

Pocket-Sized Pets

10 Some pets are small enough to fit in the palm
19 of your hand and can be described as 'pocket-sized
26 pets'. These include gerbils and hamsters. These
31 types of pets are rodents.

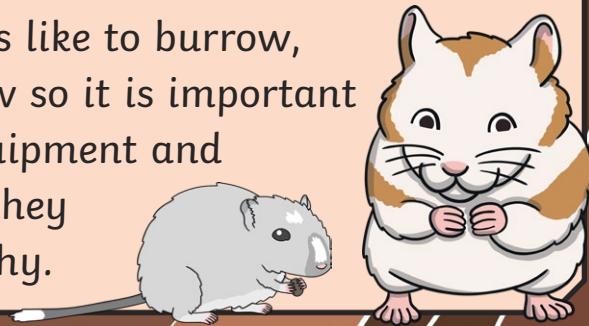
32 Gerbils

40 Gerbils are diurnal. This means they are active
49 during the day. They are social animals so need
55 the company of their own species.

56 Hamsters

64 Hamsters are nocturnal so they are more active
72 at night. Most species of hamsters are solitary
81 animals so need to be kept alone. Wild hamsters
90 run long distances each night so it is important
100 to give pet hamsters an exercise wheel to run on.

106 Gerbils and hamsters like to burrow,
114 build nests and gnaw so it is important
120 to have the right equipment and
124 enclosure to ensure they
128 are happy and healthy.



Questions



1. Find and copy the word that means 'active during the day'.



2. When are hamsters **not** active?



3. What is the final fact that we learn in this text?



4. Which one of these pets would you like to own? Explain your answer.

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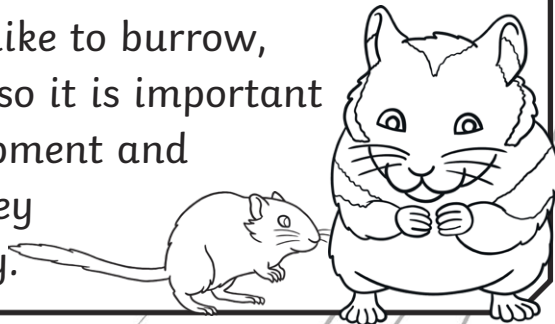
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Answers



1. Find and copy the word that means 'active during the day'.

diurnal



2. When are hamsters **not** active?

Hamsters are not active during the day.



3. What is the final fact that we learn in this text?

The final fact that we learn in this text is that it is important to make sure gerbils and hamsters have the right equipment and enclosure.



4. Which one of these pets would you like to own? Explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I would like to have a pet that is active during the day so I would choose to own gerbils. They are also social animals so that means I could have two!