Who is the rabbit?

The domesticated rabbit is a cousin of the wild rabbit

Rabbits can live up to 14 years, whereas rabbits in commercial production are slaughtered at around 10 weeks old, so they do not reach adulthood during their lifetime.



How do rabbits spend their day?

Accessing higher surfaces

Sleeping

Foraging and gnawing

Grooming



Standing and scanning

Eating and drinking

Moving and hopping around

> **Playing and** socialising



Hiding

What does the rabbit want?

Space to hop, jump and move around

Comfortable flooring to lie down

A safe, quiet, and sheltered place to rest and hide

> Interacting and socialising with other rabbits

High places to be vigilant

They are more active at dawn and dusk and need 8 hours of continuous darkness to be fully rested

Grooming

Mutual grooming increases group cohesion and self grooming increases comfort

Hiding, standing and scanning

Rabbits are timid animals. Providing them with hiding places as well as opportunities to stand and scan their surroundings reduces their stress

Foraging and gnawing

Ingestion of fibre is very important for their gut health. Gnawing is also necessary to keep their teeth healthy

Playing and socialising

Young rabbits use these interactions to learn and become confident

Easy access to good feed and water

Opportunities to forage



Material to gnaw on



Learn by exploring their complex environment



Grooming and allo-grooming

Sleeping

Accessing higher surfaces Being alert and vigilant on comfortable, higher surfaces to feel safe

What are rabbits capable of?

They are able to understand several words

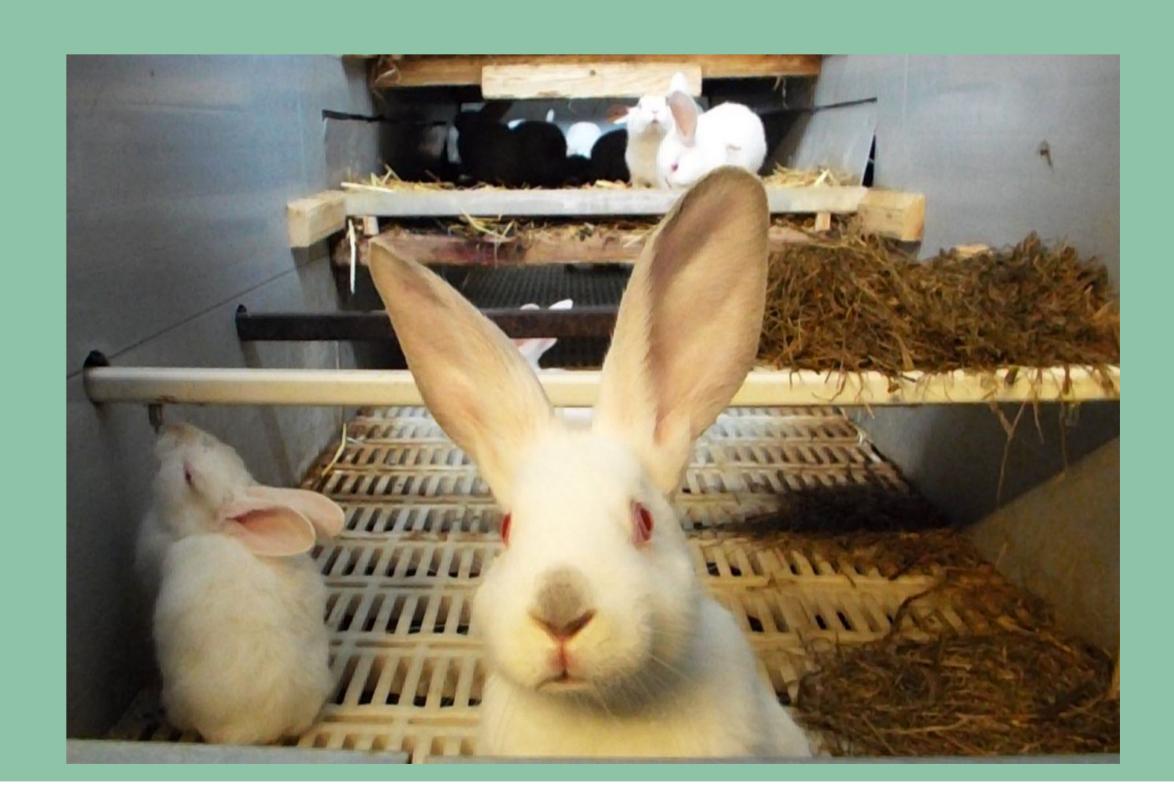
They dream too!

