

Online Book Club

The Mystery at the Kentucky Derby

Bring It To Life!

1. Draw it! Draw a racehorse and name him. Pick colors for the jockey and horse to wear. Draw a shirt for the jockey and decorate it with your chosen colors!
2. Build a racetrack! Use a shoebox to make a diorama of a racetrack. Draw the racetrack on the bottom of the box or cut fabric to create a track and a green infield. Add plastic horses if you have them, or make horses out of aluminum foil or modeling clay. If you use modeling clay, you can paint your own colors on your horse. Don't forget to design a winner's circle, too.
3. Race your horses! Once you have built your diorama, you can race your horses. Roll dice to move horses forward. The higher the roll, the farther the horse moves. The first horse to the finish line is the winner!
4. Write about it! Create a new ending for the mystery. Read your new endings aloud, and let book club members decide which one they like best!





Fact or Fiction

The Mystery at the Kentucky Derby

Write Fact or Fiction next to each sentence below.

- _____ 1. A lead pony walks with a racehorse to the gate to help keep it calm before the race.
- _____ 2. Sara didn't believe Grant and Christina at first when they told her they have a history of solving mysteries!
- _____ 3. Sara gave her father Charles the note that Grant had found in the grass.
- _____ 4. The Falls of Ohio is a steep waterfall that drops 100 feet into the Ohio River.
- _____ 5. Grant found a priceless fossil while walking around near the Falls of Ohio.
- _____ 6. Christina and Grant got to watch some of the Great Steamboat Race when they were stopped on top of a Ferris wheel ride.
- _____ 7. Grant crashed into the park bench where Mr. Suit and Mr. Sunflower Overalls were sitting and spilled his blue raspberry slushy on them.
- _____ 8. Christina was not at all nervous when she mounted Hurricane for her first ride on a horse.
- _____ 9. The height of a horse is measured from the foot to the highest point on a horse's shoulders.
- _____ 10. The men who kidnapped Lickety Split never figured out that they had taken the wrong horse.

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Talk About It!

1. Who was your favorite character? Why?
2. Why would someone want to steal a racehorse?
3. Why did Charles decide to keep the "horsesnapping" a secret instead of telling the news media?
4. What is a "ransom?" How much of a ransom were the thieves planning on asking for the stolen horse?
5. Have you ever ridden a horse? If so, what was it like? If not, would you like to learn to ride?
6. Why do you think Christina was nervous about riding a horse?
7. What do you think would have happened to the children if the security guard had not shown up in the stable?
8. What was your favorite part of the book? Why?



Write a letter!

Christina, Grant, Mimi, and Papa love to hear from their friends. Write a letter to your favorite Carole Marsh Mysteries Character. Mail your letter to:

Carole Marsh Mysteries
PO Box 2779
Peachtree City, GA 30269



Dear _____,

Sincerely,
