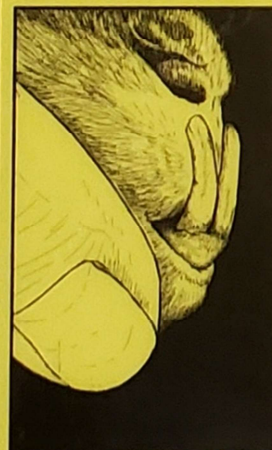
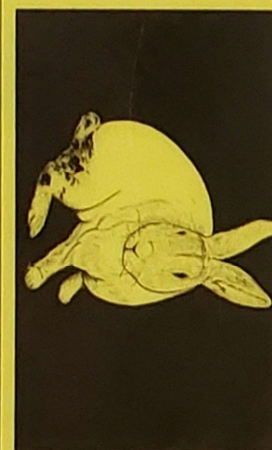
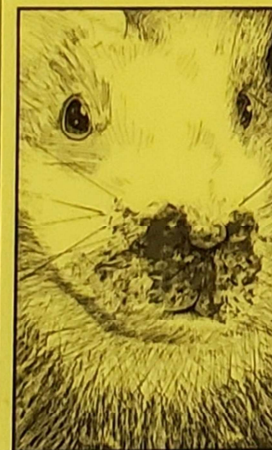
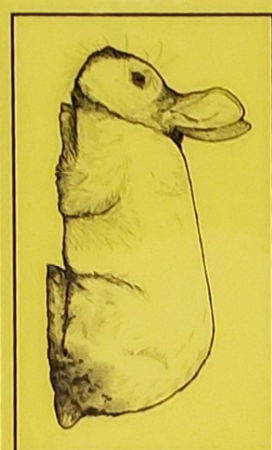
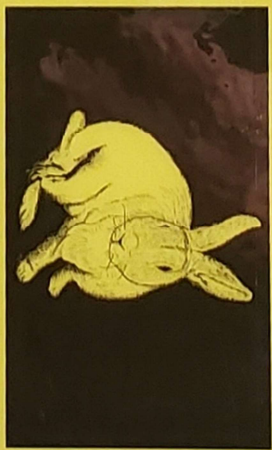
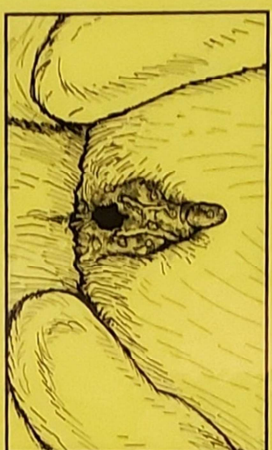
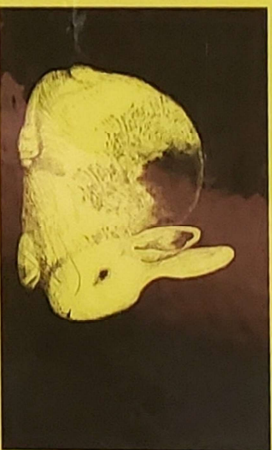
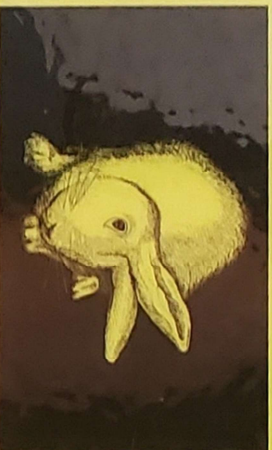


# Ailments and Disorders



**Sore Hocks** (*Licrinitic Pododermatitis*)  
**Cause:** Damage usually to the pad of the foot, usually followed by a bacterial infection  
**Prevention:**  
 \* House rabbits in clean cages on soft, clean, dry bedding  
 \* Eliminate environmentally stressful conditions  
 \* Use resting boards  
 \* Cull affected animals and do not use for breeding  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Preparation H  
 \* Clean sores/lesions, trim toenails, and apply topical antibiotic or protective covering  
 \* Healing is often prolonged/compliated by secondary bacterial infections

**Wry Neck** (*Torticollis*)  
**Cause:** Bacterial infection — An otitis interna caused by *Pasteurella multocida* - frequently no specific inner ear lesions are detected, with the cause remaining unknown  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Cull affected individuals immediately  
 \* Quarantine new arrivals prior to herd/colony entry  
 \* Do not allow affected animals to reproduce  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Treatment is **NOT** effective  
 \* There is NO satisfactory treatment for this condition

