



MINI 4-H RABBITS

Welcome to Mini 4-H!

You are now a member of the 4-H family. You are a special person.

Mini 4-H'ers have lots of fun! There are lots of activities for you to explore. You can try new things. You can share it with your friends and family.

Mom, Dad or another adult can help you with your project. Bring your project to the 4-H Fair and lots of people will be able to see what you have done. You also get a ribbon made just for Mini 4-H'ers.

Here are some things to know about 4-H.

The 4-H Symbol: A four-leaf clover with an “H” in each leaf

4-H Colors: Green and White

4-H Motto: To make the best, better.

4-H Pledge: I pledge my Head to clearer thinking
My Heart to greater loyalty
My Hands to larger service, and
My Health to better living, for my club, my
community, my country, and my world.

Display at the Fair:

Make a cup bunny to bring to the fair. Don't forget to write your name on the cup!

Some of the items you may need for Rabbits, include:

- Pencil
- Crayons, colored pencils, markers, or paint
- Foam, plastic, or paper cup
- White paper, colored paper
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaners or Q-tips (optional)

Great Things about Rabbits

We are excited that you want to learn more about rabbits in Mini 4-H. Rabbits are great animals to consider for a future 4-H exhibit project. We will learn some of things you will need to know if you ever decide to get a rabbit.

- Do you know what a rabbit eats?
- Do you know how to handle a rabbit?
- Do you know why a rabbit twitches its whiskers?

Here are some other reasons to raise and show rabbits.

- Rabbits are easy to handle.
- Rabbits are gentle animals.
- Rabbits are smart.
- Rabbits are fun to watch!
- They need very little space in which to live.
- Rabbits do not need very much equipment.

Other facts about rabbits that you might need to know:

- Rabbits are mammals.
- Female rabbits are called “does”. She will pull fur from her body to make a nest for her babies. She can have 4 to 5 litters a year! She might have 4 to 10 babies in each litter. That is a lot of bunnies.
- Male rabbits are called “bucks”.
- When bunnies are born, they don’t have very much hair and their eyes are shut. They will not open their eyes or have fur until they are 10 to 11 days old.
- Rabbits live for about 10 years!
- There are over 40 recognized breeds of rabbits. They are identified by things like body type, fur type, and size.
- They have long ears so they can hear sounds from far away. Their ability to hear and their strong hind jumping legs help protect them from predators.
- Rabbits have a great sense of smell. Their nostrils twitch constantly so that they can catch every scent in the air. Smell helps them sense danger and find food.

Where Should Your Rabbit Live?

A rabbits' cage is called a hutch. The hutch may have a wood floor or a wire floor. Wire floor hutches are easier to clean. For the hutch to be outdoors it will need a sturdy roof to keep the rain and sun off the rabbit and it should be lifted off of the ground to keep other animals like dogs away from the rabbit. Many hutches have a front area that is like a patio where the rabbit can get fresh air and a closed back part that is like a warm, quite house.

Rabbits may also be kept indoors as a pet. Indoor rabbits may also be litter box trained. Even if you keep your rabbit inside, you will want to have a cage for the rabbit for when you are gone from home.

A rabbit's cage needs cleaned out at least every second or third day for hygiene reasons. Rabbits themselves do not stink; it is their un-cleaned litter that causes an odor. If a rabbit is kept healthy, the rabbit can remain outdoors all year. A rabbit's fur will become thicker during the winter to keep it warm. It will molt (shed) during the spring to allow it to stay cool and comfortable during the summer.

**Draw a picture of where your rabbit lives
or where you would keep a rabbit if you had one**

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw a picture of where their rabbit lives or where they would keep a rabbit if they had one.

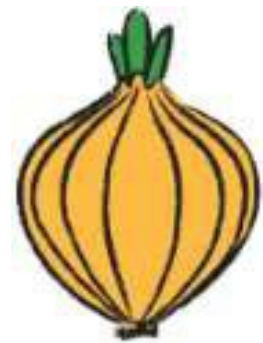
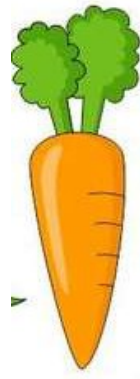
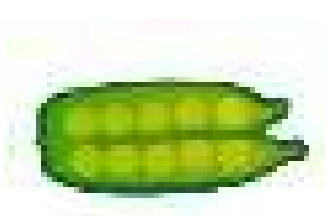
What Do Rabbits Eat?

