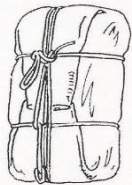
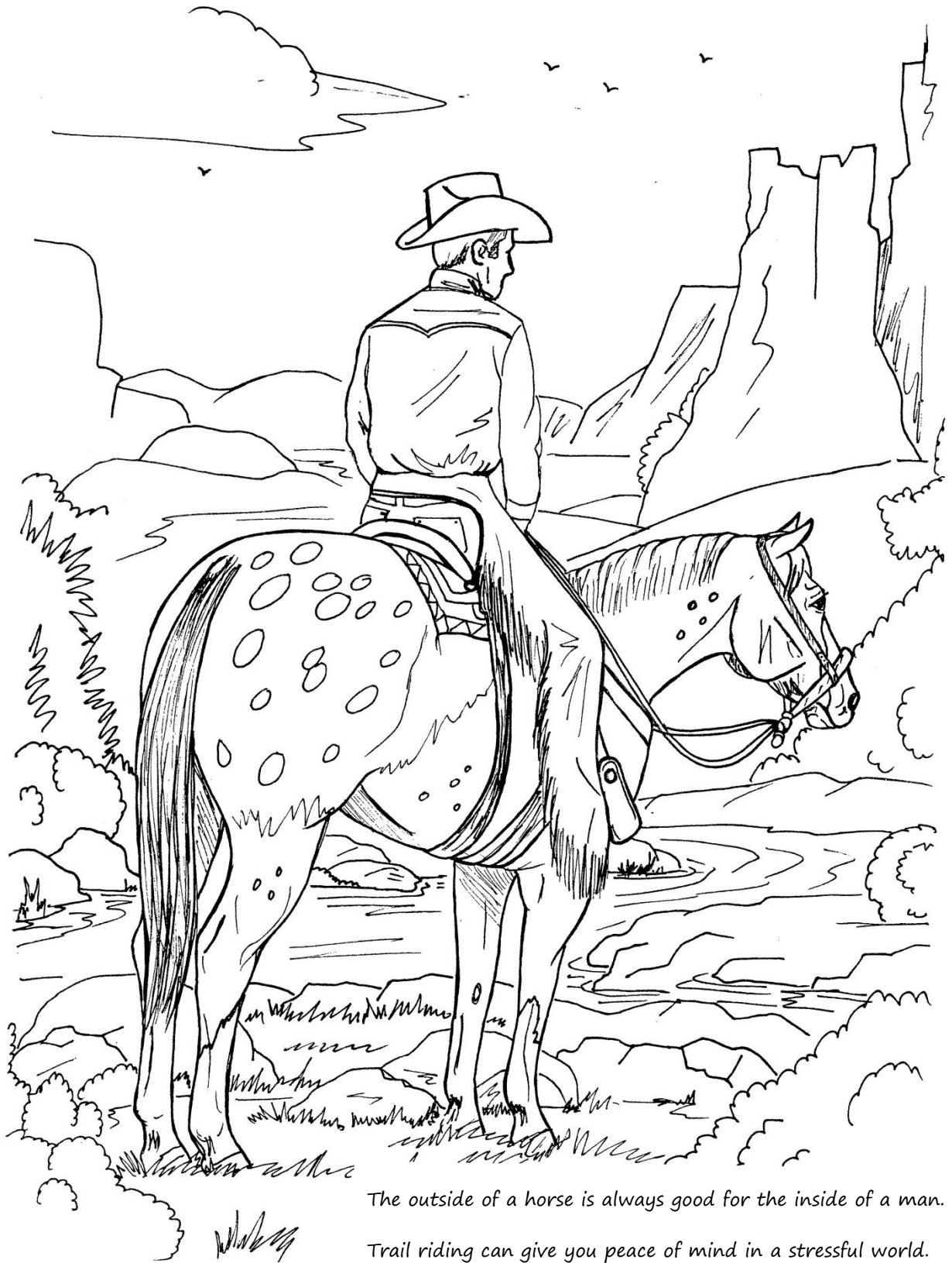


Montana Back Country Horsemen Activity Book

For Kids Of All Ages-Young And Old Alike!

