

Horse Tale



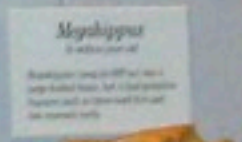
Prot hippus
Prot hippus (30-40 million years old) was a grazing horse. Like *Merychippus*, it had its high-crowned teeth to eat the abundant grasses of the plains.



Merychippus
Merychippus (15-20 million years old) was about the size of a rabbit. It still had three toes, but the middle one was the biggest. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Pseudhipparion
Pseudhipparion (10-15 million years old) was a North American dwarf horse with high-crowned teeth and a rounded skull. One *Pseudhipparion* species had even grinding teeth with a flat valley for the evolution of horses.



Merychippus
Merychippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse, but it had a small brain. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Colpus
Colpus (10-15 million years old) was a small horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Parahippus
Parahippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Merychippus
Merychippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Merychippus
Merychippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.

Equus
Equus (modern times) is a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Archaeohippus
Archaeohippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Archaeohippus
Archaeohippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Dinohippus
Dinohippus (10-15 million years old) was a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Equus caballus
Equus caballus (modern times) is a large-bodied horse with a rounded skull and high-crowned teeth. It was one of the first horses to have a hoof.



Modern Horses
 Modern horses, including all breeds, evolved from a common ancestor that lived about 40 million years ago. They are all members of the genus *Equus*.



HORSE EVOLUTION TENDS TO BE thought of as one continuous line from the dawn horse to the long-legged modern thoroughbred, but it really like all evolutionary processes, it wasn't that simple.

Look for these changes taken on higher-crowned-teeth for chewing coarse vegetation and grasses, hooves for more efficient running, and larger body size.