

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Helping the Helpful War Horse



By Lisa Hart

You may have heard stories about brave people who served in World War I (1914–1918). But humans weren't the only ones involved in the war effort. Many animals, such as the horse, played important roles too. Hurried from barns



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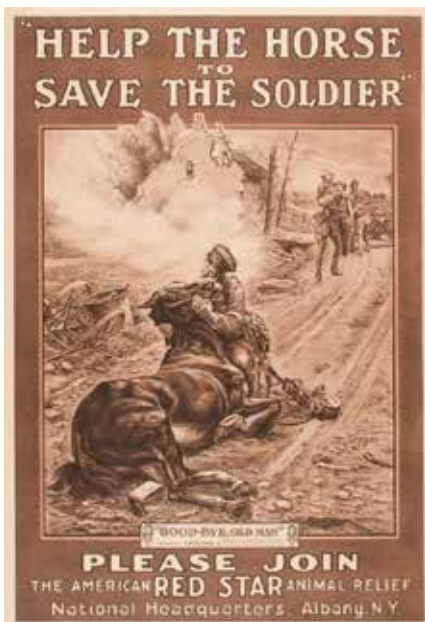
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American Humane Association for help. This led to the launch of the American Red Star Animal Relief. The Red Star acted as a Red Cross for war animals.

The Red Star brought in medical supplies and ambulances for the animals. It also founded the Veterinary Corps (said like "core"). The new Corps enlisted skilled vets, stablehands, and blacksmiths to serve in its ranks. They treated thousands of horses each month.

To gain support and money for their work, the Red Star produced posters. A popular message for these posters was "Help the Horse to Save the Soldier." The Red Star also printed thousands of booklets. Handed out to soldiers, the booklets gave advice on first aid for horses.

An American Humane report praised the war horse for its strength and valor. The write-up equaled it only to the courage and skill of the riders.



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1. What was one disadvantage to using war horses?
  - a. Horses were too scared to go into war zones.
  - b. Horses could walk on muddy roads that cars got stuck in.



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3. Which of the following is *not* something the Red Star and Veterinary Corps did to help war horses?
  - a. They printed booklets with advice on horse first aid.
  - b. They tried to get the army to stop using horses.
  - c. They provided ambulances to get injured horses to safety.
  - d. They brought in experts to properly care for the horses.
4. The article states the American Humane Association released a report praising war horses for their strength and valor. Do you agree with the report? Why or why not?

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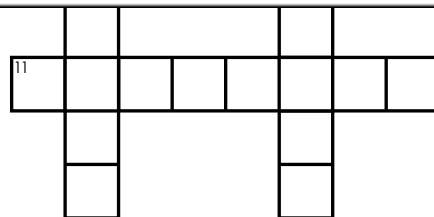
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Complete the crossword puzzle using words from the article.



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### Across

- desirable; drawing attention
- bravery and determination in the face of danger
- people who take care of horses
- sickness
- to send somewhere for a purpose, especially carrying a message

### Down

- to express approval
- a group of people acting together
- showing compassion and kindness
- groups or levels within a larger group
- to enter or sign up for a cause, especially in the military
- absolutely necessary

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In the article, "Helping the Helpful War Horse," you learned that horses played an important role in World War I.

Imagine you were alive during WWI and owned a horse. Using information from the



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Answers will vary. Yes, I agree with the report because horses faced scary situations they'd never seen before and still carried out their task of serving soldiers. // No, I disagree with the report because the horses only served in the war because humans made them.

## SOLUTION

# Helping the Helpful War



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7. people who take care of horses
8. sickness
11. to send somewhere for a purpose, especially carrying a message
6. groups or levels within a larger group
9. to enter or sign up for a cause, especially in the military
10. absolutely necessary