Hay - It's not for horses!

Hay (pronounced like "eye") is a very easy verb to use in Spanish. It means "there is / there are". You don't have to worry about conjugating! Let's look at some examples:

You can use it to ask how many things there are.

¿Cuántos estudiantes **hay** en la clase? – How many students **are there** in the class?

Answer like this:

Hay veinte estudiantes en la clase. **There are** twenty students in the class.

You can use it to ask what items are in something ¿Qué hay en tu dormitorio?
What is (there) in your bedroom?

Hay una cama y un armario. **There is** a bed and a closet.

¿Qué hay en tu mochila? What is (there) in your back pack?

En mi mochila **hay** libros y lápices. In my backpack **there are** books and pencils.

You can also use it to ask if something exists

¿Hay un hotel en el centro? Is there a hotel downtown?

Sí. Sí hay. Yes. Yes there is.

¿Hay algunos libros por aquí? Are there any books around here?

No. **No hay.** No. **No there aren't**.