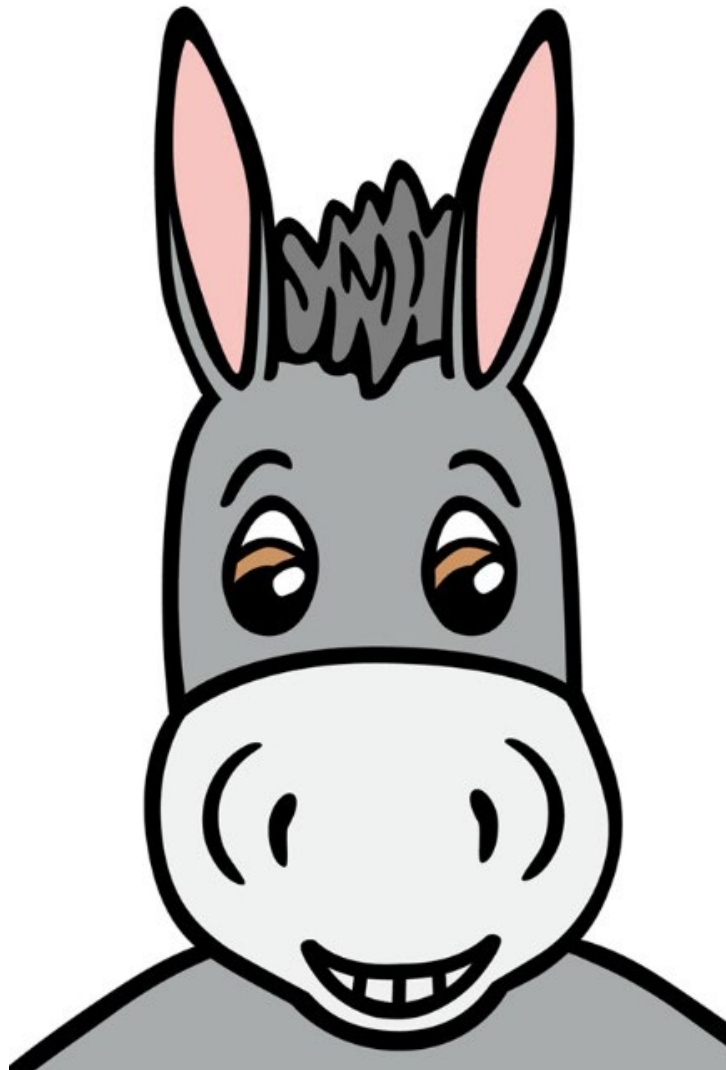


**REDWINGS**

HORSE SANCTUARY



**Their ears are  
different.....**

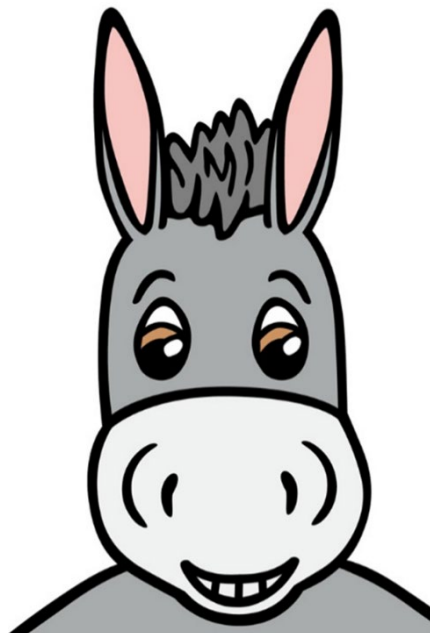


Can you see that donkeys have **larger ears** than horses and ponies?

