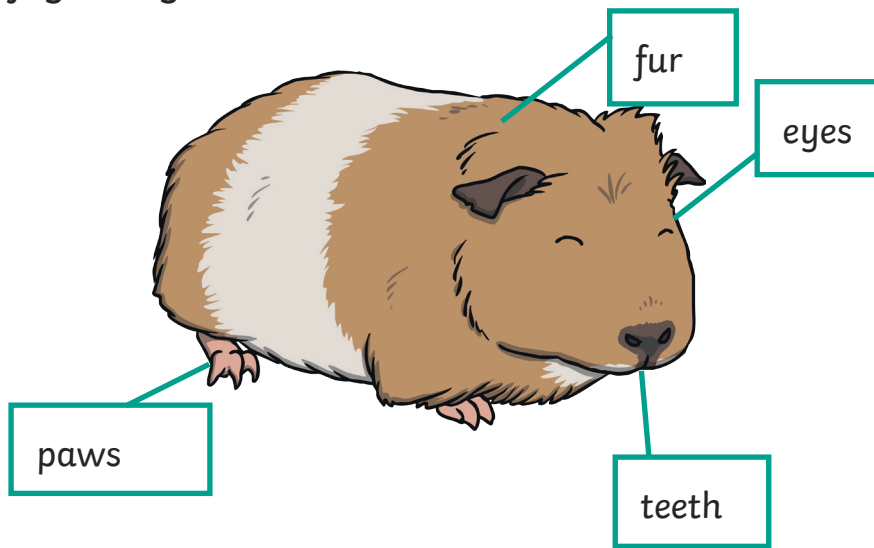


Taking Care of a Guinea Pig

Guinea pigs are small animals and they enjoy being stroked.



Things a Guinea Pig will need:

food bowl



water bowl



hutch



straw and hay



toys



Guinea pigs can get scared so you need be quiet and gentle with them. They don't like loud noises.



Guinea pigs live in a hutch or cage, which should be cleaned often so they don't get ill.



Questions

1. What does a guinea pig have?

feathers

fur

a beak

2. What do guinea pigs need?

bones

insects

hay

3. Where might guinea pigs live? Tick two.

a cage

a pen

a hutch

4. What happens if a hutch or cage is not cleaned?

Choose the right word to finish this sentence:

The guinea pig would get _____.

well

ill

happy

5. Which word means 'noisy'?

loud

quiet

gentle

Answers

1. What does a guinea pig have?

feathers

fur

a beak

2. What do guinea pigs need?

bones

insects

hay

3. Where might guinea pigs live? Tick two.

a cage

a pen

a hutch

4. What happens if a hutch or cage is not cleaned?

Choose the right word to finish this sentence:

The guinea pig would get _____.

well

ill

happy

5. Which word means 'noisy'?

loud

quiet

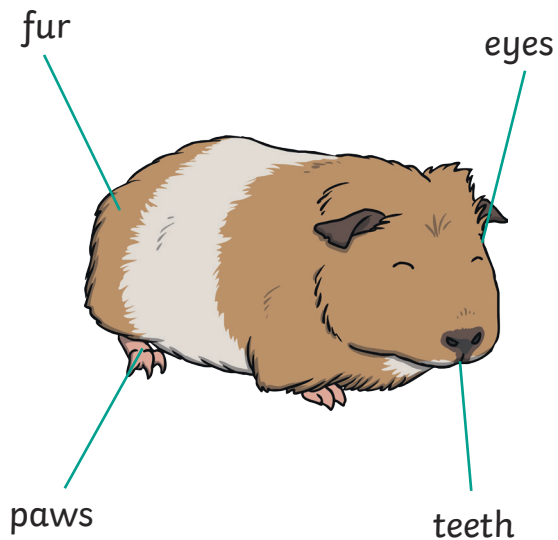
gentle

Taking Care of a Guinea Pig

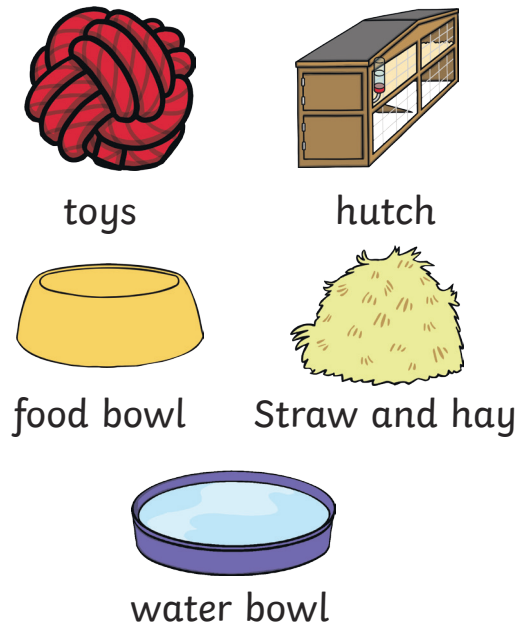


Guinea pigs are small pets that can be looked after quite easily. They do not need to be walked or have fancy food.

What does a guinea pig look like?



What does a guinea pig need?

