

**‘Ramona Rabbit’**  
**Weeks 3 & 4**  
**Year 1 & 2 pupils**  
**Term 2 Summer 2020**



## **Introduction**

For the activities within this booklet, children will need:

- additional paper and/or a topic book
- writing pencils
- coloured pencils, crayons or paints
- scissors
- glue/sellotape
- scrap materials: bubble wrap, cardboard, newspaper, cotton wool, wool.

Most of the daily maths for your child is in the maths booklet. However, there is some maths which is related to this topic which is within the daily activities.

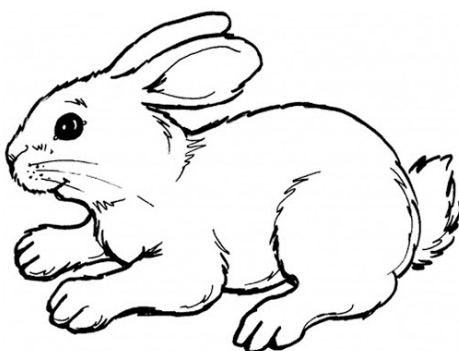
## **Phonics and Spelling**

The phonics and spelling work are separate to this booklet, but there are some key words that children need to learn which are subject specific. It is important that the children can read and spell these words too.

## **Helping your child.**

Your child may require some help to read the activities, information or stories within the booklet. Most words however, are phonetically de-codeable (phase 4 & 5). Please check your child is able to understand each activity so they can do the tasks associated with them.

There is approximately 4.5 hours of work per day. 2.5 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon.



## Contents



Science: All about rabbits

Science: Wild rabbit habitats and clues to let you know where they are

Geography: Distribution of rabbits in UK and World

Geography/IT: Parts of the World that are rabbit free

Science: Comparing hares and rabbits

Science: Rabbit food sources

Science: Predation and food chains

Geography/Science: Rabbits as pests

Science: Comparing rabbits and humans

English: The Break Time Bunnies – read and write own ending

Art: Rabbit drawing and collage

PSHE/Science: Rabbits as pets & facts about domesticated rabbits

PSHE: Looking after rabbits & rabbit care diary

English/IT: Rabbits in the media

## Science: All About Rabbits



Hello,

My name is Ramona and I want to tell you some information about rabbits.

A lot of people do get us mixed up with my distant cousins – the hares. We come from the same family of animals but we are different!

My top ten facts about rabbits:

- 1) A baby rabbit is called a **kit**, a female is called a **doe** and a male is called a **buck**.
- 2) Rabbits are very **social creatures** that live in groups. They live in **warrens** — a series of tunnels and rooms that they dig underground.
- 3) A rabbit's **teeth never stop growing!** Instead, they're gradually worn down as the rabbit chews on grasses, wildflowers and vegetables — meaning they never get too long.
- 4) Rabbits perform an athletic leap, known as a '**binky**', when they're happy — performing twists and kicks in mid air!
- 5) Rabbits' **eyes are on the sides of their head**, meaning they can see almost all the way around them. This helps them to keep a close watch for predators while they're going about their business!



- 6) Like cats, happy rabbits **purr** when they're content and relaxed.
- 7) Rabbits are amazing athletes — they can jump as high as **90 centimetres** in one leap!
- 8) A rabbit's best feature? Their long ears! Growing up to **10 centimetres** in length, rabbits can turn their ears by **180 degrees**, keeping a careful listen out for predators.
- 9) One of the world's best-known rabbits is the Warner Bros cartoon character, **Bugs Bunny** — who's often seen munching on a carrot! In fact, carrots aren't a natural part of a rabbit's diet and can give bunnies an upset stomach if they eat too many.
- 10) There are more than 45 million rabbits in the UK.

Let's see what rabbit facts you can remember.

1. Where do rabbits live?

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2. What do rabbits do when they are contented? Circle the right answer.

smile      jump up and down      purr      fall asleep

3. Match the rabbit to its proper name:

father

doe

mother

kit

baby

buck

4. How do you know that rabbits are social animals?

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5. Do rabbits really like carrots? Explain why.

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6. What is special about rabbits' teeth?

