

Chapter

1

Rabbit Selection and Handling



Hop on Board

In the rabbit project you will make decisions about housing, feeding and breeding. There are more than 40 breeds (kinds) of rabbits. Your first choice is to select your rabbit.

Rabbit Skill: Create a rabbit breed chart.
Life Skill: Decision making
Success Indicator: Uses decision making skills to select a rabbit project breed.
Science Standard: Characteristics of organisms

“Hop to it!”

Visit with your project helper, county Extension educator, local breeder and/or teen leaders in the rabbit project about various breeds of rabbits.

Pick 10 breeds from Rabbit Facts. Show in the chart what you discover about each breed. Tape or draw a picture of your favorite breed in the picture frame.

My Favorite Breed

I like this breed best because _____

My Rabbit Breed Chart

Breed	Ideal Weight	Color(s)	Origin of Breed	Size	Class	Body Type & Fur Type Comments



Rabbit Rap

Share What You Did

- Which breed did you like best? Why?
- Why do you like the rabbit you chose?

Process What's Important

- How did you decide on this breed? If you choose this rabbit what will you have to do to take care of it?

Generalize to Your Life

- What other decisions did you make today?

Apply What You Learned

- How does making a chart help to make better decisions?

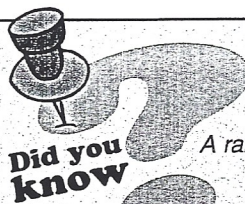


See breeds and varieties on front and back covers. The ARBA *Standard of Perfection* contains all the breeds recognized in the U.S.



Rabbit Breeds and Ideal Weight Groups

Four Class Rabbit Breeds	
Small (2 to 6 lbs.)	Medium (over 6 to 9 lbs.)
American Fuzzy Lop Britannia Petite Dutch Dwarf Hotot Florida White Havana Himalayan Holland Lop Jersey Wooly Mini Lop Mini Rex Netherland Dwarf Polish Silver Tan	American Sable Belgian Hare English Angora English Spot French Angora Harlequin Lilac Rex Rhineland Satin Angora Silver Marten Standard Chinchilla
Six Class Rabbit Breeds	
Large (over 9 to 11 lbs.)	Giant (over 11 lbs.)
American American Chinchilla Beveren Blanc de Hotot Californian Champagne D'Argent Cinnamon Creme D'Argent English Lop New Zealand Palomino Satin Silver Fox	Checkered Giant Flemish Giant French Lop Giant Chinchilla Giant Angora



A rabbit hide is called a pelt.

Bounding Ahead

1. Visit a rabbitry or show. Make a list of the different kinds of rabbits you see. Go to the library and check out a book on your favorite kind of rabbit. How many breeds did you find?