



Wednesday April 10, 2019

Greetings!

Question

Dear Monty,

I value your opinions, which I look forward to reading every week on questions and answers. One of which works so well when you gave advice for someone who had a 'biting' horse. You suggested tapping them gently with your foot whenever they go to nip - it totally surprises them as normally you'd use your hand to shield or even reprimand. It really does work thank you.

My question to you is nothing to do with biting, but in your wisdom and affinity with studying horses, do you think that they get bored and unhappy if they are not ridden or worked very much even though they are well cared for? I have an ex-racehorse who is now 12 years old and I only have time to ride once or twice a week just hacking out. He is stabled at night and out in four acres during the day with a companion, but sometimes I just think he may need more stimulation with his breeding. I care about his happiness, which is the only thing that worries me sometimes. I am lucky to have my own stables and grazing at home, so therefore I am seeing him from my window all the time. Every time I step outside he looks to me and asks "what are we doing now then mum"!

Regards
Christine from France

Answer

After a second read of Christine's Question, Monty adds this to his answer:

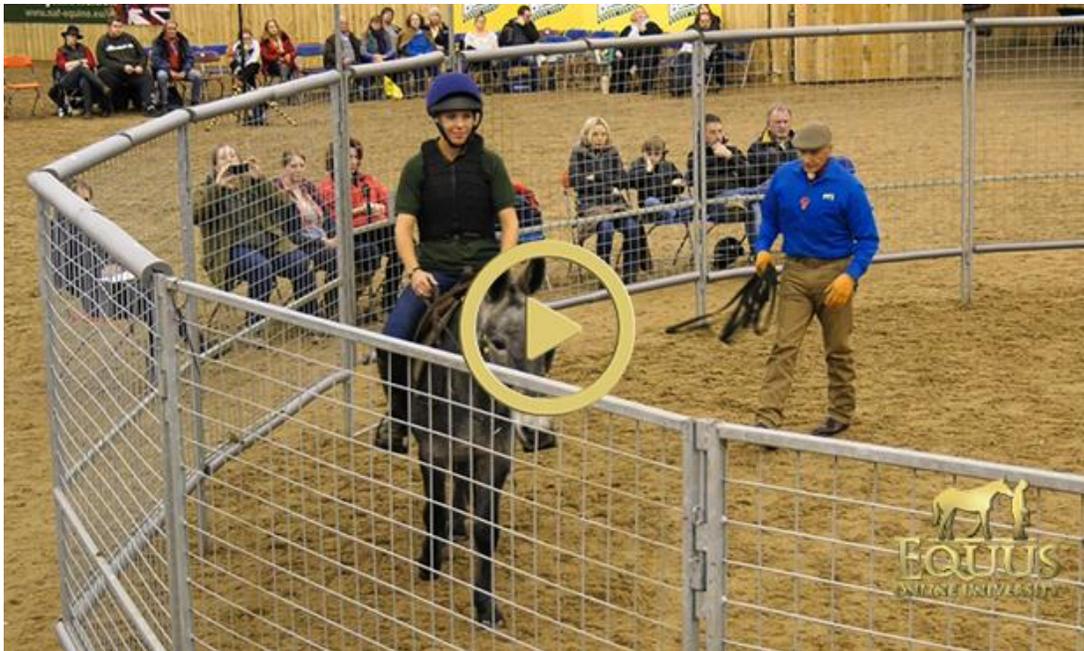
I really appreciate your desire to meet the needs of your horse. It is clear that you have a strong affinity for this animal and I have a feeling that you are simply worrying too much in the areas you describe. Each of us should remember who Equus the horse is, how long he has been around and what his historical patterns of evolution have taken place. It has been 50 million years and evidence shows that they were quite happy to exist with a family group and graze on open

plains for more than 49 million years before there was even a human on earth.