their groups are made of: - 2 to 9 adult females - 1 to 3 adult males

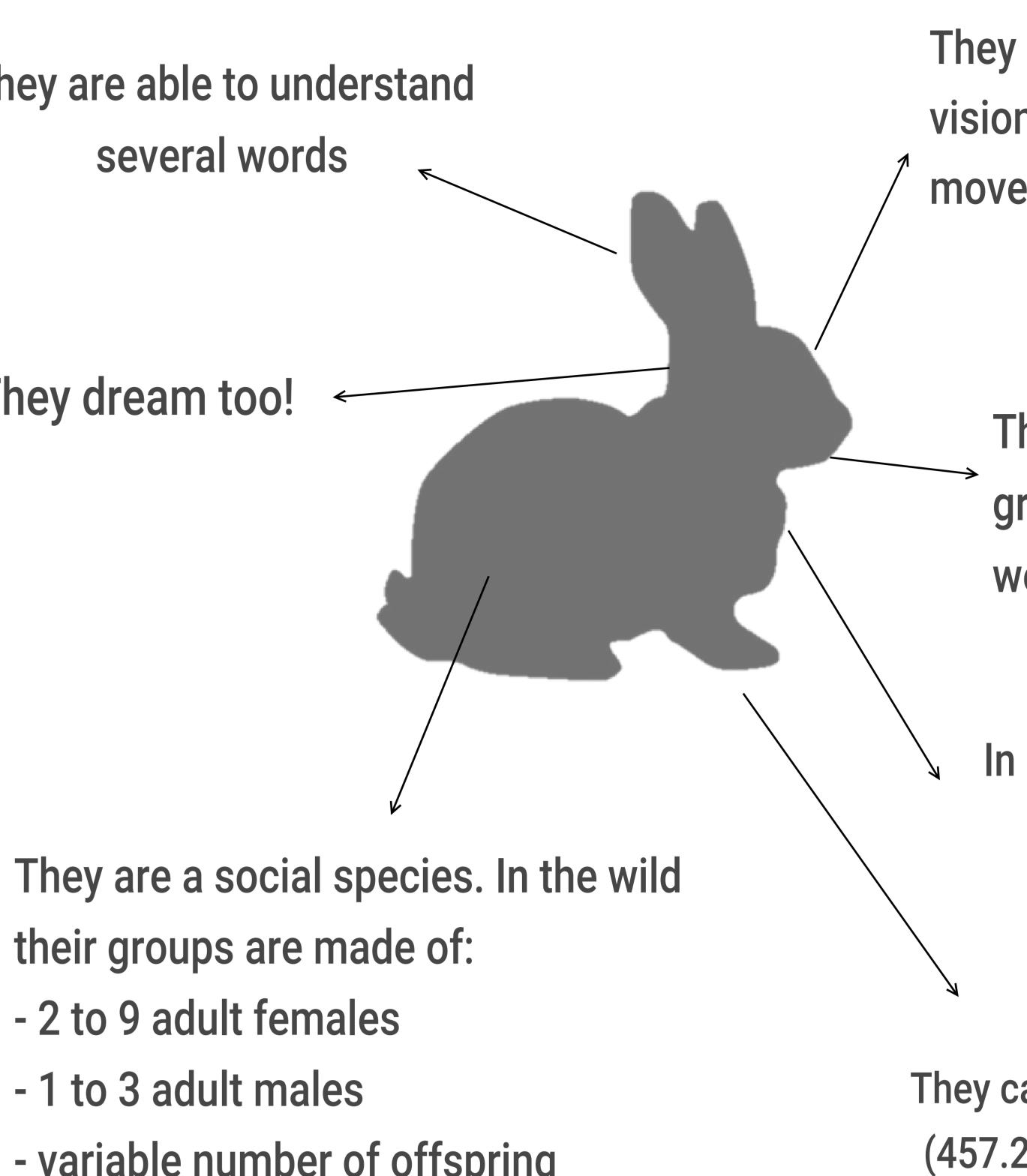
variable number of offspring



Comfortable flooring



Rabbits are intelligent, highly-skilled animals!



They have nearly 360° panoramic vision, allowing them to detect movement from all directions

> Their teeth are constantly growing (around 2mm per week)

In nature, females are the head of a social groups

- some sub-adult non-dominant males

They can jump as wide as 15 feet (457.2cm) and as high as 4 feet (121.92cm)

How can we provide rabbits with a good quality of life?

<u>Space</u>:

- No cages
- At least 800-1500cm²/rabbit
- At least 1.8m of pen length



Meaningful enrichment:

- Platforms
- Hiding places
- Gnawing objects
- Ad libitum fibre
- Dawn and dusk light regime



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