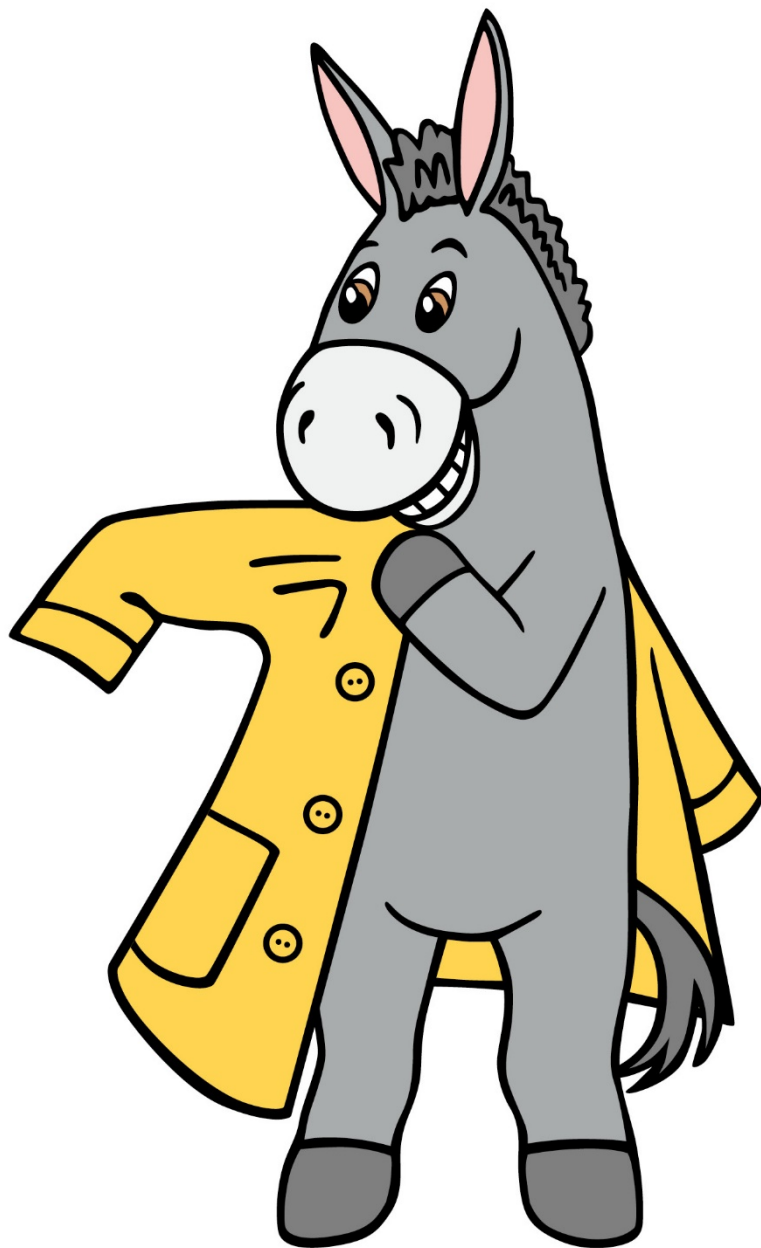
In the wild, donkeys live in hot climates such as Africa. Food is often more scarce in this environment so donkey herds need to spread out over a large area to find food. Therefore their big ears **help them to hear each other from far away.**

**Did you know a donkey can hear the call of another donkey 60 MILES AWAY, in a desert environment?**

Big ears can help donkeys **keep cool** on hot days too as the blood flows close to the surface of the skin where it releases some heat into the air.



**Their coats are  
different.....**

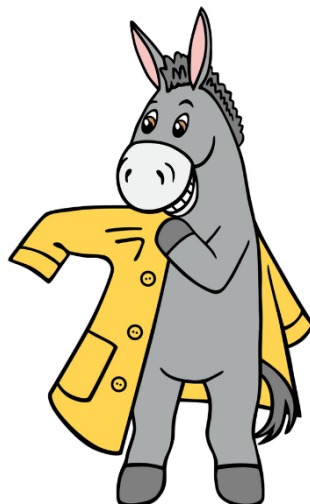


Have you noticed that a **donkey's coat looks and feels different** compared to a horse's or pony's?