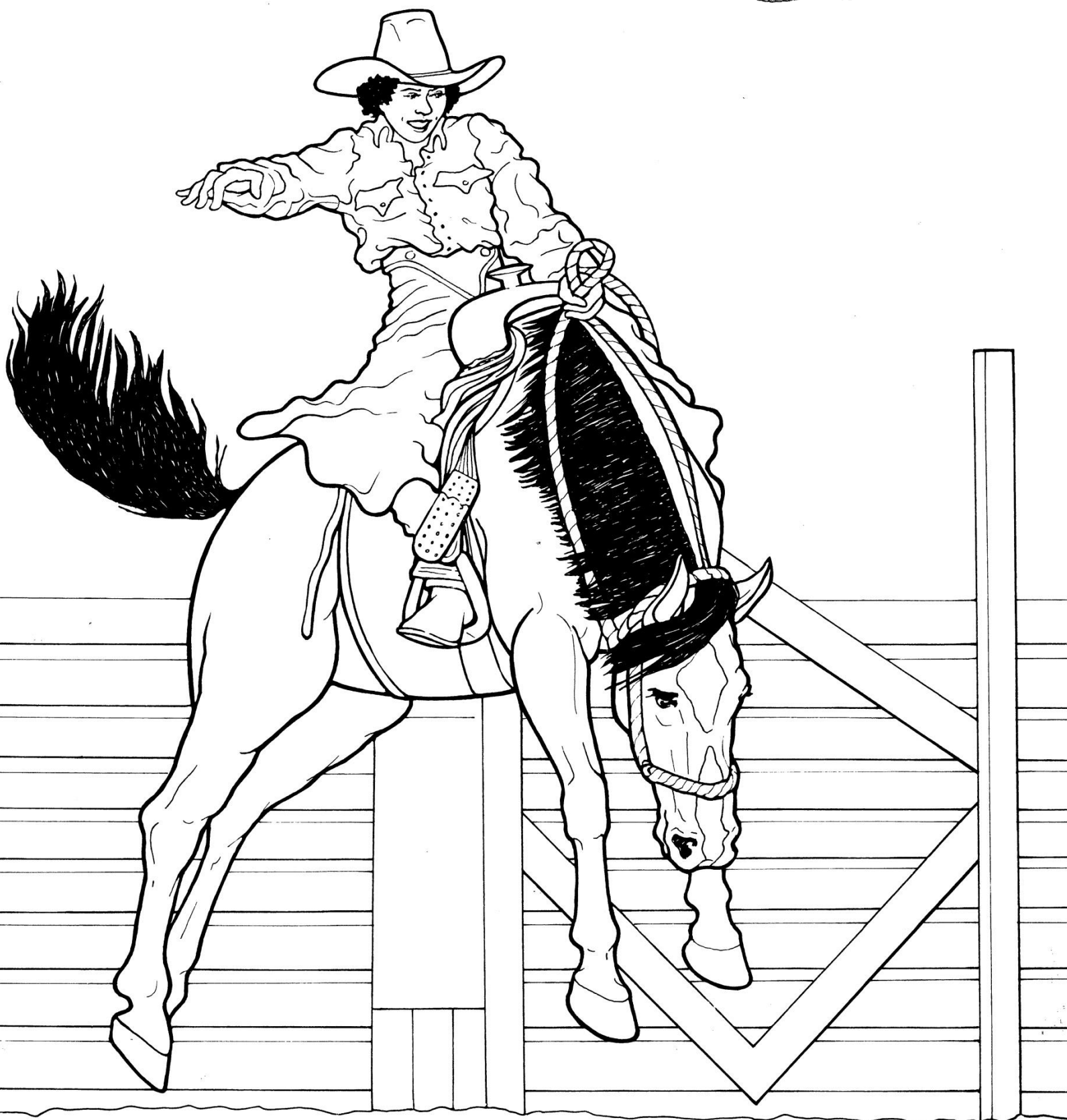





The outside of a horse is always good for the inside of a man.

