

DO YOU KNOW THESE RODENT RASCALS?



DIRECTIONS: Write the number of each description next the name of the one rodent it fits. Then look at the boxed letters in each rodent's name. Fill in the letters, in number order, on the lines at the bottom of the page to spell a secret message. Answers can also be found in *Rodent Rascals* by Roxie Munro (Holiday House, 2018).

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|-----|----------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|-------------|-----|----------|-----|----------------|-----|--------|-----|---------------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|-------------|-----|---------|-----|-----------|-----|---------------------------|-----|-----------|-----|--------|-----|----------|-----|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Known as Hero Rat; trained to sniff out land mines 2. World's smallest rodent 3. Punxsutawney Phil and his kind forecast the weather 4. House pet can run 5 miles a day on its wheel 5. They don't shoot their barbed quills, but dogs, beware 6. Beatrix Potter had one as a pet 7. Slow on land, they can stay underwater up to 15 minutes 8. Softest-furred critters take baths in dust instead of water 9. World's biggest rodent, from South America 10. Musical singers, birdsong-lovers 11. Can glide or soar up to 300 feet 12. People used in experiments are called by this pet's name 13. Can collect 100+ acorns a day 14. Hairless, it digs through dark tunnels under African sands 15. There are 100+ species of this little house pet from Mongolia 16. Has long legs and big feet to leap 9 feet high over desert sands 17. Barks to warn others in its colony 18. Builds dams and new ponds 19. Burrows under Arctic snow and doesn't leap off cliffs | <table border="0"> <tr><td>PYGMY JERBOA</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>NAKED MOLE RAT</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>LEMMING</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>HAMSTER</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>HOUSE MOUSE</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>CHIPMUNK</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>FLYING SQUIREL</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>GERBIL</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>DESERT KANGAROO RAT</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>NORWAY RAT</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>GUINEA PIG</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>CHINCHILLA</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>PRAIRIE DOG</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>MUSKRAT</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>GROUNDHOG</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>AFRICAN GIANT POUCHED RAT</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>PORCUPINE</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>BEAVER</td><td>___</td></tr> <tr><td>CAPYBARA</td><td>___</td></tr> </table> | PYGMY JERBOA | ___ | NAKED MOLE RAT | ___ | LEMMING | ___ | HAMSTER | ___ | HOUSE MOUSE | ___ | CHIPMUNK | ___ | FLYING SQUIREL | ___ | GERBIL | ___ | DESERT KANGAROO RAT | ___ | NORWAY RAT | ___ | GUINEA PIG | ___ | CHINCHILLA | ___ | PRAIRIE DOG | ___ | MUSKRAT | ___ | GROUNDHOG | ___ | AFRICAN GIANT POUCHED RAT | ___ | PORCUPINE | ___ | BEAVER | ___ | CAPYBARA | ___ |
| PYGMY JERBOA | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NAKED MOLE RAT | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LEMMING | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HAMSTER | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| HOUSE MOUSE | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CHIPMUNK | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FLYING SQUIREL | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GERBIL | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DESERT KANGAROO RAT | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NORWAY RAT | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GUINEA PIG | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CHINCHILLA | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PRAIRIE DOG | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| MUSKRAT | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GROUNDHOG | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AFRICAN GIANT POUCHED RAT | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PORCUPINE | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BEAVER | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CAPYBARA | ___ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

FILL IN LETTERS BELOW TO SPELL A SECRET MESSAGE:

_____ !
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 !

DO YOU KNOW THESE RODENT RASCALS?



(ANSWER KEY)

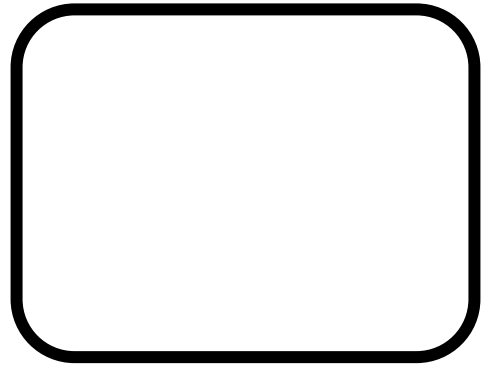
DIRECTIONS: Write the number of each description next the name of the one rodent it fits. Then look at the boxed letters in each rodent's name. Fill in the letters, in number order, on the lines at the bottom of the page to spell a secret message. Answers can also be found in *Rodent Rascals* by Roxie Munro (Holiday House, 2018).

