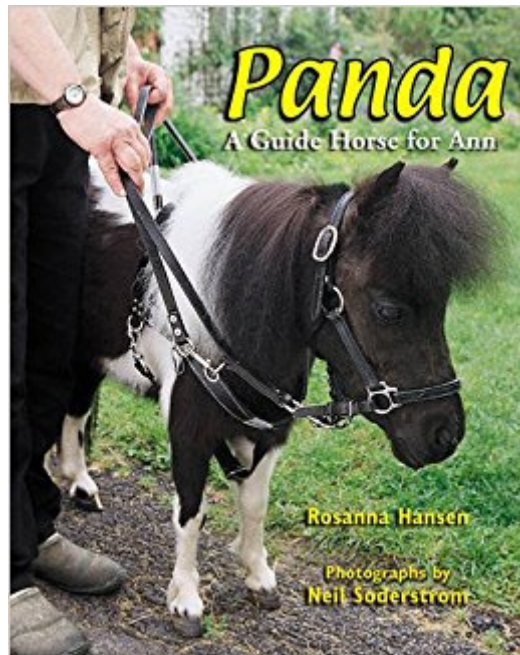




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Panda: A Guide Horse For Ann



Synopsis

You've probably seen guide dogs navigate the streets with their blind owners, but what would you think if you saw a horse? Yes, a horse! People are often surprised when they first see Panda guiding her owner, Ann Edie. Panda is a miniature horse - she's only as tall as Ann's thigh - and she knows how to help Ann go anywhere she wants to go. Panda sees for Ann, guiding her across busy streets, through crowded buildings, and even into cars or onto trains. Panda is one of the first miniature horses to be trained as a guide animal. Her training has been a learning experience for both Ann and Panda. The two use special signals to tell each other when to stop, when to go, or where there might be danger. Together they can tackle almost any situation with confidence. Rosanna Hansen's clear, lively text and Neil Soderstrom's vivid photographs help readers understand the unique relationship between a guide animal and its owner. As Ann says, "Panda and I are partners and friends - and that is a wonderful feeling."

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 910L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Boyds Mills Press (October 15, 2005)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 11.5 x 9.3 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,312,625 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Physical Disabilities #674 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology #993 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 1 - 5

Customer Reviews

Grade 3-5 "Everyone knows about guide dogs for the blind. But guide horses? Panda is a miniature horse, one of the first to be trained to help Ann Edie, a blind woman. Readers are introduced to Panda and Ann and taken through their day together. While the woman teaches at a

high school, Panda stays nearby. She accompanies Ann to the grocery store, and on a picnic. She's truly part of the family. The audience learns how the horse was trained and how she came into Ann's life after her beloved guide dog succumbed to old age. Cuddles, the first full-time trained guide horse, gets a mention. The topic is fresh and interesting. The writing is inviting and clear; the pictures are heart-warming. Abundant photographs are large and colorful. Panda is shown ringing her bell to be let out for a bathroom break. She's also shown picking up dropped keys, helping Ann cross a busy street, etc. She is competent and adorable. Cuddles is even shown wearing sneakers to protect her hooves. There is little else available on this new topic. A pleasant, upbeat introduction to a current subject.â “Anne Chapman Callaghan, Racine Public Library, WI Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Gr. 3-5. Most children have seen Seeing Eye dogs, but almost none have come in contact with a guide horse. Only a few such horses have been trained and are working. That's part of what makes this photo-essay so fascinating; it's a new topic for children's nonfiction. It's also very well done, showcasing how Panda helps her owner and how the miniature horse was originally trained. The oversize book features many glossy, well-structured photographs that bring children right into the life of a blind woman, Ann Edie, and it explains the many ways that Panda helps Ann--crossing streets, going shopping, riding on trains. The book moves back in time, chronicling Panda's training. Ann and her friend Alex, a horse trainer, heard about the first minihorse trained as a guide; since Ann's longtime guide dog had recently died, the women decided to see if they could train a guide horse, whose life span would be years longer than a dog's. The heartwarming, informative book shows the happy results. Several Web sites and a short bibliography are appended.

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This delightful little horse is beautifully portrayed in this well thought out book, with lovely clear photos. It's an imaginary story come to life as Panda delights in her real life job as a guide for Ann. A fairy tale come true.

Great book. Everyone should read it!

This is one of my all time favorite children's book for people of all ages! It is a great introduction to clicker training with world renowned clicker trainer Alexandra Kurland who trained Panda, a miniature horse to be a seeing eye guide. Great book!

My go-to kids' book! A lovely (true!) story.

Neil Soderstrom's color photos in *Panda: A Guide Horse For Ann* lend to a very lively survey of one Panda, a real-life guide horse who guides her owner. But Panda isn't a full-sized horse: she's a miniature horse only as tall as her owner's thigh - and she's as good as a guide dog, being one of the first to be trained as a guide animal. Picturebook readers in grades 2-4 will find *Panda: A Guide Horse For Ann* to be an enthralling story of the little horse, nicely enhanced by Neil Soderstrom's vivid color photos.

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