

## The Art of Horseback Riding

Bethany observed the rider. The way her long wavy red hair flew in the wind as she rode. The way her horse moved smoothly and swiftly around the ring, its hooves thumping a beat. She came to the first jump. She leaned forward, held her reins tight, but knocked the jump. Bethany was confused. She had done everything just right.

Bethany focused on the rider again. She approached the next jump, the double oxer. She leaned forward and gathered her reins, as she soared through the air, landing perfectly. Bethany stood up and cheered!

Now for the last jump. The presault wall. The girl's horse picked up speed, thumping a faster beat. Her hair flying faster in the wind. She came close to the jump. Her horse lifted its hooves off the ground. She soared high over the jump. The judges turned on the microphone. They said that puts her in second for now.

"We will see how the next riders do," said the judges. Bethany waited in suspense. "We have the results." The judges said. In third place we have Kelly Sharman, in second place we have Kacey Kellaline, and in first we have... Amelia Westcoast!!! Bethany jumped up in excitement. "That is her name," she said laughing. Bethany turned to her mom and said "Hey mom. I am going to talk to Amelia Westcoast over there in her horse's stall. Is that okay?" "Yes that is fine, but only there. I will wait here for you." "Thanks so much mom." Bethany said.