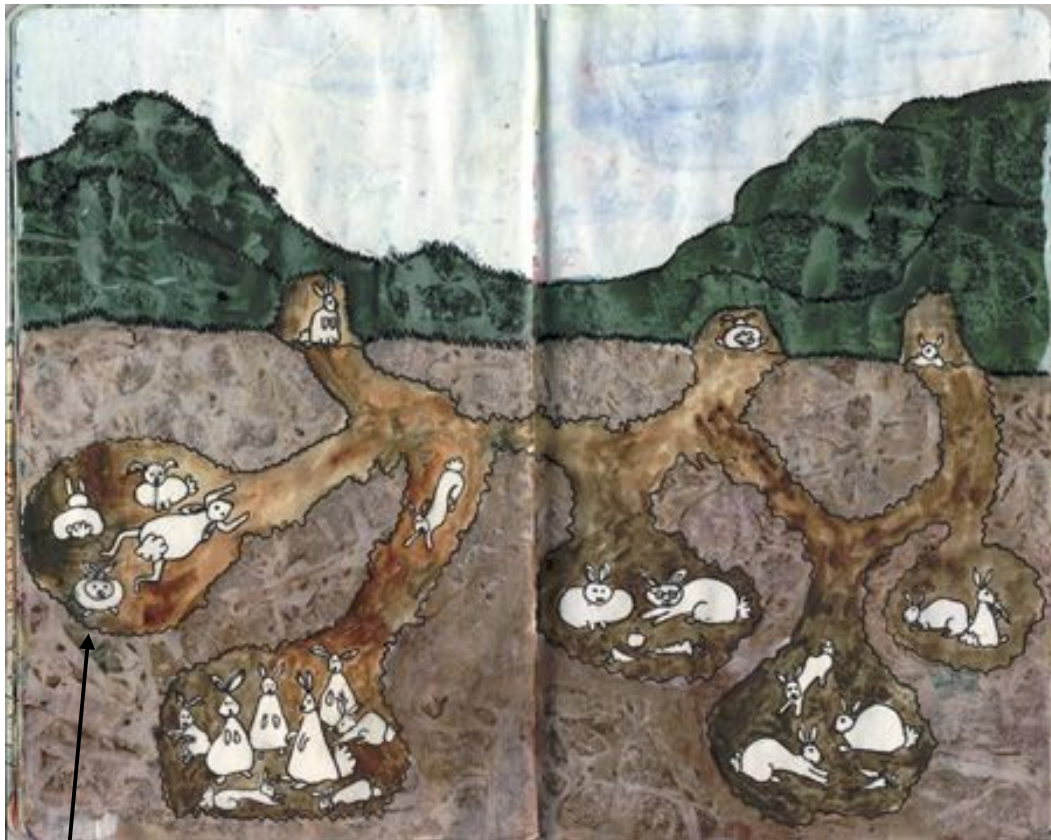
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7. A rabbit's ears can turn 180 degrees - that is a full half turn. Why is important that a rabbit's ears are so big and can turn so much?
- 
- 



This is what my rabbit home looks like.



Burrow

As I told you earlier, rabbits are social animals and we tend to live in large groups called colonies.

When we dig our homes in the ground, we dig a burrow which is a hole with a tunnel and a big cosy chamber at the bottom. When our tunnels join up with other burrows so more rabbit families live together, the home is called a warren.

In some ways it's like you living in a building with just your family or in a block of flats - a building with other families in it.

How are the rooms in my home laid out differently to the rooms laid out in my family's warren? Please draw it for me.

Your house plan





My warren plan



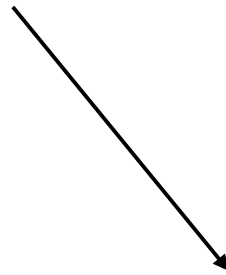
The next thing to find out  
is where do wild rabbits like  
to live?

Rabbits live where they can easily get food and that their warrens will not get flooded. They can be found everywhere in the UK but tend to live in woodlands, urban gardens, mountain moorland, farmland and grassland, where there are plenty of plants to munch on.

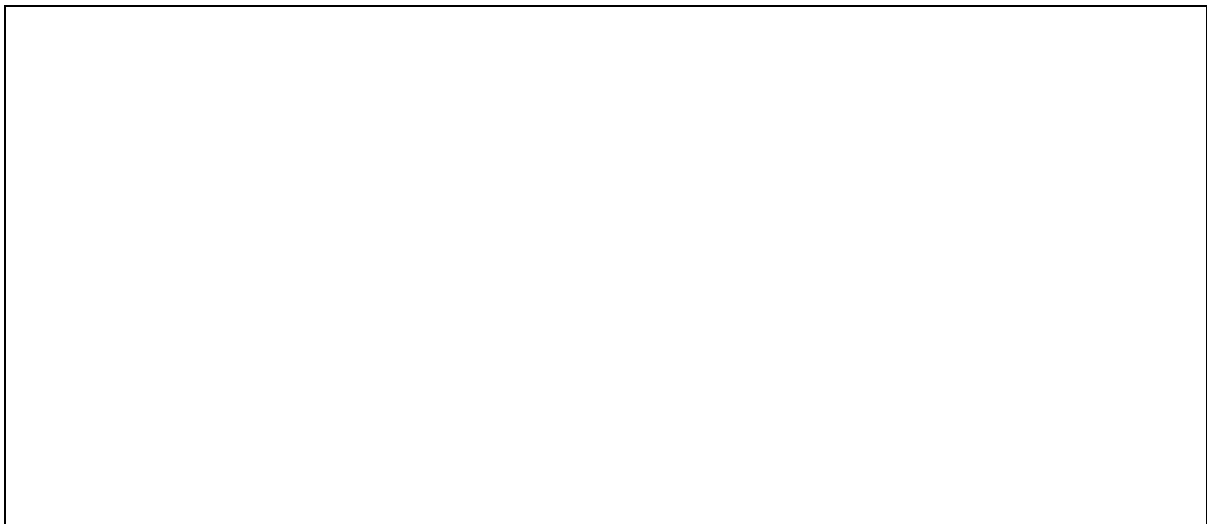
You can often tell where rabbits live in you come across lots of rabbit droppings! They are a yellowy -brownish- green colour and are about 1 cm in length.



Sometimes you can see their footprints in damp mud or sandy areas, but it is so much easier to see their footprints in the snow!



How do you think rabbit warrens could get flooded?



