

Name _____

What Does a Rabbit Eat?



Rabbits are herbivores, which means they only eat plants. They don't eat meat or other animals. Instead, they rely on a diet full of grass, vegetables, and leafy plants to stay healthy and strong. In the wild, rabbits are excellent at finding food. They use their sharp sense of smell to sniff out tasty plants and their strong front teeth to chew through tough leaves and stems.

The main food source for rabbits in the wild is grass. Grass is not only easy to find but also helps wear down their teeth, which never stop growing. Rabbits also enjoy eating clover, dandelion leaves, and other plants they find in fields and meadows. They even dig into soft soil to find roots and bulbs.

In addition to plants, rabbits love munching on fruits and vegetables. However, in the wild, they only eat these in small amounts when they can find them. Carrots, for example, are a favorite snack for many pet rabbits, but wild rabbits might rarely come across them. Instead, they may nibble on berries or fallen fruit.

Pet rabbits need a diet that's similar to what they would eat in the wild. They should have plenty of hay, which is dried grass, to keep their teeth and digestion healthy. Pet rabbits also eat leafy greens, like spinach and parsley, and small pieces of fruit as treats.

Rabbits use their sharp teeth to break down tough plants, and their special digestive system helps them get the nutrients they need. Interestingly, rabbits chew their food twice! After eating, they produce soft droppings called cecotropes, which they eat to digest their food again and get extra nutrients.

In short, rabbits are plant eaters with a diet that helps them stay active and healthy. Whether they live in the wild or as pets, rabbits rely on plants, grass, and occasional treats to survive.