



“Branden,” “Cowboy” and “Reba,” all miniature horses will join the many animals coming to S.C.O.R.E. this summer.

Students in grades three and four will be the first to greet the horses on Tuesday, June 16, at Cox’s Ponds, and June 17, the first and second graders will learn and enjoy the horses.

All three ponies will make an appearance at the S.C.O.R.E. Science Show on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

In addition to learning about “hoofed mammals,” their characteristics, care and special qualities, students will also learn about the prehistoric horses that once roamed the early plains of Nebraska.

Here is some history on each of the horses.

“Cowboy” is my name, but my personality is my “fame!” A call from my cousin in North Platte sent me to McCook to find “Cowboy” on March 8. His home actually was near Bartley. Of course, I love paint horses, so he was my choice—only nine months old, and very gentle. Our three year and nine month old grandsons came to check him out and rode him the day that I brought him home. “He loves to be petted, rubbed, scratched, and nudges you for more,” says owner Margene Hayes of Imperial. At the prompting of my sister-in-law, I am now the proud owner of two tiny “trotters!”

My looks are “fancy” and “Reba” is my name. I’m sometimes afraid, but “feisty” is my game! On April three, a red-haired filly with flaxen mane and tail joined “Cowboy.” Wow, she’s bigger, but who cares; he’ll catch up! “Reba’s” home was on a farm south of Imperial. She is almost three years old and holds her head high as she runs like the wind! Someday, they will hopefully pull a cart—what fun for grandma and the grand-kids! Margene Hayes will accompany Cowboy and Reba to camp!

“Branden” is a three-year-old, 35-inch miniature horse rescued by Rebecca Proud on the internet when she was stationed in Italy. Murietta Proud (sister of Randy Hayes) and her granddaughter, Shelby Hubbert, will join Branden at S.C.O.R.E.

They are looking forward to sharing information about this unique breed of horse with participants, volunteers and the public. Murietta Proud lives south of Bartley with her husband Jerry. She grew up loving horses and rode her dad’s work horses. She has helped with children in 4H and a local saddle club. Her five children were all in 4H as well as many of her grandchildren.

Murietta was a member of the Scarlet Ribbons Horse Drill Team that entertained at rodeos and was also involved in Drill Team competitions. She belonged to NCRA and now belongs to NBHA and NABORS, barrel racing organizations on the state and national levels. Murietta feels very fortunate to have the chance to compete.

Organizers are all excited about learning more about miniature horses at S.C.O.R.E. and perhaps even taking a “buggy ride.”

**2009 S.C.O.R.E. camp**

(Science Camps Offer  
Rewarding Experiences)

June 15-19

In and around Imperial, Neb.

Register online:

[www.ccschools.cc/schools](http://www.ccschools.cc/schools)

Click on S.C.O.R.E. link