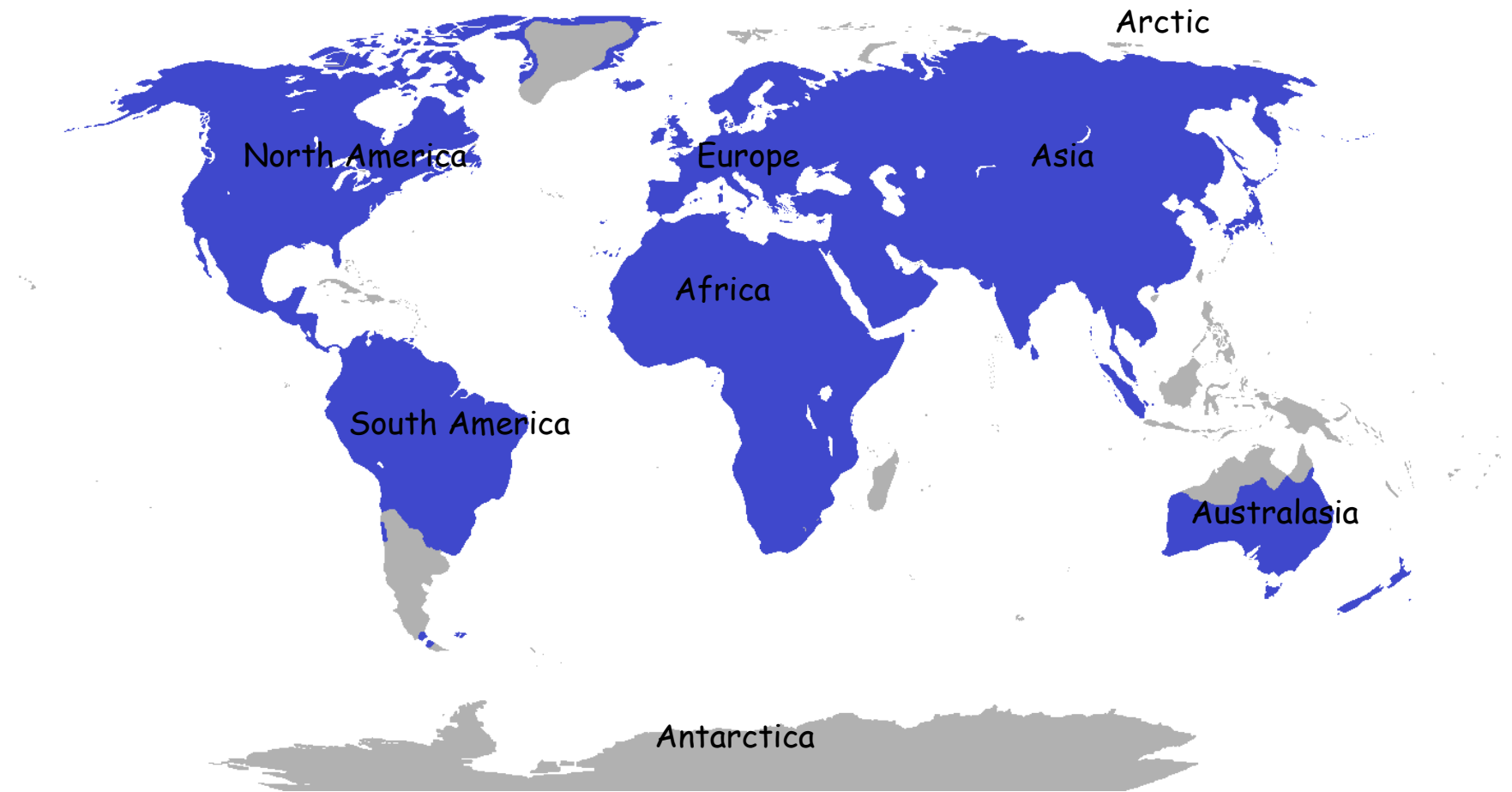


I'm Rosco.  
Ramona is my sister.  
I want to let you know about  
some World bunny facts.

Geography: Rabbit, rabbits everywhere!

- Rabbits live all over the World, except Antarctica.
- Rabbits are small mammals found naturally in Europe, South Africa, Sumatra and Japan. Rabbits are also often found in the desert regions of the Middle East where the rabbits inhabit the greener parts of the deserts where there is enough food and water for the rabbits to survive.
- More than half of all wild rabbits live in North America
- Rabbits were introduced to a number of countries as they were farmed for meat and fur
- They were introduced to Britain by the Normans in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century (900 years ago!)

Below is a world map and everywhere that is coloured blue, has rabbits!



Can you find the UK?

Where else do rabbits not seem to live?

## Information technology - retrieving information: which parts of the World are rabbit-free?

Use one of the following pieces of equipment.

