

Read the short story. Then answer each question.

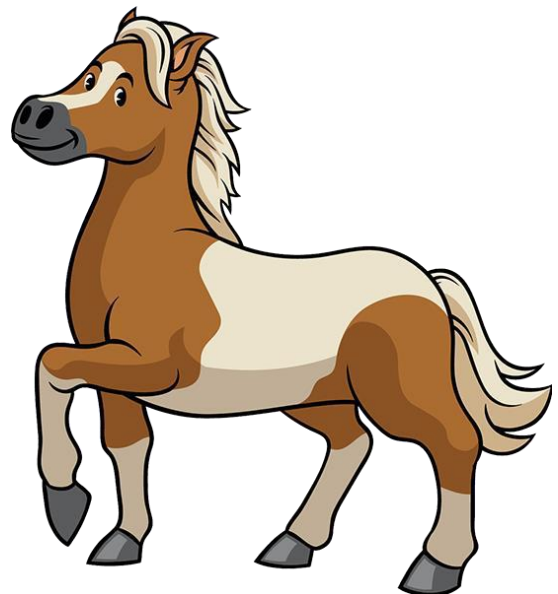
Penny's Pet Problem

More than anything in the world, Penny wanted a pet. She thought of asking for a puppy. She thought of asking for a kitten. She thought of asking for a hamster. Above all else, Penny knew she wanted a pony.

One morning, Penny dared to ask her mom for a pony.

"You don't see many ponies living in apartments," Penny's mom said. "Besides, a pony needs a place to sleep."

"I could share my bed with him," Penny said.



“I don’t think so,” Penny’s mom replied. “What if your pony kicked off all the blankets. Besides, a pony needs a place to eat.”

“He could eat at the table with us,” Penny said.

“I don’t think so,” Penny’s mom replied. “What if your pony had poor table manners? Besides, a pony needs a place to spend time outside.”

“He could spend time on our balcony,” Penny said.

“I don’t think so,” Penny’s mom replied. “We live on the fourth floor. What if your pony is afraid of heights?”

“So, I guess this means I can’t have a pony,” Penny said.



“It means we can’t keep a pony in our apartment,” Penny’s mom replied. “But I know where we can visit some ponies.”

“Really?” Penny asked.

“I know a farmer who just bought two ponies. If we ask, I bet he will even let you feed and brush them. Do you know what else?”

“What?” Penny asked.

“His barn cat just had kittens. I’ve seen a lot of cats living in apartments.”



Exercises:

1. Fill in the blanks.

a. You don't see many ponies living in

_____ .

b. What if your pony kicked off all the

_____ ?

c. I bet he will even let you _____

and _____ them.

2. Choose the correct answer.

What did Penny want more than anything as a pet?

- a. A puppy
- b. A Lamborghini
- c. A pony
- d. A kitten

Where did Penny suggest a pony could sleep?

- a. In the bathtub.
- b. In Penny's bed.
- c. In the doghouse.
- d. On the couch.

Why did Penny's mom not think the pony could spend time on the balcony?

- a. The pony might jump over the railing.
- b. The pony might fall.
- c. The pony might climb down the fire escape.
- d. The pony might be afraid of heights.

3. What do you think happens next in the story? Draw a picture and write a sentence.



Four sets of handwriting lines, each consisting of a solid blue top line, a dashed red middle line, and a solid blue bottom line.