

**5/16/07 Facts about a young horses.
They like to try and Lie.**

Did you know that working with a young horse, say 3 or 4 yr old is just like working with a teenager? Now all are slightly different, but they all have some things in common. Today I was riding my 4 yr old and realize she was trying to lying to me. Yep, trying to tell me a fib. She said she was allowed to eat grass while riding. Well, I know that is not true for I'd never let a young horse do this, an older horse maybe, in the right setting, but not a horse in training.

So I informed Razzle that that was not going to happen and down the trail we went. Until the next little challenge came up. MUD!!! She wanted to go around, I wanted to go over. We had a discussion, nothing harsh, no curse words used and she understood that I knew she could walk in mud and expected it of her now. It was really fun. Just a firm hand and knowing she was fibbing about not liking mud and I was able to convince her to do it my way.

Sassy was also testing me today to see if maybe I forgot what we had done yesterday and would let her think she didn't know how to trot under saddle. Of course I had not and so I informed Sassy, the 3 yr old, that she could and would trot and that was the end of discussion.

So now you are asking how from these two horses I deducted that they like to lie? Its' easy, I knew what the horse could do but when the owner got on Sassy, Sassy acted like she had no idea how to do anything. With a little coaching, the owner understood she was being tested by the "teenage" horse and got the situation under hand. Now that's fun to watch. Horse and Owner communicating on the same sheet of music, or in this case, the same dirt area.

So what's the lesson here? Don't be surprise if your young horse acts like he has forgotten everything you ever taught him. He's just lying and testing you to see if you remember. Just like teenagers will try and do from time to time. Man what fun (but I'm sticking to horses)..