Sometimes we have a tendency - I admit to it myself - to think that we are more important to the horse than we generally are. It is my opinion that it is OK to make this mistake because the human can rationalize love, bonding and a commitment to the needs of others. Horses are quite happy to simply live with their friends and graze on available grass. What you want is to feel good about your commitment to the horse. That is not a bad idea. It sounds to me like you are being very responsible to the every day needs of your horse. Please worry less about the emotional needs that you feel for him.



MONTY'S EQUUS ONLINE UNIVERSITY THIS WEEK'S EPISODE



In this online video series, Monty and certified instructor Jo Lowes work with a mule for her first ride. Not a student yet? Click on the buttons below to Join-Up with thousands of horse lovers learning Monty's force-free, fun methods.



UPCOMING EVENTS

USA

April 29 to 31, 2019: [The Movement](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, Solvang, California

USA

May 1 to 3, 2019: [Equine Assisted Intro to Motivational Interviewing](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, Solvang, California

USA

May 25, 2019: [Night of Inspiration](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, Solvang, California

USA

July 22 to 26, 2019: [Monty's Special Training Brazil](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, Solvang, California

USA

July 29 to August 2, 2019: [Monty's Special Training](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, Solvang, California

USA

August 5 to 16, 2019: [Gentling Wild Horses](#) at Flag Is Up Farms, Solvang, California

[FULL SCHEDULE HERE](#)

THE MONTY ROBERTS INTERNATIONAL LEARNING CENTER

April 11 to 13, 2019: Long Lining Course

April 15 to 19, 2019: Introductory Exam

April 25 to 27, 2019: Join-Up Course

[MORE COURSE INFO HERE, CHECK OUT MORE 2019 COURSES!](#)



THE MOVEMENT 2019

Watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/vjU-alH8fKA>

This two day symposium April 29-30 in Solvang, California will be in the arena and in the classroom where presenters and trainers will share their unique perspectives of the flight animal and how their vocations were changed when they were able to use horses as a metaphor for a better understanding of their work and relationships. At [The Movement](#) you will take home ways to apply non-violent forms of communication and leadership and to help humans and horses live a better life.

If you can't attend the event or you're curious about last year's Movement, watch this video: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/152412>

April 29-30 2019

Solvang, California

<http://themovement2019.com/>

<https://youtu.be/ZEfGb1F1xw>

THE MOVEMENT

APRIL 29 - 30, 2019 *in* SOLVANG, CALIFORNIA



Learn & Lead & Live better

Monty Roberts hosts this symposium focused on non-violent communication and a mindful approach to build trust and improve all aspects of relationships.

The Movement 2019 unites seven other outstanding speakers with demonstrations and discoveries with horses.

Join us for a one of a kind experience!

Goosebumps and long term effects included.

www.THEMOVEMENT2019.com



MONTY'S CHALLENGE

Test yourself each week as I challenge you to answer the question below. I mean this. Sit down and write an answer. Don't wait for my answer next week. If you have been reading my Weekly Questions and Answers for the last six months, you should be in a position to do this. Send your answer to my team at: askmonty@montyroberts.com

Why should you bother? Because it will help you focus. There is probably a comparable question in your life that needs answering... or will be. If you can gain insight into how to go about answering a practical question that is loosely related to your

problem, this exercise will help you answer your nagging question. Then read my answer. I want all of my students to learn to be better trainers than me. That's good for you and good for horses!

~ Monty

NEXT WEEK'S QUESTION

Hi! I had a question concerning Join-Up, and it is, can you do Join-Up with an already bomb proof horse? My horse is a 18 year-old Quarter Horse, and he's about as solid as they come. It's like nothing fazes him, when I try to send him away, he just stands there and does nothing. Am I not being clear enough in my signals, or is he confused by what I'm trying to get him to do?

Thanks for any input you have.
Christina

HORSEMANSHIP RADIO



This episode is all about helping horses stay healthy while in turn enriching our lives too! Dr. Juliet Getty, equine nutritionist and Dr. Emily Weiss, national equine welfare.

[EPISODE 132 | LISTEN HERE](#)





[Join-Up International](#) | AskMonty@montyroberts.com | MontyRoberts.com

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