**Snuffles** (*Infectious Respiratory Disease*)  
**Cause:** Bacterial infection — *Pasteurella multocida* - transmitted by direct contact between cagesmates, doe and litter, and/or breeding pair - untreated may result in pneumonia  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Adher to strict sanitation and husbandry standards  
 \* Ensure good ventilation  
 \* Follow strict culling procedures  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Terramycin, Burt-nycin, -or- Baytril  
 \* Treat at first symptom of ailment  
 \* Treat with antibiotics via drinking water or injection

**Vent Disease**  
**Cause:** Bacterial infection — *Trypanosoma canaliculi* - transmitted by direct contact, especially during mating  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Examine breeding bucks and does routinely for lesions  
 \* Treat affected individuals at once  
 \* Cull  
 \* Maintain a closed breeding herd  
 \* Treat and quarantine new stock  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Penicillin G  
 \* Treat with injectable antibiotic  
 \* Herd immunity of enterotoxemia from penicillin exposure must be considered

**Enterotoxemia** (*Clostridial Enterotoxemia*)  
**Cause:** Bacterial infection — *Clostridium sporforme* and/or *C. perfringens* - transmission is primarily fecal-oral route  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Implement rigid sanitation and husbandry standards  
 \* Use copper sulfate or *Lactobacillus* preparations  
 \* Change diet slowly  
 \* Feed sufficient fiber  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Bosed  
 \* Change the diet; increase fiber and decrease protein  
 \* Maintain hydration  
 \* Maintain body temperature  
 \* Neomycin treatments have uncertain benefits

**Ringworm** (*Dermatophytosis*)  
**Cause:** Fungal infection — *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and/or *Microsporum canis* - transmitted easily by direct contact with spores on hair coat, in bedding, and/or soil  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Maintain high standards of animal husbandry  
 \* Examine animals routinely  
 \* Cull carriers  
 \* Sterilize contaminated facilities and equipment  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Iodine  
 \* Individual outbreaks - apply medication to skin; ordinary iodine or an ointment containing hectoridine  
 \* Herd outbreaks - use povidone-iodine as a feed additive or in water-soluble form

**Coccidiosis** (*Intestinal Coccidiosis*)  
**Cause:** Protozoa — *Eimeria* spp. - transmitted by ingestion of sporulated oocysts passed in feces and found viable in soil, feed, on personnel, caging, and utensils for several months  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Employ strict sanitation and husbandry standards  
 \* Cull infected animals  
 \* Prevent contact with infected feces or contaminated food and water containers  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Sulfa Q  
 \* Best prevented and/or controlled through rigid sanitation practices  
 \* Treat infected animals with medication containing sulfadiazoxalate or monensin as a feed additive or in water-soluble form

**Ear Canker** (*Acanthiasis*)  
**Cause:** Ear mites — *Psoroptes cuniculi* and/or *Otiopotes cuniculi* - transmitted from infected animals or environment to noninfected rabbits  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Carefully examine the ears of all stock every 14 days  
 \* Quarantine all new arrivals and treat twice before placing in clean herd/colony  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Mineral -or- Vegetable Oil  
 \* Treat (smother) with oil-based insecticide preparation  
 \* Clean off exudate and massage 1 to 2 ml of liquid into each ear canal with a cotton swab  
 \* Repeat treatment in 7 days to eliminate newly hatched  
 \* -or- Treat with injectable Ivermectin

**Weepy Eye** (*Staphylococcosis*)  
**Cause:** Bacterial infection — *Staphylococcus aureus* and/or *Pasteurella multocida* - spread by humans and contaminated food, feces, cages, and/or bedding  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Apply rigid sanitation methods  
 \* Eliminate sharp or abrasive surfaces  
 \* Use clean feed and bedding  
 \* Reduce animal stress  
 \* Monitor animals  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Tetracycline  
 \* Clean, drain, and excise lesion  
 \* Averted early; treat with ophthalmic antibiotic ointment  
 \* Infection or drinking water

