



Los Angeles Unified School District
MULTILINGUAL AND MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



ELEMENTARY
DESIGNATED ELD MENTOR TEXT LESSON:

Wild Horses by Chris Petersen

Grade 4

In the deepest, darkest part of the night, when the crickets and tree frogs are almost silent, shadowy shapes emerge from the ponderosa pine ridge and tiptoe down the glassy Cheyenne River below. Their long tangled manes and tails ruffle in the night breeze. Ever alert and watchful for predators, they swiftly drink their fill. Then they turn on their heels and lunge up the rocky hills for safety.

In the misty glow of dawn, one can see these mysterious visitors aren't backyard pasture mares with swishing tails and docile, trusting eyes. These horses are wild-from another century, another era, another world. They are American mustangs, whose freedom, adaptability, and toughness define the western wilderness.