Look at the horse's mouth, eyes and legs. Are they right?
- Teach the horse not to move when the groom puts a harness on him or a bit in his mouth.
- Then put the saddle on the back of the horse. With a saddle, a horse can carry a man, woman or child.
- Be kind to the horse so he will not be afraid.
- Give him good food and speak to him.

6 Open answers

7 Suggested answer:

Mother: Are you happy at Birtwick Park?

BB: Oh, yes. They are very good to us. John grooms me and my coat is beautiful. Do you like it?

Mother: Yes, very much. Can you take people on your back?

BB: Yes, and I can drive the carriage. I went with Ginger.

Mother: Is Mr Gordon a good man?

BB: Yes, and his family are good too.

8 Open answers

9 Suggested answer:

James: Mum, Mr Gordon has a new job for me.

Mum: OH, where?

James: With his friend, Sir Clifford Williams. He wants a groom.

Mum: That's good, James. But I don't know ... you have to go away.

James: Yes, but it is a good job. I am going to learn a lot of things. And I can be head groom.

Mum: What is the place like?

James: Mr Gordon says I will have my room and my clothes: stable clothes and driving clothes. Please.

Mum.

Mum: Ok, James. This is a good job for you.

10 Suggested answers:

Stop them on the way up when they pull the carriage. Don't drive them fast on bad roads. Say kind words to them.

11 Suggested answer:

Dear James,

I like this job. I learn quickly and the horses like me.

I can clean the stables and bring the food in for the horses but I can't groom Black Beauty because I am not very big. He is beautiful. I like him!

Little Joe.

12 Open answers

13 Suggested answer:

Mr Gordon is good to horses because he tells John that he can come back home when Black Beauty is ready for the journey. This means Black Beauty does not have to come back home quickly.

14 Suggested answer:

Black Beauty would tell John that they made him ride very quickly to and from Hertford; that the doctor was a big man and not a very good rider; that he was very hot and Little Joe Green didn't put anything over him; that he brought him cold water but he had to drink hot water, etc.

15 Suggested answer:

Black Beauty is very ill because Little Joe Green is young and does not know much about horses.

Black Beauty

16–17 Open answers

18 Suggested answer:

Bearing reins help the horses pull their heads up and they look good.

But bearing reins stop them and they have to pull harder and their legs and backs have to work harder. Bearing reins hurt horses because the bit cuts their mouths.

19 Suggested answer:

Dear friend,

The other day something terrible happened at the White Horse hotel. A man left his horse and told me to have him ready at four o'clock. Then he came out of the hotel at five o'clock and told me that he was with friends and that he didn't want to go before six. I showed him one of the horse's front shoes because it would fall off soon, but he said the shoe couldn't fall off before they got home. He didn't come out at six or seven or at eight. He came out at nine and he shouted to me to bring him his horse. He was very angry with me and with everybody in the hotel! I think he was drunk! Poor horse!!

20 Suggested answer:

- a The bearing rein hurt them.
- b Ginger stood up on her back legs, her ears went back and her eyes were very angry. She began to kick and tried to get away from the carriage.
- c York was angry because he had to pull the horses' heads up with bearing reins.
- d Mr Westland couldn't say no to his wife and his wife wanted the horses to have bearing reins.
- e They make horses ill.

21 Open answers

22 Suggested answer:

What makes Black Beauty happy in London is: Jerry and his family were happy and kind people; Jerry's horses only work eight hours; Harry, Jerry's son, was a good groom; Jerry and Harry put the harness slowly because they didn't want to hurt Black Beauty; there was no bearing rein; Jerry was a good driver; Jerry never whipped Black Beauty; Black Beauty had good food, clean water and a clean stable.

What makes Black Beauty sad in London is: the noise, the thousands of people, the horses, carriages and carts in the streets; Ginger was tired and thin because the cabmen weren't not careful or kind with her, they whipped her, they made her work seven days a week; Black Beauty saw a dead horse one day, probably Ginger; Jerry was ill and went to work for Mrs Fowler so he had to sell Black Beauty.

23 Suggested answer:

Jerry was different from other cab drivers because he didn't whip Black Beauty, he made him work only eight hours a day, he gave him good food, clean water and a clean stable, he was the only cab who drove Black Beauty. Jerry didn't pull Black Beauty's head with bearing reins, etc.

24–25 Open answers

Activity worksheets key

1	Harness	This part goes over the head.
	Bit	This part goes into the mouth. It is cold, hard and it hurts.
	Saddle	This goes on the back. They need this to carry a man, woman or child.
	Stable	Horses sleep here.
	Whip	Horses go faster when the rider hits them with this.
	Reins	The rider takes these in his hands to ride the horse.

