

Horse Communications

Horses communicate with each other in their own language. Sadly, it's not the same language that humans use! We cannot expect horses to learn our language, so we must try our best to learn theirs instead. It means we can build a happy and trusting relationship with them... and keep ourselves safe too. Study the horses below and write down what you think they're saying!



Merrylegs & Anna



Twiglet & Cookie



Kirby & Maya



Babe & Noah

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The explanations!

Anna & Merrylegs

Anna and Merrylegs are 'mutually grooming' each other, which is a sign of friendship. They are nibbling each other's necks and shoulders to relax each other, as well as remove dead skin and hair. It has been proven that mutual grooming actually lowers a horse's heart rate!

Twiglet & Cookie

Twiglet (left) is showing signs of aggression because her ears are flat back on her head and she is sticking her nose out. She is showing Cookie that she is the more dominant horse, and that she will kick or bite Cookie if he doesn't move away.

Maya & Kirby

Kirby (right) and Maya (left) are enjoying a snooze. This shows that they are relaxed enough with each other, their field friends and their surroundings to have a siesta, without the fear of a predator eating them for dinner!

Babe & Noah

Babe (left) and Noah (right) are working out whether they can be friends or not. When horses meet each other for the first time, they often blow into each other's noses. If they want to be friends, they may nuzzle each other afterwards. But if they are unsure, they may squeal at each other and strike out with their front leg! Our residents are introduced to each other over the fence to make sure they get along first, before moving into the same paddock.