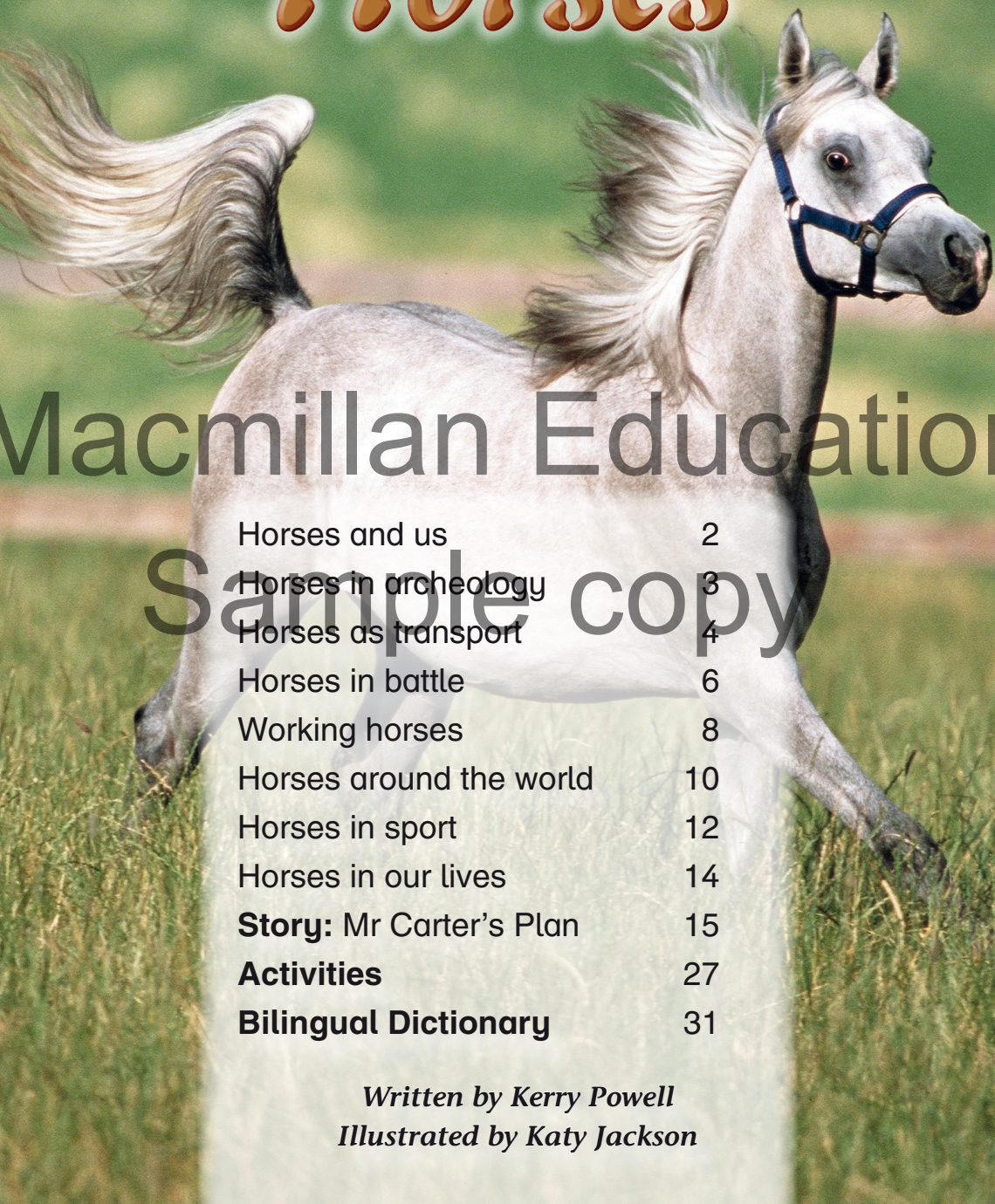


Horses



Macmillan Education

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Written by Kerry Powell
Illustrated by Katy Jackson

Horses and us

The first horses lived in Europe and Asia during the last Ice Age, when ice and snow covered most of the Earth. This was between 12 000 and 100 000 years ago. These wild horses lived in herds.



Today, there are still wild horses in some countries. These horses live in a part of southern France called the Camargue. They are one of the oldest breeds of horses in the world.



Camargue horses

About 6000 years ago, people in Central and East Asia tamed the first wild horses. People started riding horses around 1300 BCE.

Horses in archeology

We can learn a lot about our relationship with horses over time from archeology – looking at objects from the past to learn about how people lived. This pot from ancient Greece shows a man chariot racing. This was a popular sport.



In ancient China, horses were a symbol of great wealth. Horses were very important and were often buried with their owner when they died.

The Terracotta Army



Mr Carter's Plan



*Written by Kerry Powell
Illustrated by Katy Jackson*

Sam Carter was helping his dad and Cleo, the farm's shire horse, to plough the big field.

“What would we do without Cleo, Dad?” Sam asked. “She’s such a hard worker and a brilliant friend.”

Mr Carter looked at his son. He felt guilty. It was 1936 and things were changing. New technology was replacing old farming methods. Their farm had to change, too. But it was a difficult decision – a decision that was even more difficult to explain to Sam.



The next day after school, Sam saw his two best friends, Ben and Sally.

“I’m taking Cleo to the blacksmith to get a new horseshoe this afternoon,” he said. “There’s still a lot of work to do on the farm, so Cleo needs to be fit and healthy.”



Ben and Sally walked home together. They were worried.

“Sam doesn’t know about Cleo, does he?” said Ben. “What should we do?”