

Instructions

Read the following information about small animal care, then answer the questions below.

Introduction to Small Animals

Small animals, such as hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, and ferrets, make great pets for families. They require dedicated care, a proper diet, and a safe environment to thrive.

Daily Care Requirements

- Small animals should have fresh food and water every day.
- The living area (cage or enclosure) must be cleaned regularly to ensure it is hygienic.
- Many small animals need daily exercise outside of their cage.

Types of Food

Small animals need a balanced diet, which typically includes:

- Pellets specific to their species
- Fresh vegetables and fruits
- Hay (for rabbits and guinea pigs)

Creating a Safe Environment

Make sure to provide:

- A comfortable bedding material.
- Toys for mental stimulation.
- A quiet place to rest away from loud noises.

Health Check

Regular health checks are essential. Look for:

- Signs of illness (like not eating or lethargy).
- Healthy fur and skin.

Questions

1. Name three types of small animals that can be kept as pets:

2. List two daily care requirements for small animals:

3. Why is it important to clean the living area regularly?

4. What are two types of food that small animals need?

5. What should you look for during a health check of a small animal?