

NATURE ACADEMY | HORSE LESSONS

PARTICIPANT & PARENT/GUARDIAN RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, INDEMNIFICATION & SAFETY AGREEMENT

Nature Academy horse riding and horsemanship lessons

One form per participant. Complete every applicable field before the first lesson.

Participant name: _____ Birth date: _____ Age: _____

Parent/legal guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Emergency phone: _____

1. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES AND INHERENT RISKS

I understand that horseback riding, instruction, groundwork, grooming, leading, saddling, mounting, dismounting, feeding, handling horses or ponies, and being at an equine facility involve inherent risks. Horses are large, powerful animals whose reactions cannot be predicted or completely controlled. A horse may bite, kick, strike, buck, rear, bolt, spook, stumble, fall, stop suddenly, pull away, step on or collide with a person, or react to animals, people, vehicles, weather, sounds or equipment. Serious injury, permanent disability, paralysis, brain injury, emotional injury, property loss or death can result. I voluntarily accept these risks for myself or my child.

2. SPECIFIC RISKS

Risks include falls, being thrown or dragged, crushing injuries, horse-to-horse encounters, loose horses, shifting or failed tack, mounting or dismounting, uneven or slippery ground, holes, fences, gates, stalls, corrals, trailers, hot walker, equipment, dust, allergens, insects, wildlife, extreme temperatures, rain, wind, and conduct of other participants, visitors, children or animals. Helmets and supervision reduce some risks but cannot eliminate them.

3. PARENT OR GUARDIAN MUST REMAIN ON SITE

A parent or legal guardian **must remain on the property where the lesson is held throughout every Nature Academy lesson involving their minor child**. The parent/guardian remains responsible for the child's conduct and supervision before, during and after direct instruction, and for all accompanying children, including nonparticipating siblings. Neither Nature Academy nor the applicable facility provides childcare for spectators or siblings. Children may enter stalls, corrals, arenas, tack areas or other restricted areas only with express permission.

Parent/guardian initials confirming the on-site requirement: _____

4. INSTRUCTIONS, CONDUCT AND REMOVAL

The participant and accompanying adults will immediately follow Nature Academy instructor instructions and applicable facility rules. Walk near horses; do not approach, feed, mount, lead or handle a horse without permission; do not run, yell, fight, throw objects, startle horses or enter restricted areas. Treat horses, people and property respectfully. Nature Academy may change an activity, stop a lesson, remove a participant or deny future lessons if a child does not follow rules, mistreats an animal or creates a safety concern. The facility may also deny access under its rules.

5. SAFETY EQUIPMENT AND HORSE SELECTION

Minor riders must wear a properly fitted and secured ASTM/SEI-certified equestrian helmet whenever mounted and whenever the instructor directs. Appropriate closed-toe footwear and riding clothing are required. No riding if required gear is refused or removed. Nature Academy may select or change horses, require groundwork, or cancel riding based on conditions. No horse is guaranteed safe, regardless of its training, age or past behavior. Disclose experience, physical limitations and relevant medical concerns honestly.

6. LESSON LOCATION AND PROPERTY RULES

Lessons may be held at Harmony Horse Haven (HHH), 2321 South Washington Fields Rd., owned by Steven and Ilene Hafen, or at another boarding facility or property approved by Nature Academy. Participants and guests must follow the rules of the property where the lesson occurs. At HHH, the rules require children to be supervised at all times; horses may not be left unattended while tied or loose in the arena; no riding double; no smoking near stalls, feed or storage; dogs must be leashed; no alcohol or illegal drugs; no destruction of property or animal abuse. Use designated trash containers. Do not interfere with gates, corrals, panels, watering systems, plumbing, hot walker, stalls, fencing, tack or equipment. Parents are responsible for their children and guests at every lesson location. The applicable facility or property owner may deny access for rule violations.

7. DAMAGE, PERSONAL PROPERTY AND LOOSE HORSES

To the extent permitted by law, the parent/guardian is responsible for damage caused by their own conduct or that of persons for whom they are legally responsible to Nature Academy, the facility or property where the lesson occurs, or others, including damage to fencing, stalls, equipment or watering systems. Personal property is brought at its owner's risk. Do not chase or catch a loose horse unless specifically instructed. If a participant brings their own horse or tack, that owner remains responsible for securing the horse and for the horse's condition and equipment.

8. RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

I knowingly assume the inherent risks of equine activities. To the fullest extent Utah law permits, I release Nature Academy; Kayla Peterson; Harmony Horse Haven (HHH); Steven and Ilene Hafen; any other boarding facility, landowner, property owner or operator whose premises Nature Academy uses for a lesson; and each of their respective employees, agents, representatives, volunteers, contractors, horse owners, successors and assigns (the **Released Parties**) from claims for injury, death, loss or property damage arising from inherent equine risks or other risks that may lawfully be released. The applicable facility or property owner is not my child's riding instructor merely because lessons occur on its premises. This release does not waive liability that law does not permit to be waived.

Parent/guardian initials acknowledging release and assumption of risk: _____

9. INDEMNIFICATION

To the fullest extent permitted by Utah law, I agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Released Parties from third-party claims, losses and reasonable expenses arising out of my conduct or the conduct of the participant or persons for whom I am legally responsible, except to the extent the claim results from a Released Party's conduct that cannot lawfully be shifted to me. This provision is subject to applicable law.

10. EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND COSTS

I authorize Nature Academy personnel to call 911 when reasonably necessary and to notify me as soon as practical. If I am unavailable, emergency personnel may provide treatment they deem appropriate. I am responsible for my or my child's medical expenses except to the extent another person is legally responsible. I will tell the instructor about relevant allergies, conditions, medications and limitations before lessons.

11. UTAH EQUINE ACTIVITY NOTICE

NOTICE OF INHERENT RISK: Equine activities have inherent risks. Utah Code §§ 78B-4-201 through 78B-4-203 addresses these risks, limitations on liability, and statutory exceptions. This signed agreement is intended to notify the participant or minor participant's legal guardian of those risks. No instructor, facility, horse or safety measure can guarantee an accident-free experience.

12. GOVERNING LAW AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Utah law governs. If one provision cannot be enforced, the remainder continues to the extent permitted by law. I have read this entire agreement; understand serious injury or death is possible; understand the on-site parent requirement and conduct rules; and understand that this document affects legal rights. I have had an opportunity to ask questions. I sign voluntarily. For a minor, I sign as parent or legal guardian on my own behalf and on the minor's behalf to the extent permitted by law.

PARTICIPANT AND PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURES

Participant name: _____

Adult participant signature (if 18+): _____ Date: _____

Parent/legal guardian printed name: _____

Parent/legal guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

Second parent/guardian (optional) signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Emergency contact / relationship: _____ Phone: _____

Relevant medical information / allergies: _____

Health insurance (optional): _____ Member number (optional): _____

Facility rules referenced: Harmony Horse Haven Boarding Agreement & Stable Rules (2026) apply at HHH. Other locations may have additional rules. Prepare a separate signed form for each participant.