2 a Merrylegs

b Ginger

c Ginger

d Merrylegs

e Ginger and Black Beauty

f Black Beauty

3 Mr Gordon was the owner of Birtwick Park. He was a very good rider. He was good to Black Beauty. James Howard was a stable boy. He helped John to groom horses.

John Manly was the head groom. He was good to horses so he never whipped them and talked to them. Mrs Gordon was the owner's wife. She thought Black Beauty was a good name for the horse. She loved all the horses.

4 a Ginger, Merrylegs and Black Beauty were sad when they heard James's answer because they did not want James to go away / to work for Sir Clifford.

b Black Beauty stopped at the bridge. He did not cross it because the bridge was breaking in the middle.

c Black Beauty couldn't go with the hotel groom when he pulled him out of the fire because he was afraid and the groom was afraid too and wanted to work quickly.

d Mr Gordon, James and the horses stayed in Aylesbury one more day because Ginger and James were ill after the fire.

Black Beauty

- e Little Joe Green couldn't groom Ginger or Black Beauty because he was too small.
- 5 a ✓
b ✓
c ✗ Some don't have a wife.
d ✓
e ✗ James will soon become head groom.
- 6 James wanted to go away to Sir Clifford's because it was a better job for him.
James wanted to be a good driver so the carriage went out every day and they worked hard.
James put a coat round Black Beauty's eyes so he couldn't see the fire.
James went into the stable again to get Ginger out so Black Beauty was very afraid for them.
James spoke to older grooms at Aylesbury because he wanted to learn the best way to make Ginger well again.
- 7 a 3 b 5 c 6 d 8 e 1 f 4 g 7 h 2
- 8 a John to Black Beauty.
b John to Dr White.
c Mr Gordon to Black Beauty.
d Dr White to John.
e York to John.
- 9 a happy b sad c happy d sad e happy
- 10 a ✓
b ✗ The bearing reins made him ill.
c ✗ He sometimes gets drunk.
d ✓
e ✗ He was drunk.
- 11
- | A | B |
|---------|---|
| Jerry | is a small man with friendly eyes. |
| Polly | is Jerry's wife. She cleans her husband's cab. |
| Harry | helps his father to give food and water to his horses and to put the harness on them. |
| Captain | is a big old white horse who pulls Jerry's cab eight hours a day. |
| Dolly | is eight. She is Jerry's daughter. |
| Jack | is Black Beauty's new name in London. |
- 12 a ... her son was very ill and she had a letter for St Thomas' Hospital.
b ... she didn't have any money to pay him, but Jerry was very kind and he took her in his cab.

- c ... he got ill because he worked a lot with the cab. He and his family liked the country.
- d ... he waited for some men in the cab for two hours. It was very cold and it snowed.
- e ... the farmer, Mr Thoroughgood, knew about horses. Jerry wanted to find a new home for Black Beauty with a good, kind person.
- 13 Mr Thoroughgood had to find a good home for Jack so he spoke to the ~~men~~ **women** at Rose Hall. They were looking for a good horse for their ~~cart~~ **carriage**. The ~~farmer~~ **groom** at Rose Hall began to clean Black Beauty and on his ~~head~~ **face** he saw a white star. He remembered that Black Beauty had a white star and one white ~~leg~~ **foot**. Jack was Black Beauty and the groom was Little Joe Green.

14–15 Open answers

Progress test key

- 1 a ✗ Black Beauty was not a farm horse because his mother and father were good horses and people knew them.
b ✓
c ✓
d ✓
e ✗ Mr Gordon gave them a day without work in the fields.
- 2 a ii b i c iii
- 3 a 5 b 2 c 4 d 1 e 3
- 4 a He was going back to Earl's Hall.
b He was drunk.
c Black Beauty's shoe fell and the bad road cut into his feet and hurt him.
d Black Beauty threw Reuben over his head on to the road.
e Yes, Black Beauty's life changed because the cuts on his feet were very bad and when one day Lord Westland looked at his legs he told York that they had to sell Black Beauty. So Black Beauty left Earl's Hall.
- 5 Black Beauty lived with Jerry's family in London. Jerry ~~sometimes~~ **NEVER** whipped Black Beauty. Everyone in the family was kind to Black Beauty: ~~Dolly~~ **HARRY** did the stable work and Polly and ~~Harry~~ **DOLLY** cleaned the cab. Winters were very cold in London and the cold weather was bad for ~~Polly~~ **JERRY**. So the family wanted to find a ~~house~~ **JOB** in the country, but what would happen to Black Beauty?