Trail riding can give you peace of mind in a stressful world.

Born 1902,
Red Lodge Montana
First Rodeo Queen



Alice Greenough, 1935



THE WILD PONY

A CAMPFIRE TALE

In Montana, there's an old legend of the Wild Pony. It's said that, when the moon is full, the Wild Pony appears on the Sapphire Mountain. It comes to look for its true master. And then, together, they ride into the sky and beyond. The legend says that the Wild Pony has never found its true master. And when the moon changes, the Wild Pony always leaves the mountain.

In Phillipsburg, Montana, two cowboys were talking about the legend. "You believe that story, don't you?" Slim Jenkins asked his pal, Red Sweeny. "You bet," Red said. "And we're going to find that Wild Pony."

"You're crazy," Slim said.

Maybe," Red said. "And I just might be crazy enough to find that horse."

"Then, you'll have two horses," Slim said. Slim took a practical approach to things. Red, on the other hand, was a dreamer.

"Will you come with me to Sapphire Mountain?" Red asked.

Slim thought for a minute.

"I reckon I'll come along," he said. "It gets crazy in town, anyway, with a full moon. As they rode towards Sapphire Mountain, Red sang while Slim played his mouth organ.

"Where are we going to look for this horse?" Slim asked after two days on the trail.

"I don't know yet," Red said. "I was hoping it would come to me."

Slim rolled his eyes. "You're a case, Red."

Red and Slim made their way up the mountain. They set up camp near a cliff. From there, they could see the valley below.

Red stayed awake that night. It was the first night of the full moon. He had a pair of binoculars. But, he didn't see anything.

Three nights passed. Red had not seen even a rabbit or a fox. Slim thought it might be time to give up. "Are you ready to go back to town and find some work?" Slim asked.

"We've still got two more nights of the full moon," Red cried. "I can't leave yet."

But that night, Red still hadn't seen the Wild Pony.

When Slim woke up the next morning, he saw Red sitting by the fire.

"No luck?" Slim asked.

"Nope," answered Red. "Tonight's the last night. We'll head back tomorrow."

"Suits me," said Slim.

That night, the wind howled. Clouds moved across the sky and hid the moon. Red had trouble staying awake. Once, he thought he heard the cry of a horse in the distance. Then, in the valley, Red thought he saw a form moving across the meadow.

But clouds hid the moon and Red couldn't see very well. Soon after that, he fell asleep.

Red dreamed about the Wild Pony. He dreamed that it had come to find him. He was the true master of the Wild Pony.

In Red's dream, the pony walked into camp. It stood over Red. But, as the moon grew dim, the Wild Pony disappeared.

Slim woke up first that morning. He found Red sleeping near what was left of the fire. The fire had nearly died out.

"Hey," Slim yelled. "You can't see a thing with your eyes closed!"





Red bolted awake. He shook his head and rubbed his eyes. “The Wild Pony was here!” he cried. But then, Red knew it had only been a dream. “I fell asleep,” Red said. “I dreamed that the Wild Pony walked into camp. He stood right by my bedroll.”

Slim just shook his head and went to get wood for the fire. But when he came back, Slim’s face was pale. “Did you untie the horses last night?” he asked.

“No,” Red said. “Why?”

“There are horse tracks on the trail,” Slim said. “They go right up to your bedroll.”

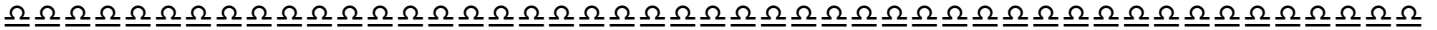
Red ran over to Slim for a look. Sure enough, there were tracks. And the tracks had been made by a horse.