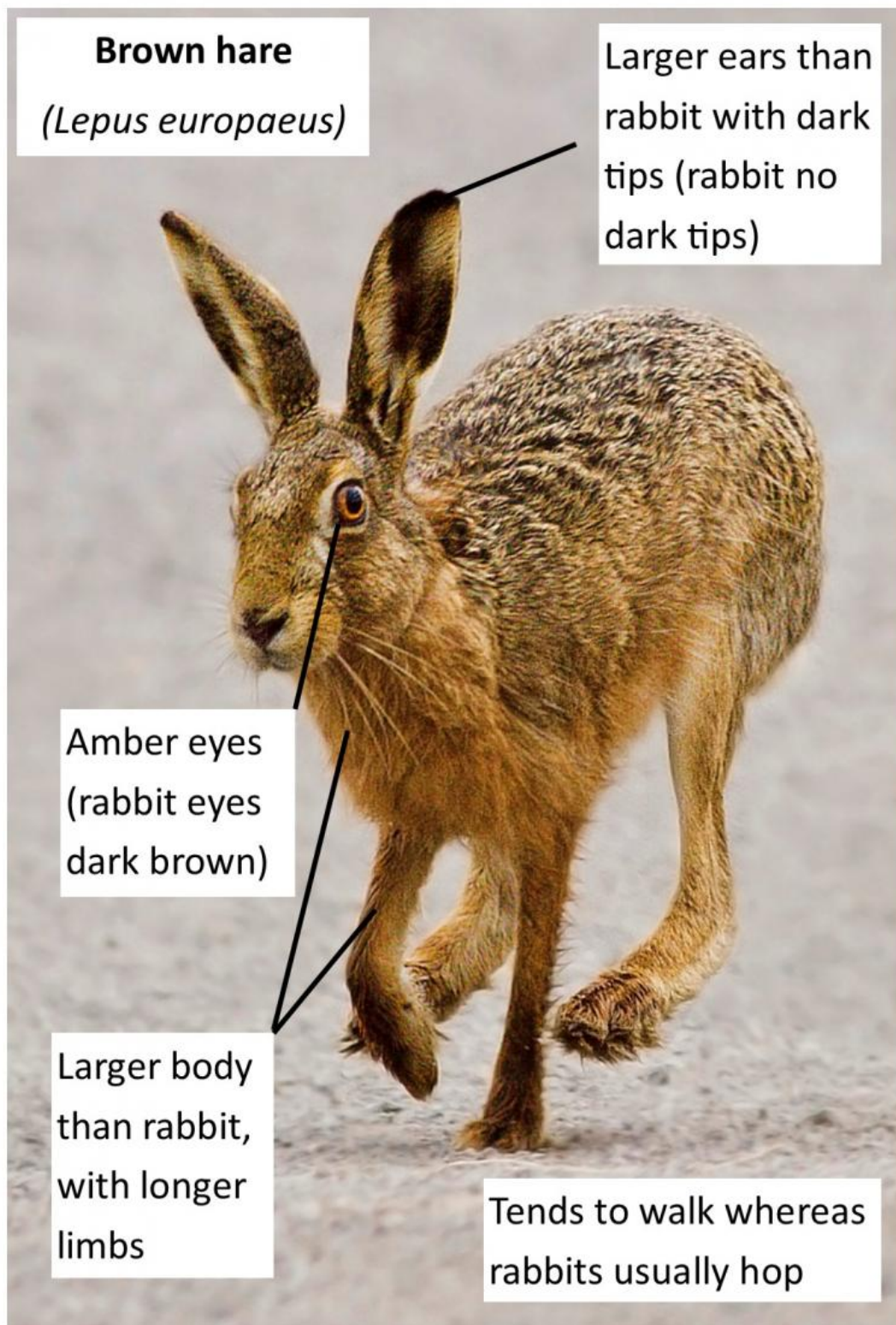
A computer	a laptop	A tablet device( i-pad, kindle or similar)	a mobile phone
			

Use the internet to have a look at the world to find out where rabbits are NOT living.



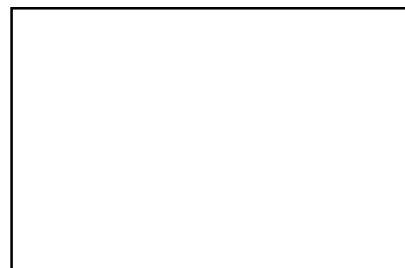
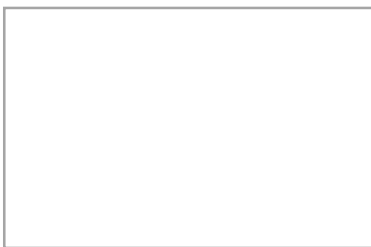
Places where rabbits are not seen:

Science: The differences between a rabbit and a hare





Now do a poster to show how a rabbit is different to a hare





### Science: What do rabbits eat?

Rabbits are herbivores that feed on mainly on grass, but rabbits also eat nuts and berries and often fruit and vegetables.

During warmer seasons, rabbits will eat weeds, **grasses (including hay)**, clover, wildflowers, and flower and green vegetable plants. When the weather turns cold, rabbits will munch on twigs, buds, bark, conifer needles, and any remaining green plants.

A rabbit's favourite food is:

- Leaves from broccoli or Brussel sprouts (high in vitamins)
- Beet greens (the tops, high in vitamins)
- Lettuce: Romaine, Red or Green leaf
- Spinach.
- Parsley.
- Basil.
- Mint.
- Bok Choy.

Rabbits like thin green leaves to munch on in the wild because they are easier to eat and they are rich in a nutrient called nitrogen which they need to be healthy.

Some vegetables like carrots and celery give rabbits upset tummies.



Rabbits tend to eat around dawn and dusk. These are the safest times for the wild rabbits to escape from their burrow or thick undergrowth and graze, unnoticed by those who want to eat them.

Rabbits eat very quickly and graze for around 30 minutes, at both dawn and dusk.

In the summer, rabbits eat as much food as they can, because when they rest they can have semi-poops. These are hard pellets which are rich in nutrients which they keep in their burrows and eat when food is scarce in the winter (yuk!).

Like humans, rabbits need shelter (their burrows or warren), food and water. Rabbits need lots of water to help digest their food.

They lose weight if they do not have enough water.



What can you remember about what I like to eat?

1. True or false?

- a) Rabbits are carnivores.
- b) Carrots are bad for rabbits.
- c) Rabbits like thick green tasty leaves.

2. Why do rabbits like to feed at dusk and dawn?

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3. What do rabbits eat in winter? List them.

4. What do rabbits eat in summer? List them

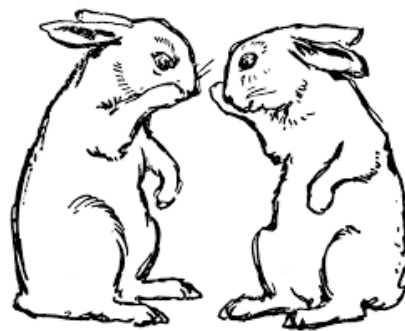
5. What happens to a rabbit if they do not have enough water?

