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Kids Zone

Black Beauty



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My early years



1



Who was Farmer Grey?

Farmer Grey was Black Beauty's first owner.

2



Why did Ginger often bite or kick?

Because people weren't kind to her in the past.

3



Why did Squire Gordon and his wife call the horse Black Beauty?

Because he was very handsome.

4



Why do you think that horses were so important in the 19th century when "Black Beauty" was written?

Because there were no modern machines like cars and trains. People used horses on farms and to travel.

5



Why do you think that people weren't nice to Ginger in the past?

Perhaps this was because they did not understand how to look after horses.

6



What do you think people should do with horses that bite or kick?

They should try to find out what is bothering the horse and try to solve the problem.

7



What advice did Black Beauty's mother give him?

She advised him not to bite or kick.

8



What was Birtwick Park like?

It was a big house with large fields and comfortable stables.

Match column A with column B

	A		B
1	Farmer Grey	a	The horse who tells the story
2	Black Beauty	b	A short fat horse
3	Merrylegs	c	A horse who had a difficult past
4	Ginger	d	A horse who forgot his mother's advice
	1(e) 2(a) 3(b) 4(c)	e	Black Beauty's first owner

9



What did the horses think of Birtwick Park?

They liked it. \ it was a lovely place to live in.

10



Why did Ginger often bite or kick?

Because people weren't kind to her in the past.

11



How do you know that Black beauty had good owners?

Farmer Grey gave them good food and spoke to them kindly- Squire Gordon was always kind.

12



Do you think that Merrylegs was wrong to throw the older boys of his back? Why?

No, because he wanted to learn them to be kind to horses.

13



Who helped Black Beauty to learn to pull a carriage?

His mother.

14



Why did Squire Gordon's children stop visiting Merrylegs?

Because Ginger kick and bit people.

15



Do you think that Merrylegs was right to behave badly with the children ? Why?

Yes, because he didn't hurt them and wanted to teach them a lesson.

16



Do you think Squire G was right to be angry with the man who worked for him? Why? Why not?

Yes, because the man wasn't kind to the horse.

Match column A with column B

	A		B
1	Black Beauty	a	She said "Never bite or kick, even when you are just playing a game."
2	Black Beauty's mother	b	This horse had one white leg.
3	Squire Gordon	c	This horse had short fat legs.
4	Squire Gordon's wife	d	She named the horse "Black Beauty".
	1(b) 2(a) 3(e) 4(d)	e	Farmer Grey sold Black Beauty to this person.



Difficult journeys



1



Why did Black Beauty stop on the bridge?

Because he knew that the bridge was not safe.

2



Why did Squire Gordon try to make Black Beauty cross the bridge?

Because he did not know that it was dangerous.

3



How did Squire Gordon feel when he found out that the bridge was broken?

He was very pleased with Black Beauty.

4



What made Black Beauty's journey with Squire Gordon and John difficult?

The weather was rainy and windy. The fields were flooded.

5



What happened at the bridge?

They realize that the bridge was broken and they couldn't cross it.

6



Who started the fire at the stables?

The young rider who smoked a cigarette.

Match column A with column B

	A		B
1	John Manly	a	saved Squire Gordon from the broken bridge.
2	Black Beauty	b	hit the horses hard.
3	Ginger	c	began to respect Squire Gordon.
4	Merrylegs	d	was Squire Gordon's helper.
	1(d) 2(a) 3(c) 4(e)	e	wanted to teach the boys a lesson about horses.

7



Why do you think that John was able to take the horses from the burning stables?

John was very calm so the horses stopped feeling anxious.

8



Why do you think that moving horses when there is a fire is very hard?

Horses are frightened by fire and they don't want to move.

9



Why didn't Black Beauty return Squire Gordon and John home the way they came?

Because a tree fell in front of them on the road and later a bridge was broken.

10



Why didn't John drive Black Beauty over the bridge?

Something was wrong and a man told them the bridge was broken.

11



"And thank you, Black Beauty. "You saved us." Who said this? What does it show the kind of man is?

Squire Gordon and it shows that he is a kind man.

12



Why do you think that horses wanted to stay in the stables although there was a fire?

They felt safe in the stables and didn't understand what was happening.

13



What happened when John came to take the horses from the stables?

The horses became calm because John was calm. He could take them out.

Match column A with column B

	A		B
1	Squire Gordon's friend	a	didn't listen to Black Beauty when he called out.
2	The rider in the stable	b	walked out of the stable when Black Beauty called her.
3	Ginger	c	smoked a cigarette and caused a fire.
4	Mrs. Gordon	d	was a amazed because John saved the horses.
	1(d) 2(c) 3(b) 4(e)	e	went with Squire Gordon to visit some friends.



Joe Green's lesson



1



Why did John ride Black Beauty as fast as he could to the town?

Because he wanted to ask the doctor to come quickly to see Mrs Gordon.

2



What happened to Black Beauty when he got back home?

When he got home Joe tried to look after him, but he didn't know what to do.

3



What did Joe do wrong?

He gave Black Beauty cold water and then he left him. He didn't give him a blanket.

4



When did Joe become happy again?

When John said to him "you look taller than you did last week."

5



Why did Squire Gordon sell his horses?

Because his wife was very ill and they had to leave to a warmer climate.

6



Who is York?

York is the helper of Earl Smythe, the new owner of Ginger and Beauty.

7



Why was John happy to have a helper who was fourteen years old?

Because John can help the boy to learn new skills and have a good job.

8



Do you think that fourteen is too young to learn to do a job? Why? / Why not?

Yes, because fourteen can learn new skills and do a lot of things.

Match column A with column B

	A		B
1	Joe Green	a	was angry with Joe for taking care of Black Beauty.
2	John Manly	b	reported the rude driver to the police.
3	The factory driver	c	had to move to a warmer climate.
4	Mrs Gordon	d	took a note to Dr White.
	1(b) 2(d) 3(e) 4(c)	e	hit the horses with a whip.

9



Why did John ride Black Beauty to another village during the night?

Mrs Gordon was very ill so John needed to get the doctor.

10



What happened to Black Beauty after he returned with the doctor?

He was very tired and hot. He became ill.

11



Why do you think that the driver of the carriage near the factory was rude to Joe?

Perhaps he didn't like being told what to do by a young boy.

12



Why did the doctor ride Black Beauty instead of his own horse?

The doctor's son had the doctor's horse so the doctor rode Beauty.

13



Why did Joe Green have to brush Merrylegs but not the other horses?

He was too small to brush the bigger horses.

14



Why was Black Beauty not able to rest when John rode him to get a doctor in the night?

Because the doctor didn't have a horse so he had to ride Beauty again.

15



Was John right to be angry with Joe Green after Black Beauty became ill? Why? / Why not?

No, Joe tried to help Beauty but he didn't know what to do.

16



What happened to the man who hit the horses near the factory?

He went to prison for two or three months.

17



Why do you think John said that Joe Green "looked taller"?

Because Joe learned from his mistakes. John was pleased with him

Match column A with column B

	A		B
1	Joe Green	a	were Black Beauty's new owners.
2	John Manly	b	stayed with Black Beauty until he became better.
3	Squire Gordon and Mrs Gordon	c	hit the horses near the factory.
4	Earl and Lady Smythe	d	stopped singing after Black Beauty became ill.
	1(d) 2(b) 3(e) 4(a)	e	had to leave England.