

LEARN AT CHESTER ZOO



At risk of becoming Extinct in the Wild

Name	Rabbit
Scientific Name	<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>
Threats (why they're at risk)	Road traffic, poison, shooting, and man-made viruses.
Distribution (where they live)	Britain & Europe. Introduced to Australia, New Zealand & America.
Habitat (what they live in)	Wherever they can burrow, sand dunes, moorland & woodland.
Diet/Feeding strategy (what they eat and how they eat it)	Graze on grasses, cereals, root vegetables, tree bark and shoots. Their diet is hard to digest so they eat their food twice, by eating their soft droppings they get all the nutrients they need.
Social behaviour (how they live)	Some rabbits will stay as a single pair but up to 30 rabbits could live in big underground burrows known as "warrens". The most dominant male rabbits, known as "bucks", gets the first pick of the females, known as "does".
Males and females	Generally the same size and colour
Lifespan (how long they live for)	Average 3 years
Number of young (how many babies)	1-10 litters, and they might have between 3-7 young each litter.
Interesting fact	Originally came from Spain but was introduced into the UK by the Normans for food and fur.