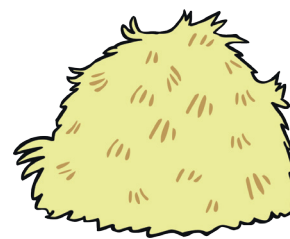


What do I need to remember about having a guinea pig?



Guinea pigs are small animals and they get scared easily. Don't make loud noises near them or let other pets such as cat and dogs near their cage, as they could get frightened.

How do I keep a guinea pig healthy?



Guinea pigs need to have a safe, warm place to sleep. A bed made from hay is the best option because they can also eat it. If they are outside, they need plenty of hay or straw to sleep on.

Questions

- Guinea pigs do not need to be _____.
fed
walked
safe
- Why is hay good for a guinea pig's bed?
It is scratchy.
It is wet.
It is warm and they can eat it.
- Find and copy one word which means 'scared'.

- If a guinea pig is outside, it needs plenty of _____ to sleep on.
hay
water
food
- What scares a guinea pig?
hay
other animals
the dark

Answers

- Guinea pigs do not need to be _____.
fed
walked
safe
- Why is hay good for a guinea pig's bed?
It is scratchy.
It is wet.
It is warm and they can eat it.
- Find and copy one word which means 'scared'.
frightened
- If a guinea pig is outside, it needs plenty of _____ to sleep on.
hay
water
food
- What scares a guinea pig?
hay
other animals
the dark

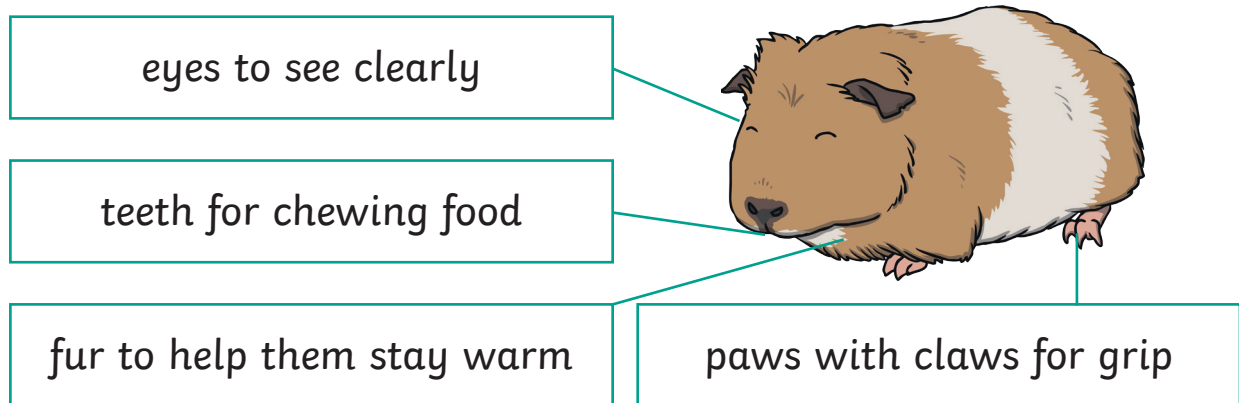
Taking Care of a Guinea Pig



Guinea pigs are fairly easy animals to look after and can be very friendly. They like to have gentle hugs and to be stroked. As they do not require much special equipment, they do not cost a lot.

What Does a Guinea Pig Look Like?

Guinea pigs are small animals with long, smooth bodies. Their soft fur, which covers their body, keeps them warm. Some have flat, shiny fur, whereas others look like their fur has been brushed to stand up. They have large eyes that help them see well.



What Does a Guinea Pig Need?

Guinea pigs need somewhere comfortable to sleep. They can live outside in a hutch or inside the house in a cage. If they are outside, they need plenty of hay to keep them warm. If they get too cold, they will get ill and need to go to the vet. Additionally, they need plenty of healthy food to eat, which includes a mix of dried food and fresh vegetables.

What Else Do I Need to Keep My Guinea Pig Healthy?

Guinea pigs can become frightened very easily so they need a place to live with no loud noises or large pets that might scare them. A guinea pig's teeth grow continuously throughout their lives, so it is essential that their teeth are kept healthy by letting them chew on hard food and wooden toys.

Questions

1. Why does a guinea pig not cost a lot?

2. Where can guinea pigs live?

3. Why might a guinea pig become ill?

4. What does 'grow continuously' mean?

never grow

keep growing

have stopped growing

5. How can an owner take care of a guinea pig's teeth?

6. In your opinion, would a guinea pig be an easy pet to keep?

Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Why does a guinea pig not cost a lot?

A guinea pig does not cost a lot because it does not require much special equipment.

2. Where can guinea pigs live?

Guinea pigs can live in a hutch outside or in a cage in a house.

3. Why might a guinea pig become ill?

A guinea pig might become ill if it gets too cold.

4. What does 'grow continuously' mean?

never grow

keep growing

have stopped growing

5. How can an owner take care of a guinea pig's teeth?

An owner can take care of guinea pig's teeth by giving it hard food or wooden toys to chew on.

6. In your opinion, would a guinea pig be an easy pet to keep?

Explain your answer.

Answers will vary but may include reference to the fact that they do not need special equipment but that it might be tricky to make sure your home is quiet enough for a guinea pig.