

# 24 HOUR TIME BUDGET FOR DONKEYS



**THE DONKEY  
SANCTUARY**

## DETAILS OF COMPLETION

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This exercise looks at the time used and activities of donkeys during the day.

The aim is for you to think about how your donkeys spend their time, especially when you are not there. You will explore how much time donkeys have to fill and the importance of providing a stimulating environment which helps toward meeting their needs. Please do the resource mapping exercise to help reveal more insights into your donkeys' day

1. Start by shading in the segments or part segments of the chart that represent times you are sure of the donkeys activity, i.e. morning and evening routines plus any other times which are constant such as grooming and poo picking, then start to fill in other activities you know the donkeys engage in, for example, it is a pretty safe bet that if the donkeys are strip grazed, after the fence is moved they will spend time eating the new grass, or after new straw is put in their stable, they will eat the straw.
2. Then try to estimate what the donkeys do when you are not there. Bear in mind that donkeys generally only sleep up to four –five hours a day, with deep recumbent sleep about 40 minutes of that.
3. If there are still gaps in the 24 hour time budget or you really don't know what your donkeys do for large parts of the day then you could create a total time activity budget chart. Just estimate the total time spent on every activity for example 30 minutes grooming, 2 hours resting standing up, 6 hours eating grass etc. Having completed that total time budget you can, if required, return to the 24hr budget and fill in any gaps.
4. Does anything that surprise you about the exercise; ask yourself questions like, 'How well do you think your environment helps to meet the donkeys' natural needs?' 'What do you think the donkeys might do more of they are bored?' 'How might this time budget be changed due to bad weather or between the seasons?' 'Does it change between the week and the weekends?'
5. At the end of this assessment ask yourself what could be done to increase the amount of time that your donkeys engage in physical activities. This can be considered in conjunction with the resource mapping exercises. Changing to a track system; moving or increasing water points; physically walking them etc. The target should be to see if you can increase the donkey's physical exercise by at least 1 hour a day. Even an older donkey will benefit from mental stimulation, while it might not mean increasing the amount of exercise it may mean increased human interaction or hiding food treats in the environment.

## THE DONKEY SANCTUARY

Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 0NU

**T** [44] (0)1395 578222 **F** [44] (0)1395 579266 **E** [enquiries@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk)

[www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](http://www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk)

The Donkey Sanctuary was founded by Dr Elisabeth Svendsen MBE in 1969.

The Donkey Sanctuary (registered charity number 264818) and its sole corporate trustee, The Donkey Sanctuary Trustee Limited (Company number 07328588) both have their registered office at Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, EX10 0NU.

Incorporating: The Elisabeth Svendsen Trust for Children and Donkeys (EST); The International Donkey Protection Trust (IDPT).

**WORKING WORLDWIDE**

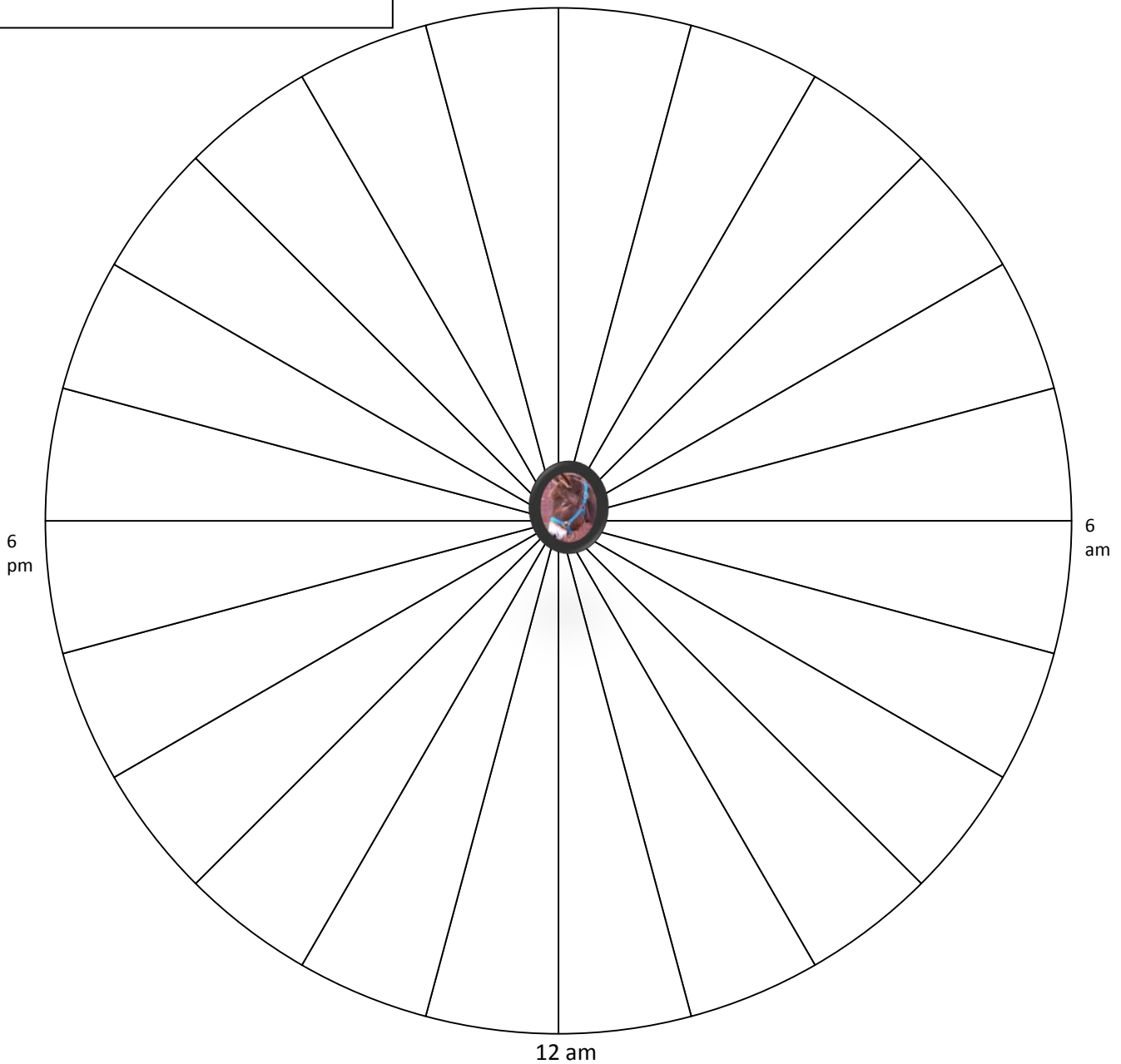
# 24 HOUR TIME BUDGET FOR DONKEYS

Date

Donkey's name

Guardian's name

**Midnight**



**Key activities that might be included**

Sleep

Eating straw, Eating grass, Chewing logs, Resting, Grooming, Exercise, Walking, Training, Chewing fence'

Playing interacting with others, Looking over fence, Finding hidden carrots, Drinking