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Here are some important details about just what it is that makes rabbits unique: 1. Wild Rabbits Live in Close-Knit Communities for Protection. Wild rabbits form social communities known as warrens, consisting of a dominant male (a buck), a dominant female (a doe), and their baby rabbits. Female rabbits within the same family often share burrows and exhibit other cooperative behaviors. These intricate burrow systems provide shelter, security against predators, and a place where the entire community can share foraged food. 2. Rabbits Are Prolific Breeders. Rabbits have evolved to have very rapid reproductive cycles to better ensure the survival of their species. Unlike some mammals, rabbits exhibit induced ovulation, where mating stimulates the release of eggs. Rabbits also exhibit a phenomenon called "superfotation," which means female rabbits are capable of conceiving again shortly after giving birth. Following a gestation period of approximately 30 days, female rabbits will give birth to a litter of baby rabbits, called kittens or kits. A litter might include as many as seven baby rabbits, with the average number varying depending on the breed. 3. Baby Rabbits Are Born Blind. Rabbit kittens are born blind and rely wholly on their mother's care. Until they can see, these kits must rely on their keen senses and other family members for survival. For example, the mother rabbit nurses her offspring, providing essential nutrients for their growth and development. Around 10 days old, a young rabbit begins to open its eyes, and within three weeks, its fur comes in, making it more closely resemble the adult rabbits. 4. Rabbit Species Are Highly Adaptable to Their Environments. Every rabbit species has unique characteristics and adaptations. For example, cottontails, found in North America, boast shorter ears and tails, making them well-suited for their woodland habitats. Rabbits like the brush rabbit, however, prefer dense vegetation for concealment. These diverse adaptations, ranging from their fur color to their body size, contribute to rabbits' success across different ecosystems. 5. Rabbit Fur Has Superior Insulating Qualities. Rabbit coats consist of two types of hair: guard hairs and the soft undercoat, also known as the "down." The guard hairs provide protection and structure, while the down offers insulation. Because it's so soft, with a velvety texture, rabbit fur is a material in many different clothing items, like hats, gloves and scarves. It comes in a range of colors, with some breeds exhibiting particularly unique characteristics. Angora rabbits, for instance, produce a silky, long-fibered fur known as angora wool — a highly valued material in the textile industry. That said, the use of rabbit fur continues to spark debates about ethical considerations and animal welfare (don't get us started on the "lucky" rabbit's foot), and has led to increased advocacy for cruelty-free and synthetic alternatives throughout the fashion industry. 6. Cute, fuzzy, fluffy and hopping mad, who doesn't love these adorable creatures, also known as bunnies? Check out our top ten rabbit facts! Rabbit facts 1) A baby rabbit is called a kit, a female is called a doe and a male is called a buck. 2) Rabbits are very social creatures that live in groups. They live in warrens — a series of tunnels and rooms that they dig underground. 3) A rabbit's teeth never stop growing! Instead, they're gradually worn down as the rabbit chews on grasses, wildflowers and vegetables — meaning they never get too long. 4) Rabbits perform an athletic leap, known as a 'binky', when they're happy — performing twists and kicks in mid air! 5) Rabbits' eyes are on the sides of their head, meaning they can see almost all the way around them. This helps them to keep a close watch for predators while they're going about their business! 6) Like cats, happy rabbits purr when they're content and relaxed. 7) Rabbits are amazing athletes — they can jump as high as 90 centimetres in one leap! 8) A rabbit's best feature? Their long ears! Growing up to 10 centimetres in length, rabbits can turn their ears by 180 degrees, keeping a careful listen out for predators. 