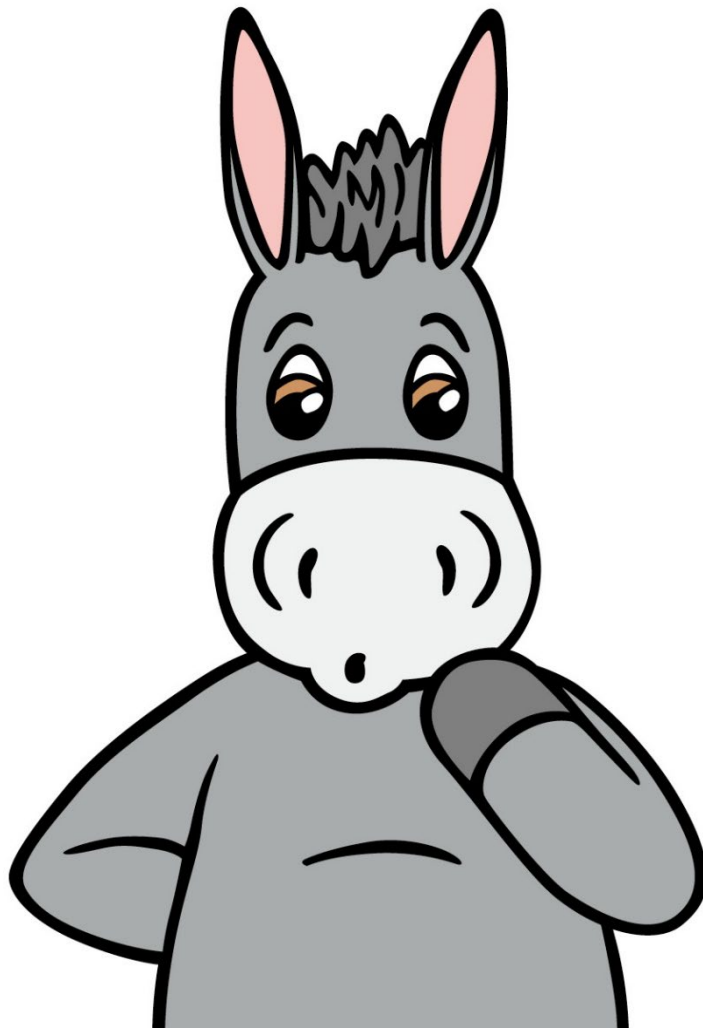
Donkeys are **not as waterproof** as horses and ponies because they do **not have as much oil in their coats**. So you may see them run for shelter if it's raining!

If you stroke a donkey their coat will feel **drier, softer and fluffier** than a horses.

You may notice that the most common donkey **colours are light tans and greys** which helps them stay **camouflaged in the wild**. Light-coloured coats also help **reflect the heat**, keeping them cooler on hot days.