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6. What do rabbits have to eat in the winter if food is scarce?

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I'm Rosie.  
Ramona's sister.  
My job is to tell  
you what we are  
scared of.



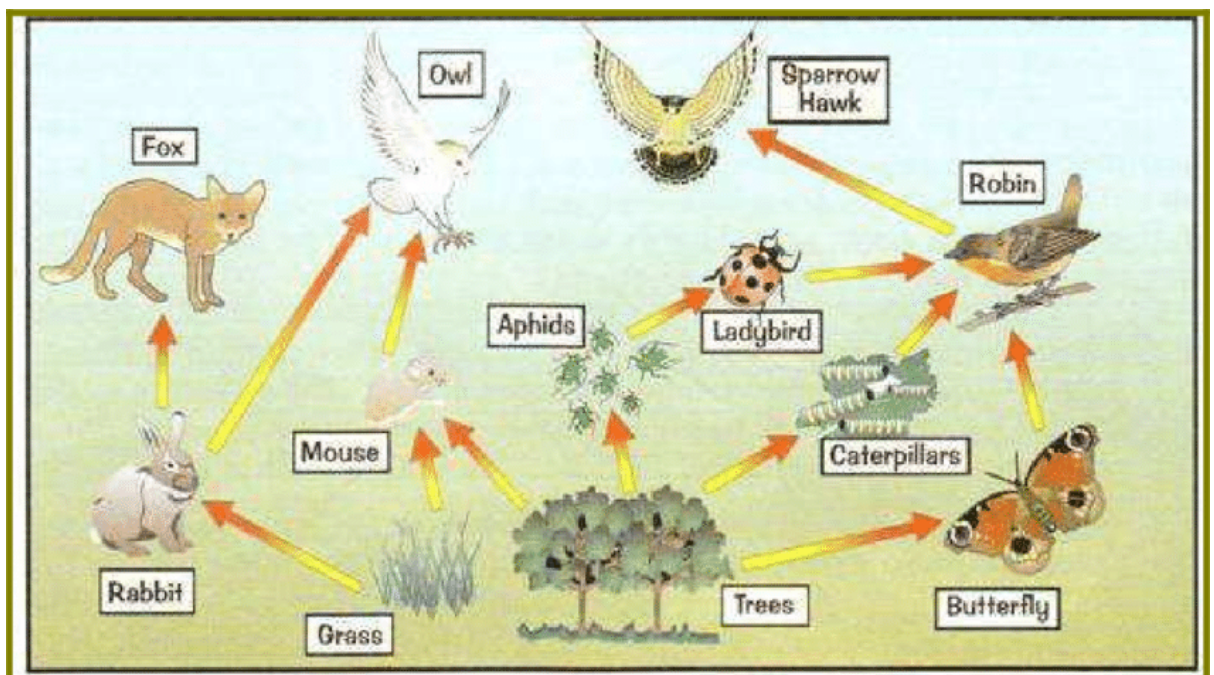
Ramona has told you about where we live, what we eat and some key facts, but she has asked me to tell you the scary things.

### **We get eaten**

As you know we are plant eaters or herbivores. Not every animal is the same - some of them eat us poor old rabbits.

Did you know that only 1 out of every 10 rabbits survive?  
That's why we have such big families.

The diagram below shows some of the animals that eat us.



The arrows show what is being eaten by which creature:  
The rabbit eats the grass and the fox eats the rabbit.

Which other animal eats rabbits in the diagram?

Humans also kill rabbits - that's why we run away when we see them. Sometimes they try to get rid of us because we want to share their plants and, sometimes they want to eat us too!

### Our escape plan

When we see another animal who wants us for their dinner we hop away very quickly but in a zig-zag direction to cause confusion. It does work sometimes.

We also freeze and can be very still for a long time so we cannot be seen, particularly if we are in fields.

### When we are very young

Our mothers make nice nests for us using leaves and fur from their own bellies, **but** when we are born they do not spend that much time with us.

We are born blind and deaf and we have no fur (a bit like baby humans!) so we can get cold quickly. Because of this, we snuggle together. Our eyes open when we are 10 days old.

Mothers give babies milk maybe twice a day (your human babies get much more than this). Some of the kits die in the first few weeks. Those who do survive, will have fur by the time they are 3 weeks and will start to move out of the burrow to get food for themselves.

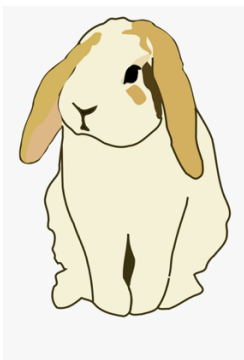
We are fully fledged adults when we are 4 months old.

Why do  
farmers want  
to get rid of  
rabbits?



Tell Rosie why you think farmers do not like rabbits?

Farmers do not like rabbits because...



My name is Rafee and I'm a  
sort of a cousin of  
Ramona's.  
Let's compare rabbits and  
humans.

## Comparing Rabbits and Humans

	Same	Different
Eyes		
Ears		
Hair/fur		
How they are looked after as babies		
Food they eat		
What they drink		
Where they live		
Age they start getting their own food		
The age they become adults		





### Rabbit Story.

Next, we have a rabbit story - it is an extract from Wigglesbottom Primary: Break Time Bunnies by Pamela Butchard which was released in March of this year.

On Monday, as soon as we got to our classroom, Susie Keys pointed out of the window and

# GASPED.

So we all ran over to see what the **GASPING** was about and that's when we saw that there were **FOUR** bunnies sitting on the Grassy Bit in the playground. And they were so cute!

