Caring for your Pet Mouse or Rat
Food

- Rat and mouse food can be bought from the pet shop.
- They can also eat seeds, grains and cereals, and sweet hay.
- Mix up rolled oats, plain biscuits, mixed bird seed, bread soaked in water or milk, and fresh vegetables. Yum!
- Feed your pet small meals.
- Food mixtures are good for your rat or mouse. He will pick out his favourite bits.
- Rat and mouse teeth keep growing so they must be given some hard foods and wooden toys to gnaw on.
Water

- Make sure your pet has cool, fresh water all the time.

- Special rat and mouse water bottles are a good idea for keeping water clean.
Shelter

- The bigger the cage, the better.
- Use newspaper or saw dust for the floor.
- Keep your pet safe inside out of the sun, wind and rain.
- Let your rat or mouse see you a lot and what is going on around him. They are social animals.
- Make sure you clean your pet’s cage every week.
- Rats and mice love small boxes to hide in.
Exercise & Friends

- All animals need room to move and play.
- Give your pet toys to play with, like a tunnel, small box or ball.
- Make sure your rat or mouse can move freely in his cage.
- Animals like friends, carefully choose a buddy for your rat or mouse.
Special Care

- All pets must visit the *vet* once a year for a check-up.
- Vets give small animals *medicine* to stop them from getting diseases, worms, ticks and fleas.
- Take your pet to the *vet* if he is **sick**, hurt or stops eating.
Lifespan

- Pet rats and mice can live for 1-3 years