



ANIMALS OF THE WORLD

Hamsters and Other Pet Rodents

Where do hamsters live in the wild? What should you look for when choosing a pet hamster? What kind of personality might a hamster have? Read *Hamsters and Other Pet Rodents* to find out!

What did you learn?

QUESTIONS

1. Hamsters are ...
 - a. Mammals
 - b. Fish
 - c. Birds
 - d. Amphibians
2. The ideal temperature for a hamster is anywhere from ...
 - a. 50 to 60 °F
 - b. 65 to 80 °F
 - c. 90 to 100 °F
 - d. 30 to 40 °F
4. Guinea pigs can be ...
 - a. Black
 - b. Red
 - c. White
 - d. All of the above
5. What type of rodent is this?



3. Hamsters usually give birth to litters of ...
 - a. 1 to 2 puppies
 - b. 2 to 3 puppies
 - c. 3 to 5 puppies
 - d. 6 to 9 puppies
6. What type of rodents are these?



TRUE OR FALSE?

- _____ 1. Golden hamsters usually grow to be between 6 and 8 inches long.
- _____ 2. Hamsters are herbivores.
- _____ 3. A hamster's cage should be cleaned once a week.
- _____ 4. It is very important to clip a hamster's toenails.
- _____ 5. Gerbils live an average of four years.
- _____ 6. A wheel is one of the most popular toys for hamsters.

ANSWERS

- 1. a. Mammals.** According to section “What Is a Hamster?” on page 6, we know that “Hamsters are mammals — animals that feed their young with milk made by the mother.” So, the correct answer is A.
- 2. b. 65 to 80 °F.** According to section “How Should You Set Up a Hamster’s Cage?” on page 24, we know that “The ideal temperature for a hamster is anywhere from 65 to 80 °F (18 to 27 °C).” So, the correct answer is B.
- 3. d. 6 to 9 puppies.** According to section “How Do You Help a Hamster Care for Its Young?” on page 34, we know that “Hamsters usually give birth to litters of 6 to 8 puppies (baby hamsters).” So, the correct answer is D.
- 4. d. All of the above.** According to section “What Is a Guinea Pig?” on page 44, we know that “There are many different breeds of guinea pig. They come in a variety of colors, including black, brown, red, white, or a combination of colors.” So, the correct answer is D.
- 5.** According to page 47, this photo shows a long-tailed chinchilla.
- 6.** According to page 45, this photo shows guinea pigs.

TRUE OR FALSE? ANSWERS

- 1. True.** According to section “How Big Do Hamsters Get? How Long Do They Live?” on page 14, we know that “Golden hamsters typically grow to be between 6 and 8 inches (15.2 and 20.3 centimeters) long, and weigh 3 to 5 ounces (85 to 142 grams).” So, the correct answer is True.
- 2. False.** According to section “What Does a Hamster Eat?” on page 20, we know that “Hamsters are omnivores, which means they can eat a little bit of everything.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 3. True.** According to section “How Often Should You Clean a Hamster’s Cage?” on page 26, we know that “Your hamster’s cage should be thoroughly cleaned once a week.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 4. False.** According to section “Should You Groom a Hamster?” on page 28, we know that “It is unnecessary to clip a hamster’s toenails.” So, the correct answer is False.
- 5. True.** According to section “What Is a Gerbil?” on page 38, we know that “A gerbil is a small, furry rodent with long hind legs and a long, hairy tail ... They live an average of four years.” So, the correct answer is True.
- 6. True.** According to section “What Kinds of Toys Should Hamsters Play With?” on page 52, we know that “A wheel is one of the most popular toys for hamsters.” So, the correct answer is True.