“Do you think...?” Red asked.

“Now, I don’t know if it was the Wild Pony,” Slim said. “But I can tell one thing. There *was* a horse here last night.”

Red looked into the valley for a long time. “I’m coming back for the next full moon,” he said. Slim nodded. “And I’m coming with you,” said Slim.

Except next time, I’m going to stay awake with you.”

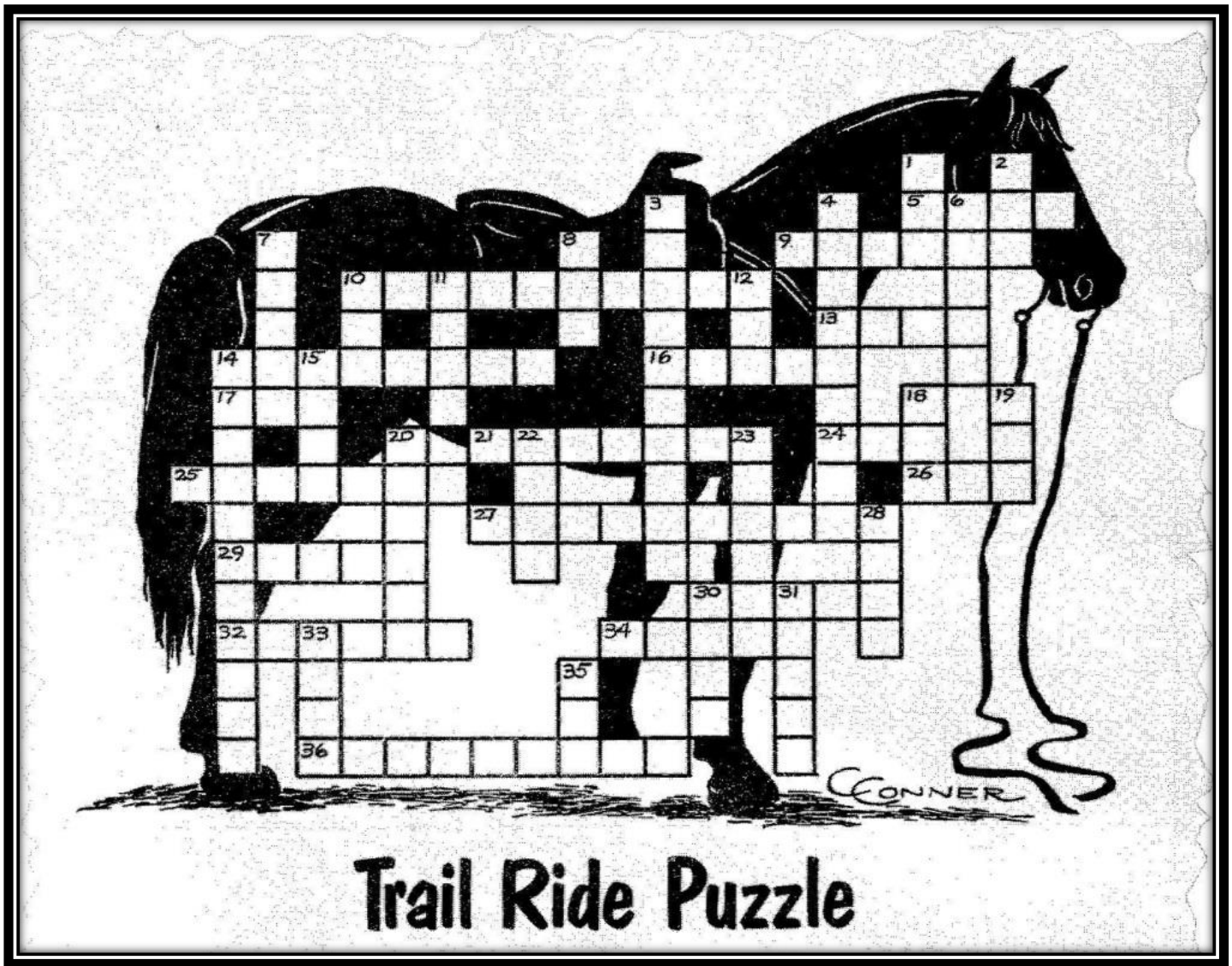


After C. M. Russell





Charles M. Russell



Trail Ride Puzzle

Across

5. Dry and desert-like
9. Deep, narrow valley with steep sides.
10. A good campground has adequate _____ including restrooms, water, garbage cans, and hitching posts or corrals.
13. A _____ horse carries the camping equipment.
14. Those who do a lot of riding in brushy country often have their _____ covered.
16. On a hot day, trail riders like to have lunch under these.
17. A camp cook usually has at least one of these.
21. If _____ is restricted in a camping area, riders will have to haul in feed.
24. You should never _____ a horse with the reins.
25. To be a good mountain horse, a horse needs good _____ to keep the saddle in place.
26. Trail riders like to travel during the _____.
27. _____ areas provide some mighty fine country in which to ride.
29. There are trail rides to the bottom of the _____ Canyon.
30. When riding up a steep _____, try to get your weight forward
32. Part of the saddle.
34. A plentiful supply of his should be available at camping areas.
36. Competitive rides are not the same as _____ rides.

Down

1. Alfalfa is a legume _____.
2. A real competitor always tries to do this.
3. Trails used heavily need to be regularly _____.
4. Some organized trail rides have permanent _____.
6. A horse should pick his way carefully on _____ trails.
7. A popular color with some trail riders.
8. Many trail riders prefer to use a hackamore rather than this.
10. One type of tree common in the mountains.
11. A riding group.
12. "The old gray mare, _____ ain't what she used to be."
14. A source of water in the mountains.
15. The result of a mosquito bite.
18. Some trails take riders through a stream _____.
19. A horse with black points.
20. On a camping trip, it's not a bad idea to take along an extra one.
22. Trail riders do not like this.
23. Pack outfits should have _____ horses for guests.
28. In mountain country, horses often have to _____ over down timber.
30. On a steep climb, riders will frequently _____ and rest the horses.
31. Sequence of riders.
32. A high mountain _____ is no place to be in an electrical storm.
33. The unit used to determine the length of a trail ride.
35. Mountain trail horses seldom do this.