9) One of the world's best-known rabbits is the Warner Bros cartoon character, Bugs Bunny — who's often seen munching on a carrot! In fact, carrots aren't a natural part of a rabbit's diet and can give bunnies an upset stomach if they eat too many. 10) Rabbits are very effective baby-makers! Mother rabbits are pregnant for between 28-31 days, giving birth to up to 14 baby rabbits - called kittens - in a single litter. There are over 45 million rabbits in the UK alone! Want more cute animal facts? Check out our dog facts article, then discover our top ten rat facts! Plus, if you're a parent or teacher, visit our pet facts primary resource. What did you think of our top ten rabbit facts? Let us know by leaving a comment below! Images Getty Images Rabbits jumping, (599204120). Rabbit profile, (596039595) Although rabbits and bunnies are commonly used interchangeably, they are different creatures. Rabbits and bunnies are compared in this guide. Let's start simple. The Leporidae family includes rabbits and bunnies. All rabbits, hares, and pikas belong to this family. Size distinguishes rabbits from bunnies. Rabbits weigh about 4-5 pounds. However, bunnies weigh about 2-3 pounds. Behaviour distinguishes rabbits from bunnies. Bunnies are less active and social than rabbits. They're also more curious and social. However, bunnies are shy. They stay still and don't explore. Rabbits breed differently from bunnies. Rabbits can procreate year-round, while bunnies only breed in spring and summer. Due of their sensitivity to light and temperature, bunnies are more sensitive. In conclusion, rabbits and bunnies are related, yet they differ in several ways. Rabbits are larger, more energetic, and can breed year-round. However, bunnies are smaller, shy, and only breed in spring and summer. Rabbit vs. Bunny Differences Bunnies and rabbits are separate animals, but they're commonly confused. Rabbits are a species, while bunnies are juvenile rabbits. To distinguish a rabbit from a bunny, you must grasp their physical and behavioural traits. Bunnies are smaller than rabbits. Adult rabbits can weigh 10 pounds and measure 20 inches. However, bunnies are significantly smaller. They're 8-12 inches long and weigh up to 3 pounds. Rabbits have longer ears than bunnies, some up to 4 inches long. Rabbits are more self-sufficient than bunnies. Rabbits can learn tricks and are more energetic. However, bunnies are more social and require more care. They also tend to be shy. In conclusion, rabbits and bunnies are different. Look at their physical traits and behaviour to tell them apart. Rabbits are larger and more independent, while bunnies are smaller and more gregarious. The Origins of the Rabbit and Bunny: In current parlance, "rabbit" and "bunny" are synonymous, although their history is more complicated. The word "bunny" is newer to the English language than "rabbit," which has been used to refer to a range of tiny mammals since the Middle Ages. The Old French word "rabit" referred to a little mammal with long ears and a short tail, which became "rabbit." This word may have come from the Latin word "rabbits," which meant hares. The word "rabbit" was initially used in English in the 14th century to refer to several tiny mammals. "Bunny" is a new English word. As a phrase of endearment for a juvenile rabbit, it may have arisen in the 19th century. The Dutch word "bontje" for a little, hairy animal may have inspired "bunny." The word "bunny" was initially used in English in the early 20th century and has since become a common term of endearment for rabbits and other tiny mammals. Over time, "rabbit" and "bunny" have become synonymous. The two words are often used interchangeably in popular culture, such as children's novels and cartoons. As a result, "rabbit" and "bunny" are frequently used interchangeably to refer to various tiny mammals. The Pros and Cons of Owning a Rabbit or Bunny Rabbits and bunnies are great pets. They're smart, social, and loyal. It's crucial to weigh the pros and downsides before adopting a rabbit or bunny. What's Good Rabbits and bunnies require little care. They're easy to groom and litter-train. They're also quiet. As social creatures, rabbits and bunnies can create great ties with their humans. They may learn tricks and are lively and friendly. Cons The Space is needed for rabbits and bunnies. They need a big cage or hutch and time to roam in a safe area. They need pellets, hay, and fresh veggies. A poor diet can make them sick. Vet appointments are important for rabbits and bunnies due to health issues like dental disorders. Finally, rabbits and bunnies can be harmful, therefore they should be supervised. Finally, rabbits and bunnies make great pets, but it's vital to weigh the advantages and downsides before getting one. Rabbits and bunnies can be affectionate and devoted pets with proper care. Beginner Pet Owners' Best Rabbit and Bunny Breeds If you're thinking about getting a rabbit or bunny, there are a few breeds that are good for beginners. Consider the breed's size, temperament, and grooming demands before choosing. The Netherland Dwarf rabbit is recognised for its kindness. They're low-maintenance. The Dwarf