

Hamsters are rodents that can be kept as a pet. They are different to other rodents like rats, because of their short tails, tiny ears and stubby legs.

Hamsters can come in different shapes and sizes, with over 24 species of hamsters. The biggest hamsters can be up to 34cm in length. The smallest hamsters, the dwarf, can be as small as 6cm.





Hamsters are nocturnal, meaning that they stay awake at night and sleep during the day. If you get a hamster as a pet, it may not do much unless you are asleep!

Hamsters in the wild live in underground tunnels that are dug by them. They use the tunnels as a place for hiding food and keeping themselves cool in hot climates.





Hamsters in the wild may eat other small animals, but pet hamsters have a diet that consists of seeds, nuts, grained, fruits and vegetables.

Hamster have large pouches in its cheeks that they can use to stuff themselves full of food. They like to burrow their food and hide it for later. This is because wild hamsters tend to stock on food to avoid predators and before hibernation.





Hamsters can be very active and need lots of exercise. A hamster wheel allows them to burn off their energy. They enjoy crawling through tubes and hiding in dark areas of their homes.

Wild hamsters spend most of their time running and burrowing through tunnels they dug. Pet hamsters tend to do the same.



Answer the questions.
What is a hamster?
How big and small can they be?
What is nocturnal?



Answer the questions.
Where do wild hamsters live?
What do hamsters eat and how?
What do hamsters like to do?

