



Guess who's hopping around the bushes with a fluffy, cotton-ball tail? It's the brush rabbit! This adorable creature is a small-sized rabbit with a soft, greyish-brown coat that helps it blend into its surroundings. Their ears are smaller than most rabbits, which helps them keep a low profile while they're exploring. With a cute, round body and a twitchy little nose, brush rabbits are certainly a sight to behold!

Having made a sneak peek at their appearance, let's hop over to their homes and habitats. Brush rabbits are homebodies and love the west coast of North America, especially in the dense, brushy cover. These rabbits are pretty shy and prefer to stay hidden in thicket patches or burrows during the day. At twilight and dawn, they come out to feast and play.

Speaking of feasting, do you wonder what these cute critters munch on? Their diet mostly includes green, leafy stuff like grasses and forbs, and occasionally they'll nibble on woody plants too. Although they are small, brush rabbits play a big role in the ecosystem by helping to distribute seeds and control vegetation. Isn't it amazing how such a small creature can make a big difference in our world?

Now that we know what they eat, let's learn about their place in the animal kingdom. While they might look like any other rabbit, brush rabbits have some unique traits that help them survive in the wild. Their smaller size and ability to stay hidden makes them less noticeable to predators like hawks, owls, and foxes. So, next time when you see a cute, little rabbit with a cotton-ball tail, remember it could be the amazing brush rabbit, a small creature with a big role in our ecosystem.



**Solve each problem.****Use the article to answer the question.**

- 1) What color is the coat of a brush rabbit?
 - A. Black and white
 - B. Orange and white
 - C. Pure white
 - D. Greyish-brown
- 2) What role do brush rabbits play in the ecosystem?
 - A. Hunt other animals
 - B. Control the bug population by eating them
 - C. Distribute seeds and control vegetation
 - D. Scare away predators
- 3) What are brush rabbit's ears like compared to other rabbits?
 - A. Smaller
 - B. Same size
 - C. Bigger
 - D. More pointed
- 4) What do brush rabbits usually do during the day?
 - A. Play in meadows
 - B. Swim in rivers
 - C. Stay hidden
 - D. Search for food
- 5) Which animals are predators of brush rabbits?
 - A. Bears and wolves
 - B. Cheetahs and leopards
 - C. Lions and hyenas
 - D. Hawks and foxes
- 6) When does a brush rabbit usually come out?
 - A. At twilight and dawn
 - B. In the middle of the night
 - C. At noon and evening
 - D. During a full moon
- 7) What do brush rabbits eat?
 - A. Insects
 - B. Meat from small animals
 - C. Leafy stuff like grasses and forbs
 - D. Berries and nuts
- 8) What does a brush rabbit occasionally nibble on?
 - A. Reptiles
 - B. Small insects
 - C. Woody plants
 - D. Fruits and veggies
- 9) What part of North America do brush rabbits mostly inhabit?
 - A. Central plains
 - B. East coast
 - C. West coast
 - D. Rocky mountains

Determine if the statements is something the animal would say (W) or it it is not something the animal would say (N).

- 10) "Most of my meals are green and leafy, like grasses and forbs. But sometimes, I'll munch on woody plants too."
- 11) "My coat is soft, greyish-brown and it helps me blend into my surroundings."
- 12) "I have smaller ears compared to most rabbits and I use them to stay hidden while exploring."



- 13) "My diet includes a generous share of juicy apples and bananas."
- 14) "Even though I'm small, I play a big role in the ecosystem by helping distribute seeds and controlling vegetation."
- 15) "I live only on the east coast of the United States."
- 16) "During the day, I prefer hiding in thicket patches or burrows. But at twilight and dawn, I like to come out and play."
- 17) "Even though I'm small, my ears are the biggest amongst all the rabbits. They help me hear even the quietest of sounds!"
- 18) "We're night owls and come out to feast and play after dark."
- 19) "I love to eat meat and insects."

Determine if the statement is a fact or opinion based on the information in the article.

- 20) It's fascinating how rabbits help distribute seeds and control vegetation.
- 21) The predators of brush rabbits include hawks, owls, and foxes.
- 22) Brush rabbits, with their small round bodies, look the most cuddly among all the rabbits.
- 23) Brush rabbits prefer to live in dense, brushy cover.
- 24) It is amazing how brush rabbits are able to stay hidden even when they are out playing and eating.
- 25) During the day, brush rabbits stay hidden in thicket patches or burrows.
- 26) Brush rabbits help distribute seeds and control vegetation.
- 27) At twilight and dawn, brush rabbits are usually active.

Determine if the statement is true or false.

- 28) Brush rabbits are often the prey of hawks or owls.
- 29) Brush rabbits have larger ears than other rabbits.
- 30) Brush rabbits mostly eat only green, leafy food.
- 31) Brush rabbits are the largest rabbit species.
- 32) Brush rabbits stay hidden during the day.
- 33) Brush rabbits can only be found on the east coast of North America.
- 34) Rabbits stay hidden in burrows during the night and come out eat during the day.
- 35) Brush rabbits eat only meat and seeds.
- 36) Brush rabbits live in the west coast of North America.
- 37) Brush rabbits have smaller ears than most rabbits.

Determine if the sentence is a declarative(d), exclamatory(e), interrogative(i) or imperative(m).

- 38) Brush rabbits are mainly active at night, when they forage for food.
- 39) Can brush rabbits climb trees?
- 40) Brush rabbits are herbivores, which means they eat plants and grasses.
- 41) Brush rabbits are small mammals that live in western North America.
- 42) How do brush rabbits protect themselves from predators?



43) How fast can brush rabbits run?



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| 1. <u> D </u> | 26. <u> fact </u> |
| 2. <u> C </u> | 27. <u> fact </u> |
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| 4. <u> C </u> | 29. <u> false </u> |
| 5. <u> D </u> | 30. <u> true </u> |
| 6. <u> A </u> | 31. <u> false </u> |
| 7. <u> C </u> | 32. <u> true </u> |
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| 9. <u> C </u> | 34. <u> false </u> |
| 10. <u> true </u> | 35. <u> false </u> |
| 11. <u> true </u> | 36. <u> true </u> |
| 12. <u> true </u> | 37. <u> true </u> |
| 13. <u> false </u> | 38. <u> declarative </u> |
| 14. <u> true </u> | 39. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 15. <u> false </u> | 40. <u> declarative </u> |
| 16. <u> true </u> | 41. <u> declarative </u> |
| 17. <u> false </u> | 42. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 18. <u> false </u> | 43. <u> interrogative </u> |
| 19. <u> false </u> | |
| 20. <u> opinion </u> | |
| 21. <u> fact </u> | |
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