

## All about rats!

Have you ever seen a rat? They are very easy to spot because they are small, furry creatures with a very long tail and whiskers. They can be brown or grey. They have extremely sharp teeth that never stop growing. They keep their teeth short by gnawing on wood. This keeps their teeth sharp too. They only live for about one and a half years.



### What do rats eat?

Rats will eat anything. They like meat, fruit, vegetables and cheese. They drink water but they can survive for several days without any.

Rats have poor eyesight so how do you think they find food? How amazing that rats can find food by smelling it!

### The personality of a rat

Rats are very clean animals and they spend several hours every day grooming themselves and their babies. They are curious but shy and scared. That's why they scurry away from people.

### Pet rats

Rats like to live in the countryside but some people really love rats and keep them as pets. They keep them in cages and take them out to play with them. Pet rats can live twice as long as wild rats. They can live for three years because they are looked after so well and given plenty of food. Would you like a pet rat?

### Fun facts

- Rats can squeeze through a hole as small as a 10p coin.
- Rats are really good at remembering things.
- Can you believe rats can have 20 babies at one time?