Gavin Ross pointed to one of the bunnies and said that it was the **COOLEST** bunny he'd ever **SEEN** because it had a little black patch on one eye and it looked like a pirate.

But then Susie Keys said the pure white one was **OBVIOUSLY** the best because it was making a

**NEST.**

So that's when Roz Morgan said that she didn't think bunnies made **NESTS** and Susie crossed her arms and said that they **DEFINITELY DID**. And then Sunita Ram got involved because she **ALWAYS** gets involved when there's an argument.

But then all of a sudden everyone **STOPPED** arguing about the **NEST** because Jayden King squealed a bit and shouted,

**"LOOK!"**

So we all followed his finger to where he was pointing and **THAT'S** when we saw that there weren't just **FOUR** bunnies on the Grassy Bit any more because there were **TEN**.

That's when everyone started to **PANIC** because we had **NO IDEA** where all the bunnies were coming from and it definitely wasn't **NORMAL**.

Sunita Ram **RAN** to get Miss Riley and when she'd



managed to pull her over to the window there were  
**FIFTEEN BUNNIES** on the Grassy Bit!

Miss Riley got a **REALLY WEIRD** look on her  
face when she saw the bunnies and said she was going to  
get Mr. Harris, the head teacher so we knew this was  
**SERIOUS.**

But by the time Mr. Harris got there, there were  
**TWENTY BUNNIES!**

That's when when Mr Harris said that we all had to go to  
an **ASSEMBLY.**

And that wasn't **NORMAL** because usually  
assemblies are on a **FRIDAY**. And **NORMALLY**  
we get to take our coats and bags off first and hang them  
on our pegs. But Mr. Harris said that there **WASN'T**  
**TIME** and that it was an

# **EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY.**

So we all went to the **EMERGENCY**

**ASSEMBLY** with our coats and bags still on and Mr. Harris got up on stage and he looked **PANICKED**.

We had **NO IDEA** what was going on or what Mr. Harris was going to say or where all the **BUNNIES** were coming from.

And then Mr. Harris said, “Break time is officially **CANCELLED** because of the **BUNNIES**.”

And everybody **GASPED**.

Then **LOADS** of people started putting their hands up and asking about the bunnies but Mr. Harris said that there **WASN'T TIME** for questions and then he rushed off the stage.

Then when we were on our way back to class, we overheard one of the Year 4s say that the bunnies were obviously

# **ATTACK BUNNIES**

and that they had been **SENT HERE** by another school to take us over!

None of us had any idea what **ATTACK**  
**BUNNIES** were but we knew that they

obviously weren't good and that we were probably all in  
**SERIOUS DANGER.**

When we got back to class Miss Riley tried to take our minds off the **BREAK-TIME BUNNIES** by closing the blinds so we couldn't see them. But none of us could concentrate because every two minutes Miss Riley would lean over her desk and peek through the blinds to check how many bunnies there were now.

Jayden King said that there were probably  
**HUNDREDS** of bunnies out there. But Irfan Baxter shook his head and said that there were probably  
**THOUSANDS** and maybe even **MILLIONS**,  
and that they were getting ready to **ATTACK.**

And that's when Susie Keys got up and started putting her coat on and said that she was going home, because that's what she always does when she gets scared. And then she ran out of the classroom before anyone could stop her.

So Miss Riley ran after her, and so did we because we didn't want the **ATTACK BUNNIES** to get her.

But then when we were all running along the corridor Susie started running **BACK** towards us and she looked like she'd seen a **GHOST**.

And **THAT'S** when we all looked out the corridor window and saw Mr. Harris was standing in the **MIDDLE** of the Grassy Bit and he was **COMPLETELY SURROUNDED BY BUNNIES!** And he had a really weird smile on his face.



Now I wonder why all the bunnies started appearing on the school grass. Did Mr. Harris do something to get them to turn up or was Miss Riley up to something? Could one of the children been involved - if so who?

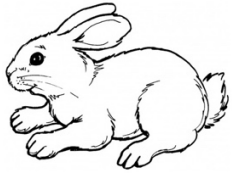
Let's think about the characters in the story. Describe what you think each one is like.

## Wigglesbottom Primary: Break Time Bunnies

### The Characters

Character	What they were like	My picture of them
Susie Keys		
Gavin Ross		
Roz Morgan		
Sunita Ram		
Mr. Harris		
Miss Riley		
Jayden King		

Now plan what you think will happen next:



