

# Make Henry Hamster a happy home



**Length:** 30 minutes to 1 hour

**Suggested ages:** Reception, Y1, Y2

**Learning objectives for pupils:**

- recognise all animals have basic needs.
- start to demonstrate compassion towards animals.

**SMSC links**

- Pupils have a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about others and the world around them.
- Pupils understand the consequences of their behaviour and actions on the welfare of pets.

**Key words**

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Welfare needs | • Home             |
| • Diet          | • Companionship    |
| • Vet care      | • Normal behaviour |



**woodgreen**

Helping pets and their people

# About the session



Your presenter, Anna, will take your class through a fun and interactive session. The children will discover everything a hamster needs to stay healthy and happy.

The guide below summarises the presentation, and highlights when to press **pause** so the class can take part in an activity.

## Introduction

**Slide 1.** Anna will ask the class what pets they think might be staying at Woodgreen.

**Pause** the presentation to give children a minute to discuss it with a partner and share their answers with you.

## Main session

In the main session, Anna will introduce Henry Hamster, who asks the children to help make him a nice home to live in. Their first task is to choose him a cage.

**Slide 4.** Anna will ask you to **pause** the presentation so the children can whisper to their partner and decide on the best cage for Henry. Ask them for their ideas/thoughts and, when the children are ready, press play to discover the answer.

**Slide 7.** Anna will ask you to **pause** the presentation so the children, in pairs, can decide on a good bedding choice for Henry.

Ask the children to stand up in their pairs if they've chosen paper bedding or stay sat down if they choose sawdust. The correct answer is revealed on Slide 8.

Next, the children will help Henry add some toys, food and water to his cage. Then they will consider if he would like a friend for company.

**Slide 10.** Anna will ask you to **pause** the presentation so that children can choose, in pairs, which toys they think Henry would like best in his cage.

**Slide 17.** Anna will ask you to **pause** the presentation so that the children can tell you where Henry should go if he's not feeling well.

## Plenary

**Slide 19.** Anna will ask the children to cup their hands and pretend they're holding a hamster.

**Pause** the presentation so the children can whisper to their imaginary hamster all their pet needs to be healthy and happy. Ask a few of the children to share their thoughts with the class.

## Extension ideas

Why not give your class our '**Big 5**' **challenge** sheet to complete?

As an extra challenge, the class could try our '**Home Sweet Home**' group activity. This guides children through designing their very own hamster home.

## Want to find out more about hamsters?

Visit our Woodgreen website  
[woodgreen.org.uk/pet-advice/hamster/](http://woodgreen.org.uk/pet-advice/hamster/)