Hotot, another little breed, is amiable and outgoing. They're also low-maintenance. A placid and friendly rabbit breed, the Mini Lop is medium-sized. They're low-maintenance. The Holland Lop, another medium-sized breed, is friendly and outgoing. They're also low-maintenance. The Flemish Giant, a huge rabbit, is peaceful and friendly. They're low-maintenance yet require more grooming than smaller breeds. The French Lop, another large breed, is pleasant and extroverted. They're low-maintenance yet require more grooming than smaller breeds. The friendly Mini Rex is a little bunny breed. They're low-maintenance. The Holland Lop, another petite breed, is peaceful and friendly. They're also low-maintenance. Friendly and outgoing, the English Angora is a medium-sized bunny. They're low-maintenance yet require more grooming than smaller breeds. The French Angora, another medium-sized breed, is peaceful and friendly. They're low-maintenance yet require more grooming than smaller breeds. Remember that rabbits and bunnies need lots of love and attention, regardless of breed. They should be handled gently and given a safe, comfortable environment. With proper care, your new pet will be a loyal and loving companion for years. Page 2 Most people have spotted these adorable animals grazing in long grasses looking for their favourite foods. They were first introduced to the UK by the Normans for food and fur but are now a common sight for many. They live in large groups in underground burrow systems known as 'warrens'. Female rabbits, called 'does' produce one litter of between three and seven babies every month during the breeding season - that's a lot of little ones! Rabbits make a tasty snack for stoats, buzzards, polecats and red foxes, which is why having a warren to hide in for shelter is so important. The rabbit is grey-brown in colour, with long ears and hind legs, and a fluffy white tail. It is smaller than the brown hare and does not have black tips on its ears.The rabbit is native to Spain and was introduced to this country by the Normans in the 12th century to provide food and fur. Rabbits are small, furry mammals with long ears, short fluffy tails, and strong, large hind legs. They have 2 pairs of sharp incisors (front teeth), one pair on top and one pair on the bottom. They also have 2 peg teeth behind the top incisors. Their teeth are specifically adapted for gnawing and grow continuously throughout their lives.Using their powerful hind legs, rabbits move by hopping. They have 4 toes on their hind feet that are long and webbed to keep them from spreading apart as they jump. Their front paws have 5 toes each. Some species of rabbit can reach speeds of 35 to 45 miles per hour (56 to 72 kilometers per hour). Young rabbits seem to walk instead of hop.Rabbits vary in color and size, ranging in weight from 2 to 16 pounds (1 to 7 kilograms), depending on breed. Pet rabbits that have been well taken care of and spayed or neutered early in life have a life expectancy of 8 to 12 years.Also see professional content regarding management of rabbits.Test your Knowledge nowTake a Quiz! The Rabbit is any number of mammals in the Leporidae family. Rabbits, also known as "bunnies," are closely related to hares and pikas. Researchers recognize 17 different species of these animals, and 8 different taxonomic genuses. Read on to learn about the Rabbit.Description of the RabbitMost people recognize a Rabbit when they see one. It usually has a rather stout body, a rounded back, long ears, and a short tail. It also has strong hind legs and long rear feet.Though domestic variations come in many different colors, wild individuals usually have tan or brown fur. This coloration keeps predators from easily spotting them, as opposed to the bright white, dark black, or spotted fur of some domestic breeds.Interesting Facts About the RabbitEach species is different from the next, but they all have unique traits and adaptations to help them survive. Learn what makes these little mammals so interesting below.Long Legs - Though they have relatively short front legs, all Rabbits have long, strong rear legs. They use these legs, which are quite muscular, to run and jump at impressive speeds. When they run, they only place their toes on the ground rather than their entire foot.The Better to See You With - These creatures have large eyes placed quite high on their heads. This allows them to see nearly everything around them. In fact, their only blind spot is a small area right at the end of their nose.The Better to Hear You With - Everyone knows about the Rabbit's large ears. Those long ears help them hear predators from a distance to avoid becoming dinner! They also help the mammals