**Mange** (*Scaly Mange or Acaridiasis*)  
**Cause:** Mites — Common fur mites *Cheyletiella parasitivorax* and/or *Lisotrochus gibbus* or burrowing mites *Sarcoptes scabiei* and/or *Notodreps carl* - spread by direct contact with infected host  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Introduce only clean stock into clean premises  
 \* Separate, quarantine, and treat infected animals until free of infestation  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Ectibon -or- Scrin  
 \* Minor infestations, dust animals with insecticide  
 \* Major infestations, dip all animals in the colony in a malathion dip  
 \* **Caution:** perform dipping where animals may dry in a warm and noninfected environment

**Wound** (*Lacerations and/or Abrasions*)  
**Cause:** Injuries, bites, and scratches — Bites and scratches from other animals, and/or injuries from poor housing and environmental conditions  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Maintain rabbitry equipment and facilities  
 \* Adher to strict sanitation and husbandry standards to prevent risk of infection  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* Blood-Stop  
 \* Minor injury - use styptic powder to stop bleeding  
 \* Major injury - clean, disinfect, dress, and apply pressure to laceration or abrasion to help stop bleeding

**Myxomatosis**  
**Cause:** Virus — Myxoma virus, a DNA virus of the pox virus family - transmitted by mosquitoes, mites, flies, lice, birds (droppings), and/or plant materials  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Control vectors (mosquitoes, flies, and bees) by spraying and screening  
 \* Keep wild rabbits away from facilities  
 \* Adhere to strict husbandry standards  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* NO treatment exists  
 \* There is NO treatment for this ailment/disorder  
 \* Eliminate all biting insects from rabbitry  
 \* Immediate removal of affected animals is crucial

**VHD** (*Viral Hemorrhagic Disease*)  
**Cause:** Virus — Peracute infection of *Oryctolagus cuniculus* - transmitted by direct contact with secretions or excretions of infected rabbits, or indirectly via aerosol exposure to contaminated rabbit products  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Select VHD-free stock  
 \* Adher to strict husbandry practices  
 \* Quarantine new arrivals prior to herd/colony entry  
 \* Conduct serologic screening  
**Common treatment:**  
 \* NO satisfactory treatment exists  
 \* Short-term protection is provided from a vaccine that lasts only 6 to 8 months  
 \* Biyearly vaccination is recommended in epidemic areas

**Malocclusion** (*Mandibular Prognathism*)  
**Cause:** Inherited abnormality — Inherited condition in which the incisors fail to meet and thus grow to extreme lengths; may also result from dietary, infectious (bactericases), or traumatic reasons  
**Prevention:**  
 \* Do not allow animals affected with this ailment/disorder to reproduce  
**Treatment:**  
 \* Treatment of tooth overgrowth involves repeated filing or sawing with a sharp clipper or dental burr  
 \* Removal of affected teeth

**WARNING:** Before any condition is treated, medications not approved (labeled) for use in rabbits or cavies must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian familiar with the care and treatment of rabbits and cavies.



# RABBIT

## LEARNING LABORATORY KIT

### Exploratory Learning: Educational Program

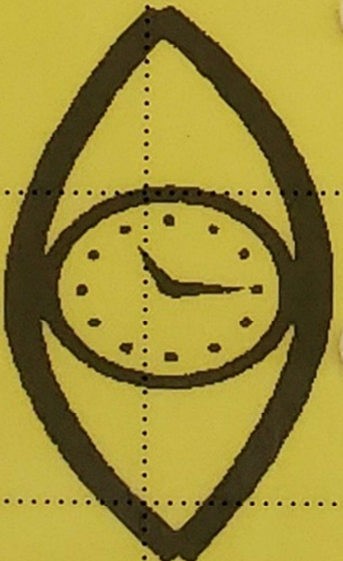
Graphics Property of Curriculum Materials Service.

Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service



Awareness, Care, and Management;  
Health; and Quality Assurance

## Ailments and Disorders

Preventive Measures	Name of Condition	Symptom of Disorder/Ailment	Cause	Treatment
<p><b>WARNING:</b> Before any condition is treated, medications not approved (labeled) for use in rabbits or cavies must be prescribed by a licensed veterinarian familiar with the care and treatment of rabbits and cavies.</p>				
<p><b>TAKE TIME</b></p>  <p><b>READ and OBSERVE LABEL DIRECTIONS</b></p>				



# RABBIT

LEARNING LABORATORY KIT

Exploratory Learning: Educational Program

Product distribution through the Curriculum Materials Service