A Bitterroot Mountette

MT Back Country Horsemen

J K V G H G T M K S G D S M Z A M P M E E L C R L P W R H E
 I C M Q F O N K W A W A P N D K C E S R O H O B I U R O V Z
 K U S O I H R I R E P P U R C Z L O X Y U X O E A R J A C A
 X B M P N W T S R N Y L R M V U I K W L G R L O T O E I T T
 Z W C E M C F G E T F D S F W H O R N B A G E T G I R T H R
 J A A C H L T A N M S B W Q D I Q P I N O G R W I N G I X U
 O S R B D H O O F P E R B O Q P T J S M N Y V E P X H S L T
 V T A E S Y I S X Z E N I L H G I H J Y G A T N C Y A R E Z
 A C R P I T O O R R E T T I B G A W E A L E I Y P D X C V M
 K W T A A R T W S J R F S Q J Z D H B R N X Z M D J Q I I H
 U Z S C E L R Q D X I Y R F Z N M G H T S G E L G A G A W R
 C J U K X I N A C Y U N I Q U M N P N Y S C E D E U B W S F
 E D I R L T U B F U Z O X L D I F L E E G T O U F G A I Z M
 E G S B Z W U Y C A W V A K P G K K I T V R I P X B V L Y Y
 P A N N I E R R P J X N T E N N N I D A R O A A M T Q D H T