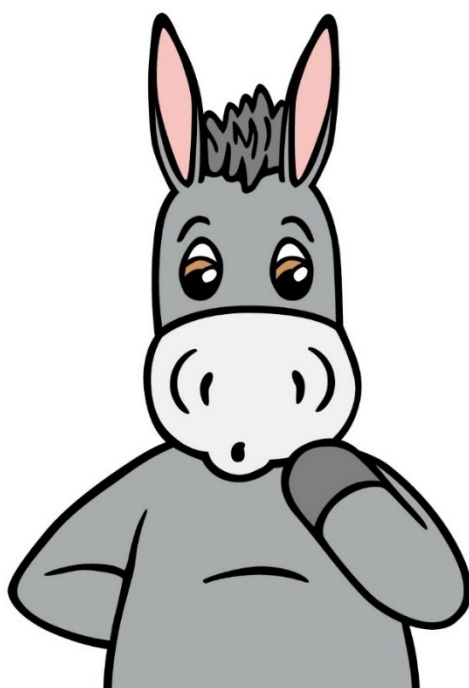
**They sound  
different.....**



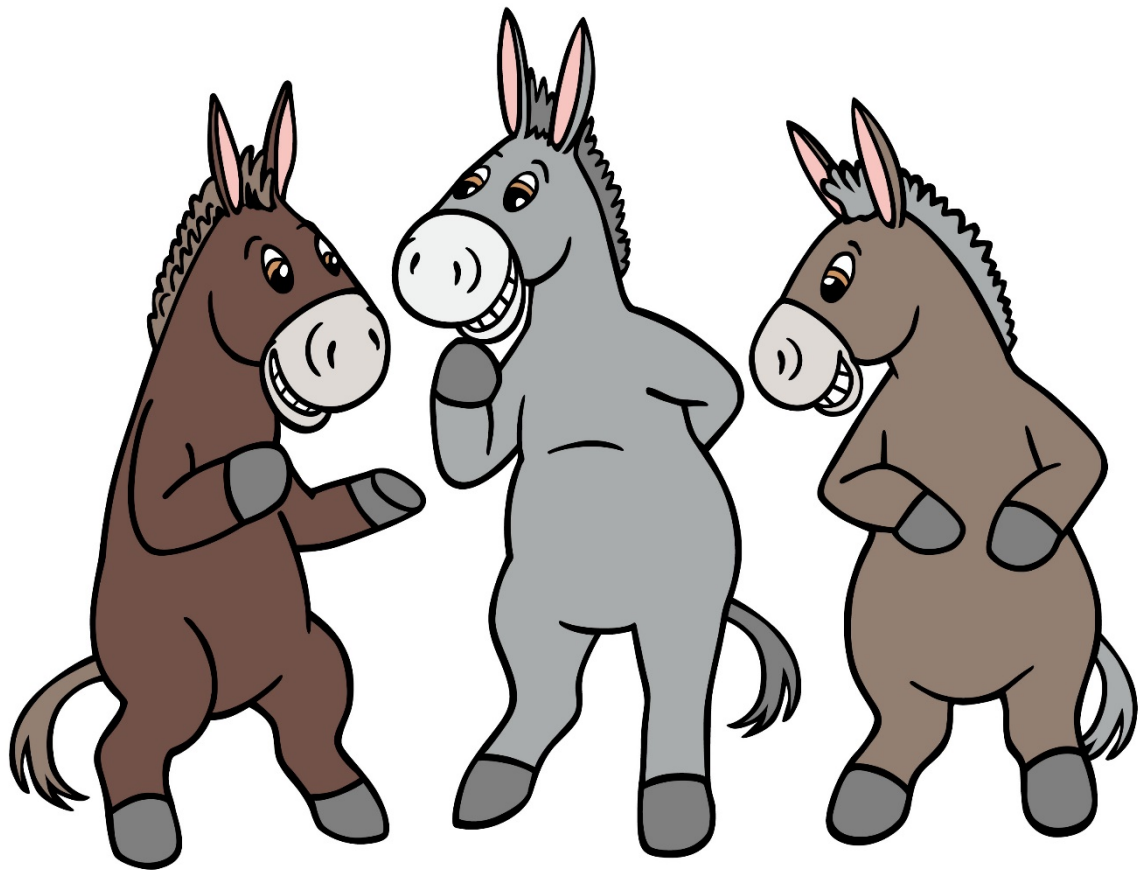
**Have you heard what a donkey sounds like?**

**Donkeys don't neigh, they bray!** This helps them communicate with each other over long distances as this loud sound can travel so other donkeys from far away can hear a big noise with their big ears!

**Can you bray like a donkey?**



**They behave in  
different ways....**





How do you think donkeys behave differently to horses and ponies?

Donkeys are sometimes thought of as **stubborn!**

In fact, they are not as flighty as horses and ponies and will often **stand their ground rather than run away** from a threat. This also means they are **prepared to fight if they need to** and can bite and kick well to protect themselves!

Donkeys **do not always show that they are unhappy or in pain.** This helps them not to show signs of weakness that could alert potential predators in the wild.

Donkeys **form very strong bonds** and can become very unhappy or even ill if they are separated from their friends.