Rabbits eat a pelleted feed that is available at feed stores. The pellet of feed contains protein, fiber, minerals and vitamins, all items a rabbit needs. You will need to keep your rabbit's feed in an air-tight container so that the feed remains in a hard pellet and does not get soft and mushy. Your rabbit will not eat a pellet that is soft and mushy. Rabbits do like vegetables and fruit. You can feed your rabbits carrots, cabbage, or quality hay or grass, but do not feed your rabbit lettuce. Some fruits and vegetables may make your domestic rabbit very ill. You should feed your rabbit every day and it is best to feed in the evening.

Always provide clean, fresh water to your rabbit. Do you like to drink water that has been setting out all day? Neither does your rabbit!

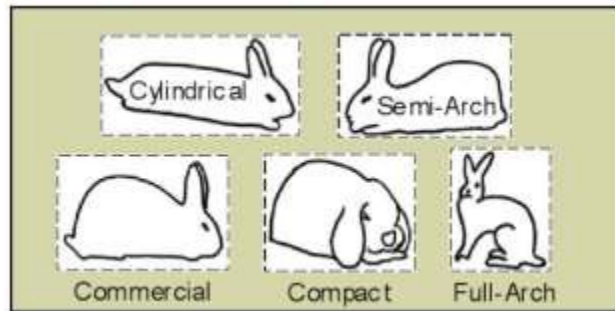
Rabbits may be fed and watered using heavy bowls called crocks. The crocks need to be heavy so that the rabbit does not flip them over and spill the feed and water.

Circle the Food if it is Safe for Rabbits to Eat



Do you Know the Breed of your Bunny?

