

Cow Girl

- 1 When Hannah Simpson's parents told her they couldn't afford a horse, she chose to ride a cow. "I wanted a horse, and I couldn't have one," the 18-year-old from Invercargill, New Zealand, said. Hannah's younger brother, Tim, suggested she should try riding Lilac, a 6-month-old calf on the family's farm. "We just jumped on and away we went. There was no training. And she's got better the more I rode her," Hannah said.
- 2 That was 6½ years ago. Now Hannah and Lilac ride together regularly, and the cow even jumps over logs 3 feet high. Hannah rides Lilac bareback, but that's fine with her. "Lilac is quite fat right now, so, yes, she is more comfortable than my horse anyway," Hannah told *The Huffington Post*. Hannah has to make other adjustments for her friend. "She is a cow, and I can't expect her to ride like a horse. Without a bit of encouragement she wouldn't really do anything, she has a very chilled-out nature," she says.
- 3 However, jumping has never been an issue. Hannah laughs as she remembers that Lilac was always jumping in the cow shed when she was young. "So I think she likes it, too. We started her off with stepping over logs, and it just got bigger and bigger," she said. Lilac is definitely a multi-tasker. When she's not riding with Hannah, she provides milk for the family and last year gave birth to twins. Hannah said she had tried to ride a few other cows, but apart from one they'd all thrown her off.
- 4 Hannah and Lilac are now attracting worldwide attention thanks to her Instagram posts, but she doesn't plan to milk it by putting Lilac in horse shows. "I don't think she would behave if we took her away from her home. And I don't need to compete. She is more special than a horse, more rare," she says. She hopes that her rides with Lilac do send a message to the world. "I just think it's awesome that people can see how cool cows can be," Hannah says. "And, also, you just have to give things a go and see what happens."



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- 1p 5 Waarom ging Hannah op een koe rijden volgens alinea 1?
A Een paard was te duur.
B Haar broer deed dat ook al.
C Ze was bang voor paarden.
- 1p 6 Wat zegt Hannah in alinea 2 over het rijden op een koe?
A Een koe maakt vaak plotseling rare sprongen.
B Een koe moet soms worden aangespoord.
C Een koe zit minder prettig dan een paard.
- 2p 7 'Lilac is definitely a multi-tasker.' (alinea 3)
→ Geef bij elke bewering aan wat Lilac wel of niet heeft gedaan.
Omcirkel 'wel' of 'niet' in je uitwerkbijlage.
1 ontsnappen uit de stal
2 springen over hindernissen
3 melk geven
4 kalfjes krijgen
- 1p 8 Waarom schrijft Hannah Lilac niet in voor een paardenshow? (alinea 4)
A Lilac is door social media al beroemd genoeg.
B Lilac is uitgesloten omdat ze een koe is.
C Lilac zou zich daar waarschijnlijk misdragen.