Circle C Beginnings #5:

Andi’s Lonely Little Foal

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Lonely Little Foal word match

Draw a line between the words and what they mean.

grandfather clock • to make a loud, deep noise

bellow • what the cowboys yell to round up the cattle

slingshot • a tall clock that stands on the floor

yippee-ki-yay! • a Y-shaped stick with stretchy rubber tied to the ends; used to throw small stones

hooves • a horse’s or cow’s feet

nicker • the Spanish word for “miss”

grain • a friendly horse greeting

señorita • a post or railing where people tie up horses to “park” them

hitching post • when a horse rubs or pushes gently with its nose

nuzzle • seeds like corn and oats; food for cows and horses
Where do you live?

Do you know which state you live in? Do these things:
~ On the map below, find the state where you live. Color it red.
~ Find out the names of two states that border (touch) your state. Color the states blue. Write their names on the lines below:

_______________________________        _________________________________

~ If your state does not border two other states, write what does touch your state.
~ Find out the name of the capital city of your state. Write it here:

_______________________________

Andi lives in California. Name two states that border (touch) California:

_______________________________        _________________________________
What does a cowboy wear?

The well-dressed cowboy on the left is ready for work. Each piece of clothing has a special purpose. Can you color the different pieces of clothing a cowboy needs? (You need colored pencils for this activity.)

A cowboy needs a . . .

**Hat:** A cowboy’s hat shades him from the sun. It is an umbrella in the rain. He also uses his hat as a bucket to scoop up water for himself or his horse. Color the hat brown.

**Boots:** Boots keep the cowboy’s feet safe from stickers, brush, and even snakes. They are narrow and have a high heel, to keep the boot in the stirrup. Color the boots black.

**Shirt:** The cowboy’s shirt is always long-sleeved to protect his arms. He wears cotton shirts in the summer and wool shirts in the winter. Color the shirt red.

**Bandana:** This is a square piece of cloth, folded in half like a triangle. The cowboy keeps it around his neck. He uses it to keep the dust out of his mouth and nose. He can wet it to keep cool. He can use it as a bandage if he starts to bleed. Color the bandana orange.

**Vest:** A cowboy’s shirt and pants often do not have pockets. A vest has a lot of pockets to keep money, a knife, and other valuables. Color the vest blue.

**Pants:** These are made of heavy denim or wool and are black, brown, or tan. There is one small pocket at the waist or none at all. It’s hard to reach into a pants pocket while riding a horse. You don’t need to color the pants because they are under the . . .

**Chaps:** Leather leggings fit over the pants to protect the cowboy from rocks, branches, and cows’ horns. They help keep him warm too. Color the chaps brown.

**Gloves:** Made of leather, gloves protect the cowboy’s hands from rope burns, blisters, hooves, and hot branding irons. Color the gloves green.
What does a cowboy do?

Pretend you are a cowboy working on the Circle C Ranch. You work for Andi’s brother, Chad, who is the ranch owner. But most of the time you get bossed by the ranch foreman. He helps the owner run the ranch. He tells the cowboys what to do every day.

Cowboys do just about everything on the ranch. They fix fences and clean out stalls. They make sure the cattle have plenty of good grass to eat and water to drink. They take care of the horses. The cowboys sleep on bunk beds in a bunkhouse, which is a large building on the ranch. They eat in a cookhouse, with their own ranch cook.

Cowboys also round up the cattle. Why do cattle need to be rounded up? One reason is so they can be sold. Another reason is so the new calves can be branded. The cowboys brand the calves with the ranch’s branding mark. That way nobody can steal them. Each ranch has its own, special brand. Nobody else uses it. The brand is made with a hot iron pressed into the calf’s rump. It smells bad, but it does not really hurt the calf. A calf’s hide is very tough!

Cowboys work from sunup to sundown. They spend a lot of time on their horse, which is their most important working tool. Other cowboy tools are a lasso (rope), a good saddle, a knife, and their good sense!

The cowboys on the Circle C Ranch earn about $25 a month, plus food and a bed. That is not a lot of money for such hard work. Since a pistol cost about $12 in 1874, you can see why most cowboys did not carry a gun. It cost too much!
Make your own brand

The Circle C Ranch brand is a circle with a C inside. Every cow and horse carries that brand on their rump. It is like a license plate on a car. If the horse or cow is stolen, the sheriff can find it by looking for the brand.

This branding iron shows two horseshoes together. The name of this ranch might be the “Double Horseshoe Ranch.”

Can you match the brand with the name of the ranch? Draw a line between the brand and the ranch name:

Diamond B
Rocking R
Flying M
Pine Tree Ranch
Bar S

Create your very own brand mark for your ranch! You can use diamonds, circles, half-circles, lines (bars), curves (rocking), “V”s (flying), and any letter of the alphabet. Draw it in the boxes below. Then name your ranch. Have fun!

Name: _________________
Name: _________________
Foals do not like to be taken away from their mothers. Andi’s foal did not like to be taken away either. Can you help Taffy find her way back to Snowflake? Do not cross any black lines.
Andi and Riley rode their horses bareback. This means they rode without saddles. But a cowboy usually put a saddle on his horse, along with reins and a bridle. A cowboy also made sure he had his lasso on his saddle. He hung his canteen around his saddle horn. Sometimes he carried saddlebags and a bedroll.