Body Shapes



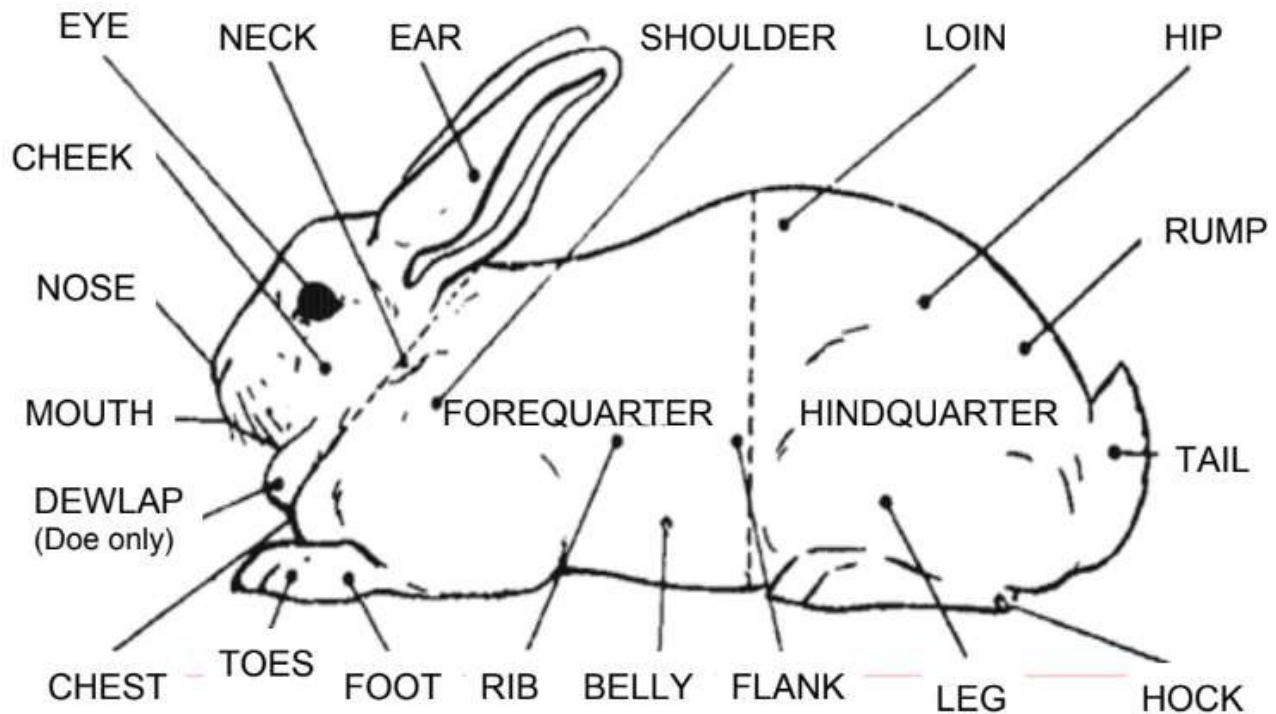
Rabbit Breeds

Rabbit Breed	Rabbit Size	Rabbit Body Type	Rabbit Fur
American	9-12 lbs	Semi Arch	Flyback
American Chinchilla	9-12 lbs	Commercial	Rollback
American Fuzzy Lop	Max 4 lbs	Compact	Wool
American Sable	Max 10 lbs	Commercial	Rollback
Belgian Hare	6-9 lbs	Full Arch	Flyback
Beveren	8-12 lbs	Semi Arch	Rollback
Blanc de Hotot	8-11 lbs	Commercial	Rollback
Britannia Petite	2.25-2.50 lbs	Full Arch	Flyback
Californian	8-10.25 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Champagne d'Argent	9-12 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Checkered Giant	11+ lbs	Full Arch	Flyback
Cinnamon	9-11 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Creme d'Argent	8.25-11 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Dutch	4-5.25 lbs	Compact	Flyback
Dwarf Hotot	Max 3 lbs	Compact	Rollback
English Angora	5-7.5 lbs	Compact	Wool
English Lop	Min. 10 lbs	Semi Arch	Flyback
English Spot	6-8 lbs	Full Arch	Flyback
Flemish Giant	13-14+ lbs	Semi Arch	Rollback
Florida White	4-6 lbs	Compact	Flyback
French Angora	9-10.5 lbs	Commercial	Wool
French Lop	11+ lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Giant Angora	9-10.5+ lbs	Commercial	Wool
Giant Chinchilla	13-15 lbs	Semi Arch	Flyback

Harlequin	7.5 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Havana	5-6 lbs	Compact	Flyback
Himalayan	3-5 lbs	Cylindrical	Flyback
Holland Lop	3-4 lbs	Compact	Rollback
Jersey Wooly	3-3.5 lbs	Compact	Wool
Lilac	6-8 lbs	Compact	Rollback
Mini Lop	5-6 lbs	Compact	Rollback
Mini Rex	3-4.5 lbs	Compact	Rex
Mini Satin	4 lbs	Compact	Satin
Netherland Dwarf	2-2.5 lbs	Compact	Rollback
New Zealand	9-12 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Palomino	8-10 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Polish	3-3.5 lbs	Compact	Flyback
Rex	8-9 lbs	Commercial	Rex
Rhineland	6.5-10 lbs	Full Arch	Flyback
Satin	9-11 lbs	Commercial	Satin
Satin Angora	8-9 lbs	Commercial	Wool
Silver	Max 9.5 lbs	Compact	Flyback
Silver Fox	Max 12 lbs	Commercial	Rollback
Silver Marten	6-9 lbs	Commercial	Flyback
Standard Chinchilla	6-7.5 lbs	Compact	Rollback
Tan	4-6 lbs	Full Arch	Flyback
Thrianta	4.5-6 lbs	Compact	Rollback

Do you Know the Parts of a Bunny?

Color the Bunny Below



How do you Show a Rabbit?

To pick up your rabbit:

1. Place one hand under the rabbit's hindquarters or rump and the other hand will grasp the loose skin over the shoulders.
2. As you lift the rabbit from the cage the hand under the rabbit will support the weight of the rabbit.
3. Tuck the head of the rabbit under your arm that is holding the hindquarters of the rabbit and hold the rabbit against you.
4. Set the rabbit on the table always supporting the rabbit with you hand under the rabbit.

Know about your rabbit:

- what breed it is.
- how you cared for your rabbit.

Make a Paper Cup Bunny



Make it your own!

Start with a paper, plastic, or foam cup (any color)

Draw or paint a face on your cup –

Cut ears out of paper and glue or tape on

Other Ideas:

You could use pipe cleaners or Q-tips for the whiskers.

Cover the cup with cotton balls and glue on eyes made of paper, whisker, nose, etc.

Make ears from felt or wood sticks

What else can you think of – to make your perfect bunny?