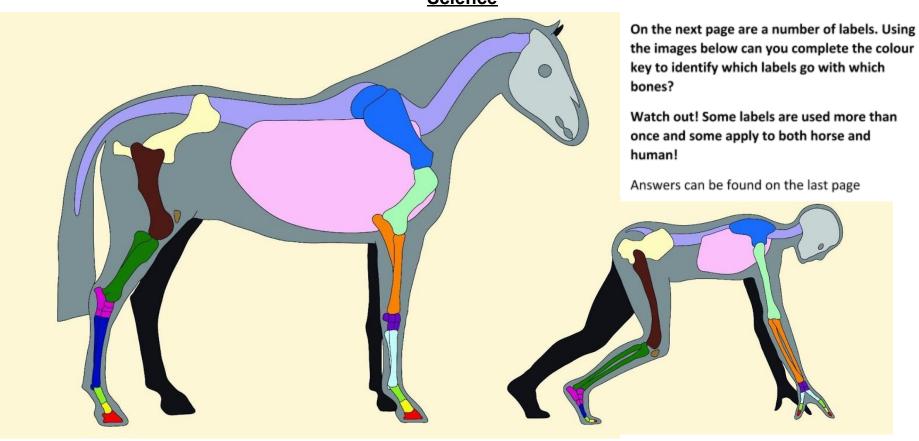


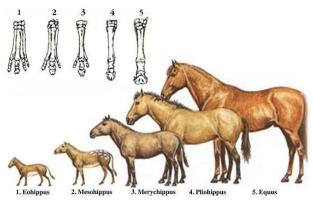
## Horse and Pony KS3 Monday Science



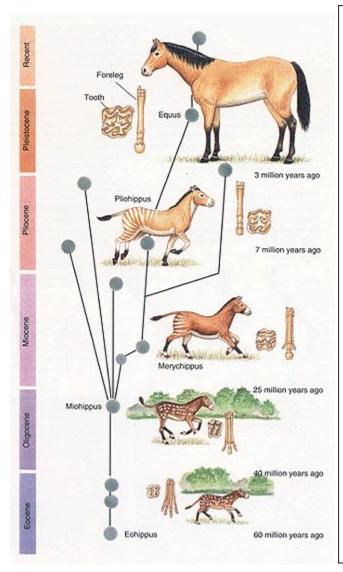




- 1. Ankle
- 2. Hock
- 3. Femour
- 4. Tibia and Fibula
- 5. Fingers/Toes
- 6. Long pastern bone
- 7. Short Pastern Bone
- 8. Pedal Bone
- 9. Humerous
- 10. Metacarpal bones
- 11. Cannon bone
- 12. Hind cannon bone
- 13. Patella
- 14. Pelvis
- 15. Radius and Ulna
- 16. Ribcage
- 17. Scapula
- 18. Skull
- 19. Spine
- 20. Wrist
- 21. Knee



## The Evolution of the Horse



Modern horses (Equus) have evolved from dog-sized herbivores known as Eohippus.

Slow adaptation to open, grassland habitats brought changes in the structure of the limbs by the gradual reduction of toes touching the ground. This has enabled the animals to run faster and successfully escape predators. At the same time, the changing diet and feeding pattern (browsing leaves in bushes to grazing grassland) transformed the size and structure of teeth as well.

This is an example of how the changing environment (from forest to grassland) meant that longer legs, less toes and different toes became advantageous. The animals that were best suited to the changed environment were able to survive and reproduce and pass their characteristics on to the next generation.



## Can you fill in the table to show the developmental changes from Eohippus to Equus

Name	Appeared	Size	Number of toes
Eohippus			
Miohippus			
Merychippus			
Pilohippus			
Equus			

largest 25 Million Years Ago 3 toes 1 (hoof)

40 Million Years Ago Small 3 Million Years Ago large

Medium 1 and 2 vestigial 60 Million Years Ago

1 toe Smallest 7 Million Years Ago 4 toes