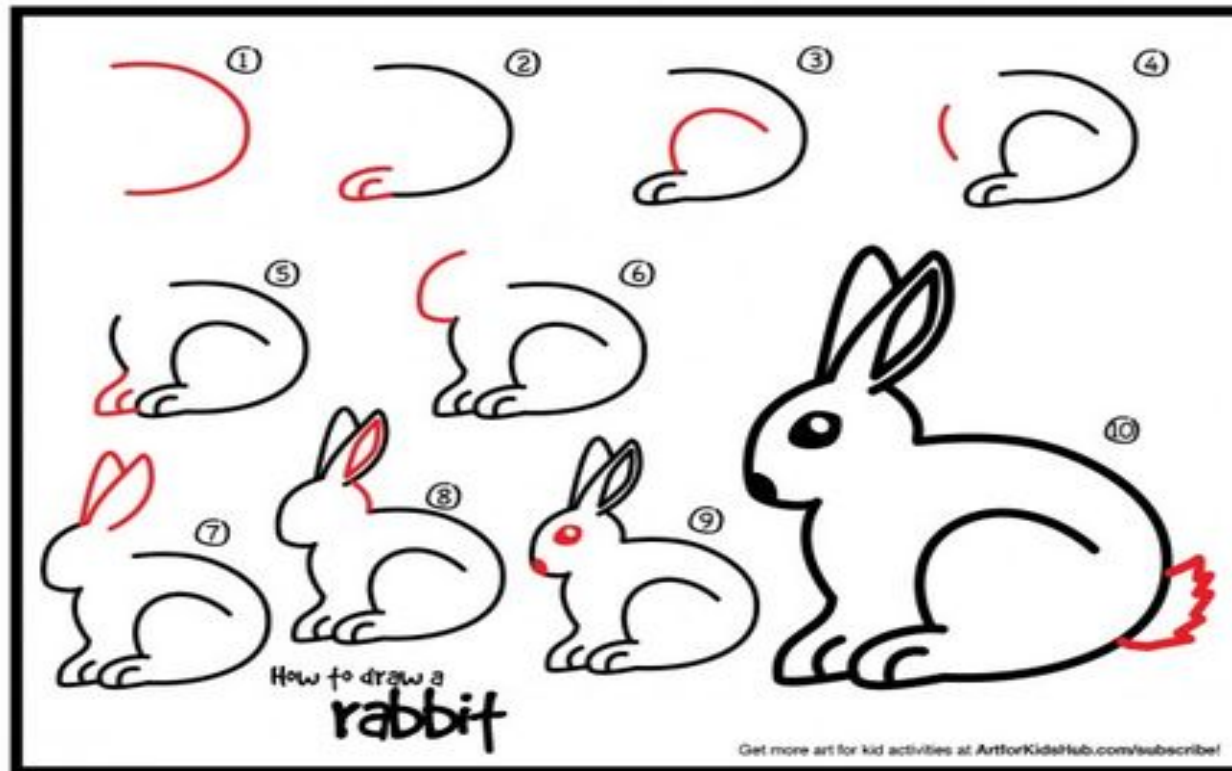
## My story plan




## Break Time Bunnies - The Rest of the Story

## Art - Rabbit Collage

You can either use the template in the appendix or you can draw your own rabbit outline. There is a step by step guidance below. The red lines show what to draw next:





If you stick your drawing to card from an empty box, it will make your collage stronger.

Once, you have drawn/cut out your rabbit then you need stick different materials on to it to make it a collage.

For example, you can use:

- buttons for eyes
- wool or straws for whiskers
- cotton wool rolled to a ball for the tail and if you pull it a part slightly, it makes good fur
- materials such as dusters, cleaning cloths, and clothes you have finished with can all be used to make your rabbit more 3D
- strips of different coloured paper or old wall paper
- some of you may also know how to use strips of newspaper soaked in glue to make paper maché.



Take a photo of your creation and send it into school.

## Rabbits as pets



Lots of people have rabbits as pets because of their social nature. The rabbits we have as pets have been specifically bred so they have certain looks, size, and fur colour.

In Britain there are 60 recognised breeds of rabbit, as set out by the British Rabbit Council (BRC). We call rabbits which have been bred for pets, domesticated.

There are giant rabbits (the size of a small dog) and dwarf rabbits which you can easily fit into your hands.

The biggest rabbit is the Flemish giant. Its average weight is around 25 lb ( $11\frac{1}{2}$  kilograms).

Due to its patience and calm nature while being handled, many people keep the Flemish giant as a pet. The breed has fluffy and a glossy fur. The back of the the Flemish giant is usually arched from the shoulder all the way to the tail. Bucks have a broad, larger head compared to the does. To reach the maximum weight and body size, does usually take around 1 year whereas the bucks usually take up to one and a half years.

You can see a short video about this giant bunny on you tube:

<https://youtu.be/VgvgY0iglW4>



The  
Flemish  
Giant  
Rabbit

The smallest rabbit is the Columbia Basin **Pygmy Rabbits** and among the rarest. They were wild rabbits at fear of becoming extinct but are now bred in special zoos.

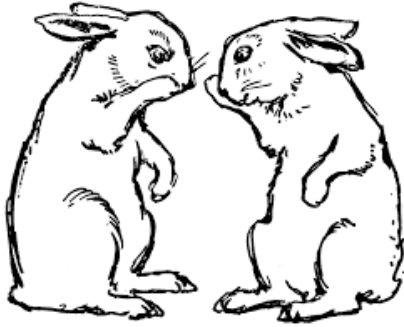


One of the cutest rabbits is the English Angora rabbit - they look like a fur ball:



These rabbits need a very special diet to keep them healthy.

Domestic rabbits eat similar foods to wild rabbits and also need lots of water.



## Domesticated Rabbit Fact Check

1. True or false?

Rabbits are kept as pets because they are sociable

Rabbits are all the same size

Breeders of rabbits like them, to look a certain way.

2. How many recognized breeds of rabbit are there in the UK?

3. How big can the Flemish Giant grow?

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4. Where can you find the smallest rabbit in the world?

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5. What is the breed of the cutest rabbit?

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6. What do rabbits need to keep healthy?

There are lots of different breeds of rabbit pets (domesticated animals). Have a look at the poster below and circle any that you may have seen at school, pet centres, friends' homes and you may even have one of your own.





## PSHE: How to look after a pet rabbit.

### **Rabbit Home**

This will depend on whether you have a **house rabbit** or a rabbit that will live in the **garden**.

### **House Rabbits**

House rabbits have been bred to live indoors. These rabbits need a cage so they have a place to sleep, feed and rest. They also need a litter tray as this is where they learn to do their wees and poos.