- Color this horse your favorite horse colors.
- Cut out the horse “tack” on the next two pages and paste them on the horse.
- You are ready to ride! Cut around the dashed line to keep the picture.
“Tack” is the word for the gear that goes on a horse. It is very important to “tack up” a horse correctly. Each piece has a special job. On this page and the next are pieces of tack that go on a horse to get him ready to ride. **Read what each is for.** Then cut them out and paste them on your horse.

The **SADDLE BLANKET** goes on first. It is a soft. It keeps the saddle from rubbing against the horse and making him sore. Always make sure the blanket is smooth, with no wrinkles, before putting the saddle on.

The **SADDLE** is the seat for the cowboy. Some days, a cowboy sits in his saddle all day. It must be comfortable. A saddle is made from leather. It has a “horn” that sticks up at the front. The horn can hold the cowboy’s lasso or canteen. “Stirrups” hang down. That’s where the cowboy puts his feet. “Saddle strings” are thin, leather strings that hang down from the saddle. The cowboy can tie things up with them, like a bedroll (sleeping bag). The “cinch” is a belt that goes around and under the horse’s belly. The cinch keeps the saddle on the horse. It must be pulled tight, or the saddle may slip off. A horse does not like having that cinch on. Sometimes he sucks in air and pushes his stomach out so the cinch cannot get tight. Later, when the horse lets his breath out, the saddle will become too loose. Always make sure your saddle is cinched up tight!

**Note:** When you paste the saddle on, leave the saddle horn free, so you can slip the lasso around it.
Horse tack

A **lasso (rope)** is one of the cowboy’s most important tools. It hangs down from his saddle, right by the saddle horn. He uses it to catch horses, cows, and calves. A cowboy can be galloping on his horse and throw his lasso perfectly!

The lasso can also hang around the saddle horn. Try to slip this lasso around the saddle horn on your picture. Be careful! Don’t rip the saddle horn off!

The headgear controls the horse. The **bridle** goes around the horse’s head. It holds the **bit** and the **reins**. The bit is a metal bar the horse holds in his mouth. The cowboy uses the two long reins—which are connected to the bit—to tell the horse where to go. The bit is tiny, but it makes the horse obey. If the cowboy wants to go left, he pulls left on the reins. If he wants the horse to stop, he pulls back on the reins.

Use this picture of the horse’s head to see where the bridle and reins go. Now, draw a bridle and reins on your horse.

Other tack a cowboy does not want to be without:

**A canteen** holds water. The cowboy hangs it from his saddle or around the saddle horn.

**Saddle bags** carry extra supplies, like the cowboy’s lunch. One bag hangs over each side of the horse, just behind the saddle.

**A bedroll** is the cowboy’s blanket. If the cowboy sleeps outside on the ground, he needs his bedroll!
A penny for your thoughts

Andi did not know what Justin meant when he said “A penny for your thoughts.” People talked a little differently in the 1800s and out West. It sounds funny to hear these expressions (ex-pre-shuns) today.

Can you figure out what these cowboys and cowgirls are saying?

* * * *

Find the letter below that matches each old expression. Write the letter next to each expression. The first one has been done for you.

D 1. The sheriff had never seen so many shooting irons at one time.

2. Riley was all tuckered out after doing his chores.

3. Johnny thinks he is the biggest frog in the puddle.

4. Mitch did a bang-up job fixing the fence.

5. Riley got into a heap of trouble for roping the calf.

6. Johnny was shooting off his mouth, so Andi pulled his hair.

7. Mother had a conniption fit when she saw how dirty Andi was.

8. Andi got slicked up for the first day of school.

* * * *

A. most important person of all
B. was very upset
C. great; excellent
D. guns and rifles
E. worn out; tired
F. big trouble
G. dressed up nice
H. being sassy; talking without thinking
The song “Jesus Loves Me”

Andi learned a new song in Sunday school called “Jesus Loves Me.” Even though the song was new to Andi, it had already been around for 12 years. A woman named Anna B. Warner wrote “Jesus Loves Me” as a poem in 1860. Two years later, in 1862, a man named William Bradbury found the poem in a book and created a tune to go along with the words.

“Jesus Loves Me” is the most-loved and best-known hymn in the world.

Jesus loves me! This I know.
For the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong;
They are weak, but He is strong!

Do you want to learn another verse?
It goes like this:

Jesus loves me, He who died,
Heaven’s gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in.

Chorus:
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

One way to learn a new song is by copying it. On the next page, copy the words to the second verse of “Jesus Loves Me.” Use your best handwriting!

DO THIS:
1. Trace over the first word in each line; then finish writing the rest of the words.
2. Cut around the border on the dotted line and hang the poster on your wall. Read it when you can. Soon, you will know the verse by heart.
**Answers**

**Page 3—Lonely Little Foal word match**
grandfather clock—a tall clock that stands on the floor
bellow—to make a loud, deep noise
slingshot—a Y-shaped stick with stretchy rubber tied to the ends; used to throw small stones
yippee-ki-yay!—what the cowboys yell to round up the cattle
hooves—a horse’s or cow’s feet
nicker—a friendly horse greeting
grain—seeds like corn and oats; food for cows and horses
señorita—the Spanish word for “miss”
hitching post—a post or railing where people tie up horses to “park” them
nuzzle—when a horse rubs or pushes gently with its nose

**Page 7—Make your own brand**

**Page 8—Lonely Foal**

**Page 9—Saddle your horse**

**Page 12—A penny for your thoughts**

1. D 5. F
2. E 6. H
3. A 7. B
4. C 8. G

**Page 14—Jesus Loves Me poster**

Jesus loves me,
He who died,
Heaven's gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
Let His little child come in.