

FEBRUARY 2024

FARM  
BUREAU  
GEORGIA

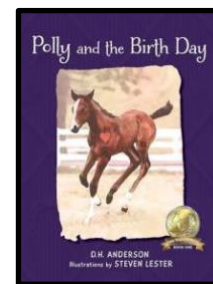
## Ag in the Classroom Book of the Month

### Polly and the Birth Day (Book 1 of 4)

By *D.H. Anderson*

Waterdam Farm is quiet and peaceful-where horses, cats...and a dog roam and play.

On a crisp February morning, a new horse arrives-making the animals very curious. Polly is a retired racehorse-but something about her is rather peculiar. She's round and moves very slowly. The farm animals quickly welcome her-and she becomes part of their family. Then news spreads throughout the barn: Polly will soon be a new mom! In early spring, she gives birth to a tiny filly... It's a girl! Welcome to the world Lady Thistle!



### Fun Facts:

- In Georgia horses rank the number 6th commodity by value at just over \$261 million.
- With more than 74,000 horses in Georgia, the breeding and care that go into them is a more than \$750 million business.
- The most common breeds include Quarter Horses, Tennessee Walkers, Paints, American Saddles and Appaloosas.
- Approximately 4.6 million Americans work in the horse industry which has an economic impact of \$39 billion annually.
- Each year 27 million people in the U.S. ride a horse.
- Cumberland Island has the only herd of feral horses on the Atlantic coast that is not managed (no food, water, veterinary care, or population control.)
- The invention of the first steam-powered tractor in the 19<sup>th</sup> century marked a significant turning point in agricultural history. Before this innovation, horses and oxen were the primary sources for plowing fields and completing other labor-intensive tasks.
- Horses can live 25-30 years. Their eyes are among the largest of any land mammal and are positioned on the sides of the head. This means horses have a range of vision of about 350°.

### Videos:

- [AgVentures: Dr. Zoe Latimer- Large Animal Vet](#)
- Farm Monitor: [Ensuring Proper Winter Diets for Horses](#)
- Farm Monitor: [Clydesdale Horses At Home on North Georgia Farm](#)
- [We Love Horses on The Farm! | John Deere Kids](#)

### Activities:

- [Horse Coloring Page](#) and [Horse Bookmarks](#)
- [Georgia Dept of Ag. Horses, History and Agriculture Activity Book](#)
- [Easy Jet No Bake Cookies](#)-a treat enjoyed by humans and horses!
- [Horse Mini Ag Mag](#)
- [Horse Activity Page](#)-links to many equine resources
- [Paper Cut Horse Puppets](#)
- [Horse Craft Activity](#)
- [STEM Activity: Build a fence to keep your horse on using only clothes pins and tongue depressors/popsicle sticks](#)
- [Equine Bingo: Learn about the different breeds of horses](#)
- [Horse dot to dot, label the body parts and color page](#)



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