House rabbits need to be able to roam around the house, but take care, they are a little cheeky and like to hide in places and they chew lots of things (a bit like puppies) especially furniture and electric cables. It is really important that all electric wires are out of the rabbit's way. If there is anywhere you don't want the rabbit to go, then close the door.

They do love jumping up and down stairways! Rabbits are sociable and they are much happier if they have another rabbit to play with and snuggle up to. They need around 5 hours out of the cage per day.

A house rabbit's cage is big so you need plenty of room:



## Garden Rabbits

Garden rabbits need a hutch to live in, with an area that is waterproof and warm in winter. Rabbits need lots of hay to make their beds.

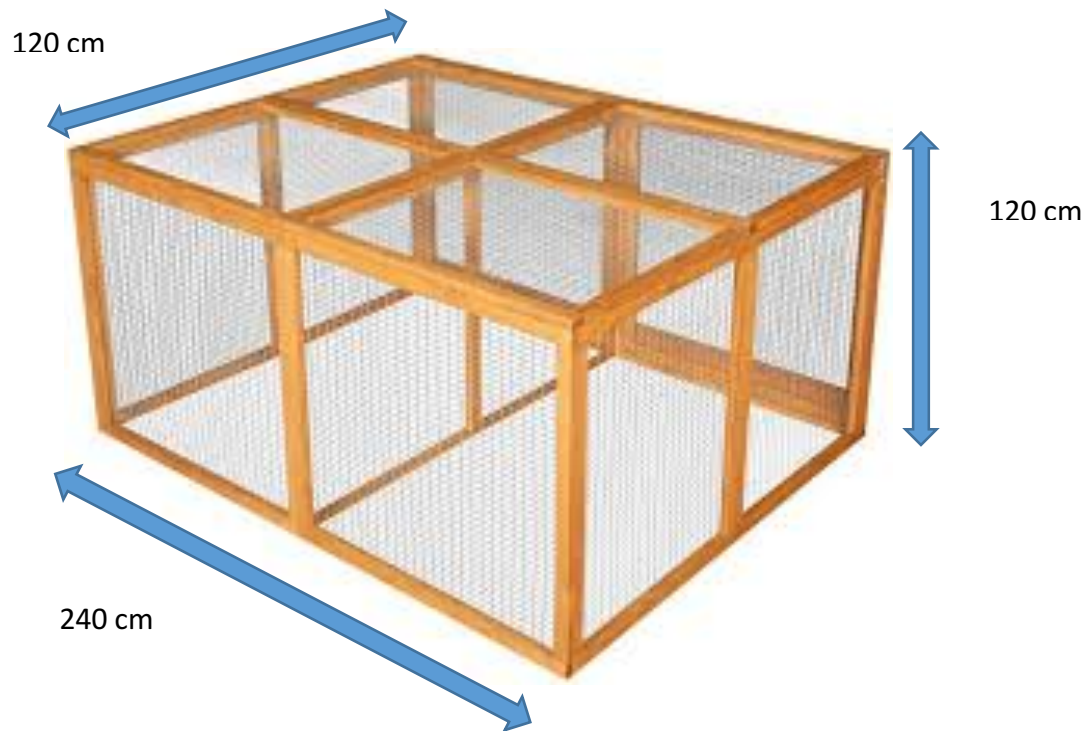
A rabbit hutch is quite big and it stands on legs so the sleeping area does not get damp.

Like house rabbits, garden rabbits prefer to have another rabbit for company - but you will need a bigger hutch. The minimum size hutch for a rabbit is



Rabbits run the same distance as going round 30 tennis courts each day so they need to have a big area for a run in the garden too.

The minimum size of a run for just one rabbit is:



The reason why the run has to be so big, is because the rabbit needs to be able to stand up on its hind legs completely. If you have a giant rabbit, you will need a giant hutch and run. Some people have a garden shed!

### **Rabbit bedding and Litter**

Bedding material can be hay, straw, hardwood shavings (maple, oak, apple) or bits of cloth (if the rabbit is well litter trained). Rabbits like to arrange their beds and comfortable material should be provided. The bedding should be changed at regular intervals to keep the cage smelling fresh and the rabbit feeling comfortable. The bedding should be completely changed and the cage cleaned once every week or two (more frequently if the rabbit wees outside the litter box).



Some material other than the bedding material should be provided in a litter box. The litter tray should be changed daily and the litter box cleaned with warm soapy water at least once a week or more frequently if required.

Have a look at the you tube video:

<https://youtu.be/YmG2vi7Aglk>

## Feeding Rabbits



Humans tend to be quite soft with their pets and like to give them human style treats.

But beware - they can make them very ill or even kill them especially yoghurt drops and chocolate.





Well now you have found out about how to look after a pet rabbit, write a diary for what you would do in the first week to make sure your rabbit was healthy and happy. Choose a breed of rabbit and draw your hutch and run (if a garden rabbit).

What food and drinks would you give the rabbit each day?

How will you make sure that it has plenty of exercise and is played with?

My Rabbit:

Where it lives:

My daily routine for looking after the rabbit

Monday



Tuesday



Wednesday



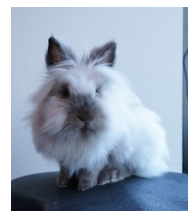
Thursday



Friday



Saturday



Sunday



### Rabbit characters in movies and cartoons.

Some of the most well know fictional rabbits are:

Bugs Bunny

Peter Rabbit

Lieutenant Judy Hopps (Zootopia).

Do you know these or any other rabbits in films, games, Tv or video channels?

If so record them in the table below:

Rabbit character	Programme/Show/ Game	What they do.

## Appendix