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 H O R S E S H O E T W L D F D A O R Q B I T D C E U C R E A
 L S Z C S S J K N E S L E T S M K F X L I Y L I T C L N C M
 E W B C N C I O S E E P B A C K C O U N T R Y E T U C E K A
 A Z U I V F M T M G V M E G S A V N A C D U N Z N I D S E I
 T T E M K Y E H H H K O N C Q E D M R I X G R U L L O S R G
 H R T M V R A T C T M U Y O R L J U E T A U E S Z S N N A V
 E R Z W N K H E B M G N Y I I Y D P T M C Z P U G B J L A T
 R E P O R P I T F M Y T F D S L Q X T I E C T B Q G L N M L
 O A Q B I L H H F G U A K K K J L Q I Z G A M V E O N A G Z
 A B T U D T Z J U L Z I K W B C S A F J R Z D B P J O Y E L
 T G N Y Q W J O O W F N W M V G Z N T T U Y F O E Z C B R E
 W Y A Y X E R C H W J Z Y A P L P K U S T M B J W C S K A Y
 M Q K E Q H N S I E G W H E N E E P O L A B C X H N Z P M K
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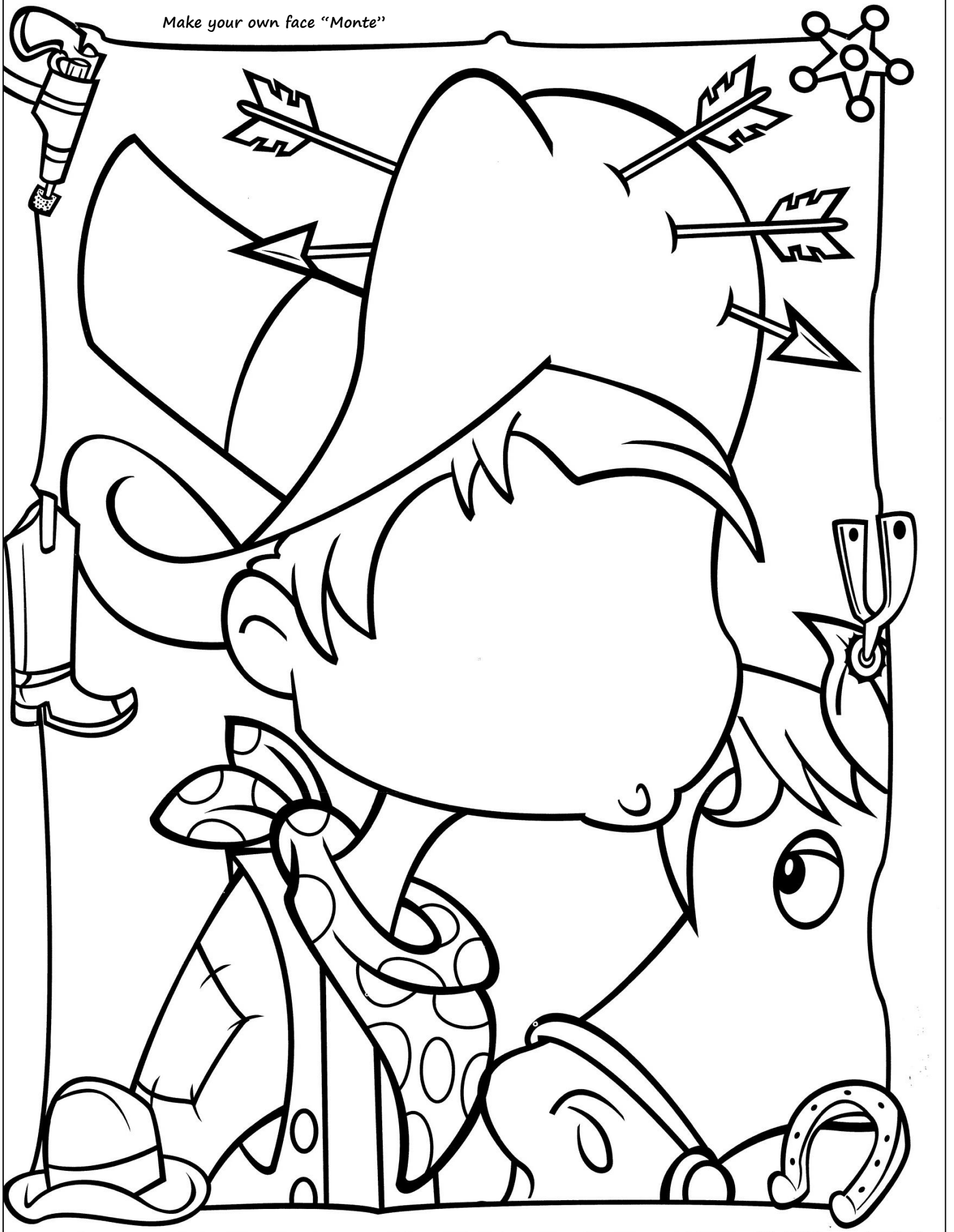
BACKCOUNTRY
 BCHM
 BITTERROOT
 CAMP
 CANVAS
 COOLER
 COWBOY
 CROSSCUT
 CRUPPER
 DECKER
 DONKEY
 DUN
 DUTCHOVEN
 EDUCATION
 FARRIER

