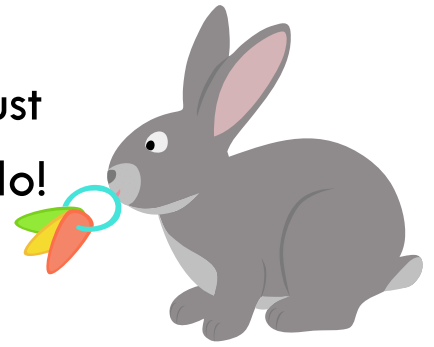




Enrichment?

Giving your bunnies lots of enrichment, really just means giving them lots of interesting things to do!



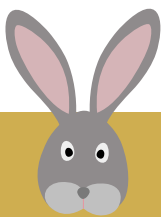
Rabbits can do a lot more than just sit in a hutch all day. They're actually really intelligent little animals!

Natural Bunny Behaviours

What do bunnies like to do?

Just like any other animal, rabbits have their own behaviours that all rabbits have to be able to carry out. These are called their *natural* or *species - specific* behaviours.

- Hopping
- Digging
- Running
- Binkyng
- Gnawing
- Jumping
- Foraging



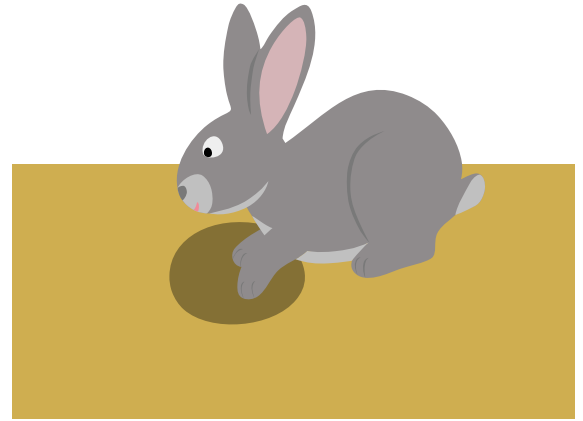
If bunnies aren't able to carry out their natural behaviours they'll very quickly get bored and stressed, which can even make them ill.

So to help our bunnies be the happy, hoppy & healthy bunnies they can be, we need to give them lots of things to do that help them carry out these natural behaviours.

So let's take a look at some fun bunny enrichment ideas!

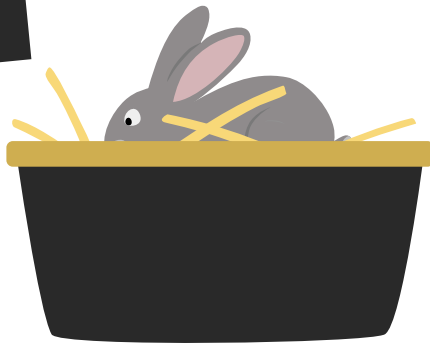
Digging

Bunnies just love to dig! Wild rabbits dig tunnels to make warrens, so this is a really important natural behaviour for them. Although our pet bunnies don't need to dig tunnels, they still have the urge to dig!



Dig Box

Bunnies always love a dig box!



All you need is a plastic tub, and something to put in it. For outdoor bunnies you can use organic soil. For indoor bunnies you can use straw or shredded paper (but only if your bunnies won't eat it).

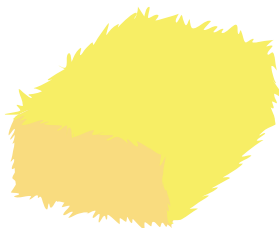
Did you know?

Female rabbits often have an even stronger urge to dig than males do. This is because in the wild the females are responsible for digging the larger burrows.

As well as to burrow down, bunnies also love to use their digging skills to take things apart!

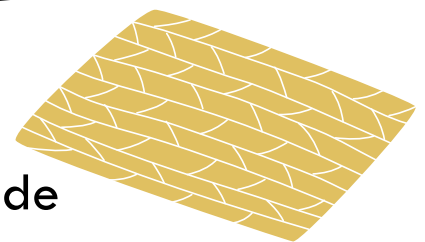
Hay Brick

Hay bricks are made from compressed hay and are great for digging at.



Woven Mats

Woven mats made from hay, water hyacinth or seagrass are also great for digging at.



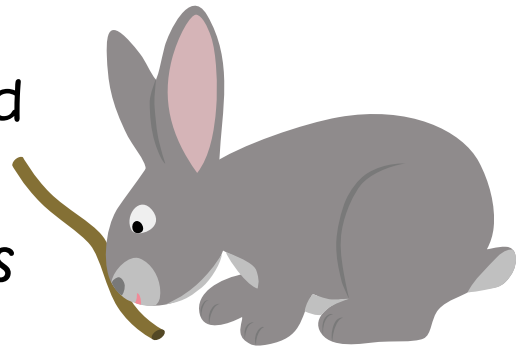
Gnawing

You don't need to have bunnies very long to find out that they love to gnaw (on just about anything!)

Wild rabbits gnaw on tree roots while they're digging burrows - so it's another natural behaviour.



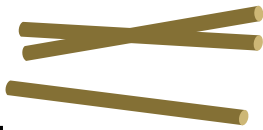
And we need to give our bunnies ways to carry out their natural behaviours!



