

Tracking

One day, Pony and Little Girl went for a ride. Little Girl took an apple for Pony and a cookie for her self. Pony walked on the path into the woods. The shadows in the woods felt cool.

The trees reached over the path like a green, leafy arch. Sunlight dappled the ground. The path was clear and smooth, so Little Girl asked Pony to trot for a ways. Pony trotted and Little Girl giggled when she bounced in the saddle.

In a few minutes, they reached the meadow. Pony stopped and Little Girl slid off her back. Pony ate the apple and Little Girl ate the cookie. They saw footprints in the mud. Each print looked like two half moons side by side. They followed the footprints down to the stream where Pony took a long drink of water.

“Pony, I think the animal with the half moon footprints came to get a drink of water, too,” said Little Girl. She looked across the small stream and saw more footprints. She raised her eyes to the top of the hill. A great animal stood at the top of the hill watching them. He had antlers that looked like branches reaching to the sky.

What kind of animal did they track?