cool off in hot weather.Habitat of the RabbitThough many species live in meadows, grasslands, woodlands, mountainous areas, and similar habitats, these mammals also occupy more specialized ecosystems. Some species prefer living in one type of habitat, like wetlands, marshes, estuaries, and even volcanic areas. Some also occupy more urban areas like farms, parks, gardens, and suburbs.Distribution of the RabbitThese mammals live across a variety of regions worldwide. They naturally occur in Eurasia, Africa, and North, Central, and South America. Humans have also introduced various species to other regions of the world as invasive species.Some species live across wide regions or entire countries. Other species occupy just a tiny area. Each species has its own unique range and distribution.Diet of the RabbitRabbits are herbivores, which means they feed on plants. Their diets primarily consist of grasses, weeds, leaves, flowering plants, and more. Some species feed only on certain plants while others eat just about anything that they can.The problem is, plants are quite hard to digest fully. Because of this, these mammals frequently rechew their feses after it passes through their digestive systems the first time.Rabbit vs. HareAt first glance, hares just look like Rabbits, with extra-long legs and ears. Outside of their appearance, these creatures differ in several different ways.Save for a few species, the Rabbit is mostly social. It spends its time living in small groups, often in burrows underground. The hare usually lives alone, and stays above the ground. In their burrows, Rabbits also give birth to helpless babies and care for them for several weeks. On the other hand, hares give birth to fully formed and mobile young that require less care.Rabbit and Human InteractionHumans have utilized these mammals as a food source for thousands of years. We also used their fur to produce various clothing items, blankets, and other items. Farmers also consider these creatures as pests, because they eat or damage crops.Human impact on the populations of different species varies. Some have strong populations, while others are in decline.DomesticationHumans began domesticating these mammals in the times of Ancient Rome. Originally, we domesticated them as a source of food and fur. However, beginning in the 19th century, humans bred bunnies for their disposition as pets.Nowadays, people keep many breeds for their meat or fur, but they also keep them frequently as pets. People have produced over 300 different Rabbit breeds throughout the years.Does the Rabbit Make a Good PetDomestic varieties do make good pets. Even breeds originating from meat or fur production make good pets. Breeders have selected the friendliest and most social individuals for hundreds and thousands of years to produce the pets you own today. However, you should always do your research before purchasing a new pet.Rabbit CareRabbits need to live in proper enclosures, have the correct diet, and plenty of socialization. Many owners keep their bunnies in cages, but let them roam throughout the day while they are home. You can usually litter box train them, so they will not mess outside of their cage.It is incredibly important to give your bunny a variety of chewing opportunities, toys, and other stimulus. You should also provide a specially produced diet with balanced vitamins and minerals, as well as fresh vegetables to browse on.Behavior of the RabbitMost wild individuals are nocturnal, or active at night. Some are also crepuscular, or active early in the morning and late in the afternoon. During the daytime, they sleep in burrows or tunnels underground.Though they usually live in small groups, cottontail bunnies are often solitary. However, even solitary species congregate around prolific food sources. Groups live in burrows and defend their territories, and thus their food sources, from other groups.Reproduction of the RabbitFemales begin breeding when they are between the ages of three and eight months old. Their gestation period lasts about a month. Most litters contain between five and eight young, known as "kits." The kits are helpless at birth but develop quickly. Females can breed several times in a single year.Beliefs, Superstitions, and Phobias About the RabbitBecause we have historically hunted Rabbits for thousands of years, these creatures are quite present in cultural and historical depictions. You can find them in artwork, folklore, and literature. Cultures from Aztec mythology to Chinese, Japanese, and Korean traditions all feature these creatures.In cultural depictions, bunnies hold many different symbolisms, from fertility to innocence, youth, cowardice, peace, and more.