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------|----|
| 1. Known as Hero Rat; trained to sniff out land mines | PYGMY JERBOA | 2 |
| 2. World's smallest rodent | NAKED MOLE RAT | 14 |
| 3. Punxsutawney Phil and his kind forecast the weather | LEMMING | 19 |
| 4. House pet can run 5 miles a day on its wheel | HAMSTER | 4 |
| 5. They don't shoot their barbed quills, but dogs, beware | HOUSE MOUSE | 10 |
| 6. Beatrix Potter had one as a pet | CHIPMUNK | 13 |
| 7. Slow on land, they can stay underwater up to 15 minutes | FLYING SQUIRREL | 11 |
| 8. Softest-furred critters take baths in dust instead of water | GERBIL | 15 |
| 9. World's biggest rodent, from South America | DESERT KANGAROO RAT | 16 |
| 10. Musical singers, birdsong-lovers | NORWAY RAT | 6 |
| 11. Can glide or soar up to 300 feet | GUINEA PIG | 12 |
| 12. People used in experiments are called by this pet's name | CHINCHILLA | 8 |
| 13. Can collect 100+ acorns a day | PRAIRIE DOG | 17 |
| 14. Hairless, it digs through dark tunnels under African sands | MUSKRAT | 7 |
| 15. There are 100+ species of this little house pet from Mongolia | GROUNDHOG | 3 |
| 16. Has long legs and big feet to leap 9 feet high over desert sands | AFRICAN GIANT POUCHED RAT | 1 |
| 17. Barks to warn others in its colony | PORCUPINE | 5 |
| 18. Builds dams and new ponds | BEAVER | 18 |
| 19. Burrows under Arctic snow and doesn't leap off cliffs | CAPYBARA | 9 |

FILL IN LETTERS BELOW TO SPELL A SECRET MESSAGE:

R O D E N T S A R E R E M A R K A B L E !
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

MY FAVORITE RODENT IS THE



Read an informational book about your rodent. Find five fascinating or surprising facts that you think other people may not know. Write them below, in your own words. Draw a small portrait of your rodent in the box above.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

WHY IS THIS YOUR FAVORITE RODENT?



RELATED TITLES: Bruchac, Joseph, and James Bruchac. *How Chipmunk Got His Stripes: A Tale of Bragging and Teasing*. Dial, 2001. / Dyckman, Ame. *Read the Book, Lemmings!* Little, Brown, 2017. / Jamieson, Victoria. *The Great Pet Escape*. Henry Holt, 2016. / Jenkins, Steve. *Actual Size*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. / Katz, Susan. *Oh, Theodore: Guinea Pig Poems*. Clarion, 2007. / Knutson, Barbara. *Love and Roast Chicken: A Trickster Tale from the Andes Mountains*. Carolrhoda, 2004. / Meade, Holly. *John Willy and Freddy McGee*. Marshall Cavendish, 1998. / Messner, Kate. *Fergus and Zeke at the Science Fair*. Candlewick, 2018. / Munro, Roxie. *Busy Builders*. Marshall Cavendish, 2012. / Munro, Roxie. *Christmastime in New York City*. Universe, 2014. / Munro, Roxie. *Desert Days, Desert Nights*. Bright Sky Press, 2010. / Munro, Roxie. *Ecomazes*. Sterling, 2010. / Munro, Roxie. *Go! Go! GO!: With More than 70 Flaps to Uncover & Discover*. Sterling, 2009. / Munro, Roxie. *Hatch!* Marshall Cavendish, 2011. / Munro, Roxie. *Inside-Outside Dinosaurs*. Marshall Cavendish, 2009. / Munro, Roxie. *Masterpiece Mix*. Holiday House, 2017. / Munro, Roxie. *Mazescapes*. Chronicle, 2001. / Munro, Roxie. *Mazeways: A to Z*. Sterling, 2007. / Munro, Roxie. *Slithery Snakes*. Amazon/Two Lions, 2013. / Okee Dokee Brothers. *Thousand Star Hotel*. Sterling, 2017. / Peet, Bill. *Capyboppy*. Houghton Mifflin, 1966. / Stevens, Janet, and Susan Stevens Crummel. *The Great Fuzz Frenzy*. Harcourt, 2005. / Swallow, Pamela Curtis. *Groundhog Gets a Say*. Putnam, 2007, c2005. / Willems, Mo. *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed*. Disney/Hyperion, 2009.

SUBJECTS: ANIMALS. RODENTS.