FIRE
 GALLOP
 GELDING
 GIRTH
 GRAZE
 GRULLO
 HIGHLINE
 HOOF
 HORN BAG
 HORSE
 HORSEMEN
 HORSESHOE
 KNIFE
 LEATHER
 MANTY

MARE
 MEADOW
 MONTANA
 MOUNTAIN
 MULE
 OUTFITTER
 PACK
 PANNIER
 PIGTAIL
 REINS
 RIDE
 ROPE
 SADDLE
 SAW
 SAWBUCK

SLEEPINGBAG
 SPURS
 STALLION
 STRING
 SWITCHBACK
 SWIVEL
 TARP
 TENT
 TRADITIONAL
 TRAIL
 WESTERN
 WILDERNESS
 WITHERS

Make your own face "Monte"





Theodore Roosevelt

BRAND MARKS



B HEART



BRIDLE BIT



ARROWHEAD



RUNNING O



SWING EASY



BOX W



SNAKE IN MOON



HORSESHOE BAR



KENO



RAFTER DIAMOND



ROCKING R



CIRCLE DOT



COVERED STAR



2 TRIANGLE



BARBEQUE



RAIN BARREL



HOLE IN BOX



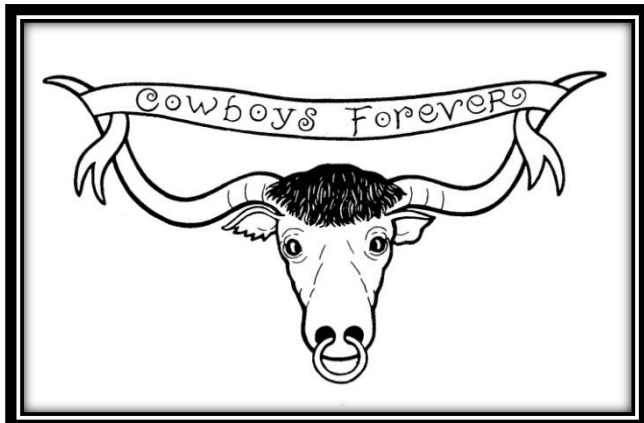
TUMBLING A BAR



ARROW E



SLASH TRIANGLE



BRAND MARKS



FOUR D



SPUR



ANCHOR



CIRCLE A BAR



M PLUS



LONGHORN



COFFEE POT



CRESCENT F



CROSS A



-BAR 40



BOW AND ARROW



SEVEN UP



SIX GUN



WHANG DOODLE



CIRCLE 2 BAR



BRACKET A



KEYHOLE



DIAMOND N



BAR W



ARROW J