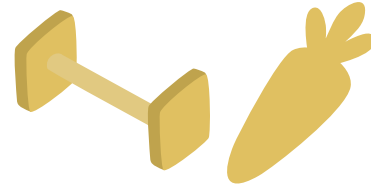
So what can we give our bunnies to gnaw on?

Sticks

Apple or willow sticks are great for bunnies to nibble on.

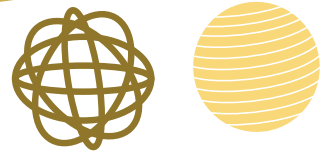


Wooden Toys



Toys made from bunny-safe woods are also great!

Balls



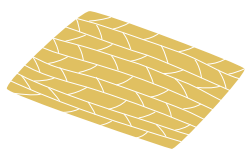
Bunny safe balls can be made from willow, water hyacinth, rattan or seagrass.

Hanging Toys



Hanging toys can be attached to the side of your bunnies's run and be great for gnawing on.

Woven Toys

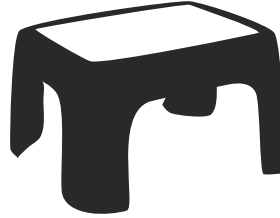


Woven mats and other toys can be fun to gnaw on too.

Just make sure you only give your bunnies something to chew if you know it's 100% bunny-safe.

Jumping

Bunnies love to jump on things! They have really strong back legs that make them great at jumping really high.

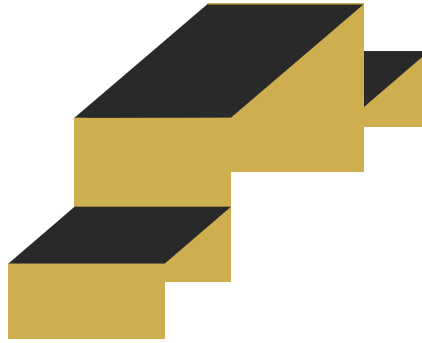


Plastic step stools and children's plastic furniture can be great for jumping on

Plastic furniture

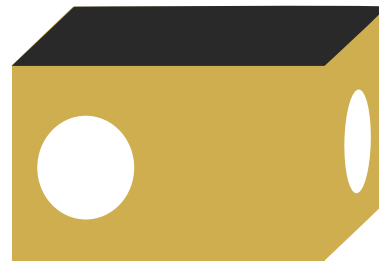
Steps

Wooden steps are fun for jumping up on!



Wooden shelters are great for jumping on too! They also give your bunnies somewhere to hide.

Having things for your bunnies to jump on also means that your bunnies have lookouts (which will help them feel safer).



Shelters

Although they can jump really high, don't give your bunnies anything too high to jump up on, in case they fall off!

Hopping & Binkyng

The best way to help your bunnies be able to hop and binky, is to make sure they have enough space!

Foraging?

Foraging just means to search for food! In the wild it's the only way a rabbit can find food, but pet rabbits can still have a lot of fun foraging for their food. It also makes eating more interesting for them, meaning that they eat more!

Forage bags

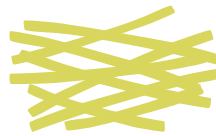


You can make a forage bag with a paper bag, some hay and some dried forage. They're great fun to dig at and forage around in!

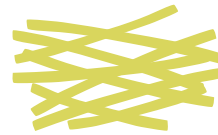
Did you know?

Wild rabbits spend **80%** of the time they're awake foraging

Scattering hay



Lots of smaller piles of hay around your bunnies' run is a great way to help them forage.



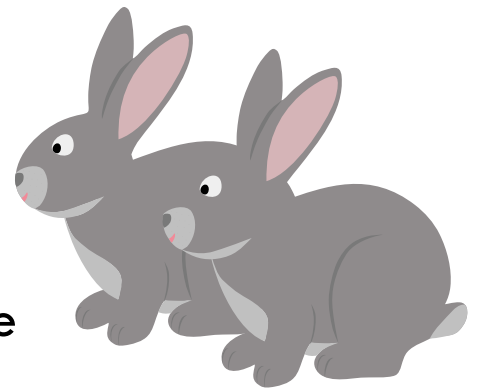
You can scatter small amounts of dried forage in your bunnies hay to keep things interesting.

Dried forage

Forage toys

There are lots of other forage toys available for bunnies!

Socialising



Bunnies get so much out of spending time with other bunnies!

But bunnies can only live together if they are

bonded



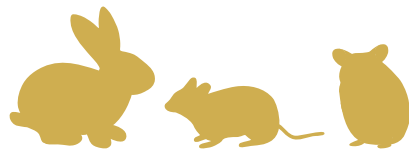
Bunnies who are bonded will

- Play together
- Eat together
- Snuggle together
- Groom each other

Bunny Bonding

For bunnies to bond, they have to decide which of them is going to be the dominant bunny, and which of them is going to be the submissive bunny.

So as you can see, bunnies get a lot out of being together!



Small Furry Friends

Thanks for reading, and we hope this guide was helpful to you and your bunnies!

For more ideas about how to keep your bunnies busy, check out our other guides!