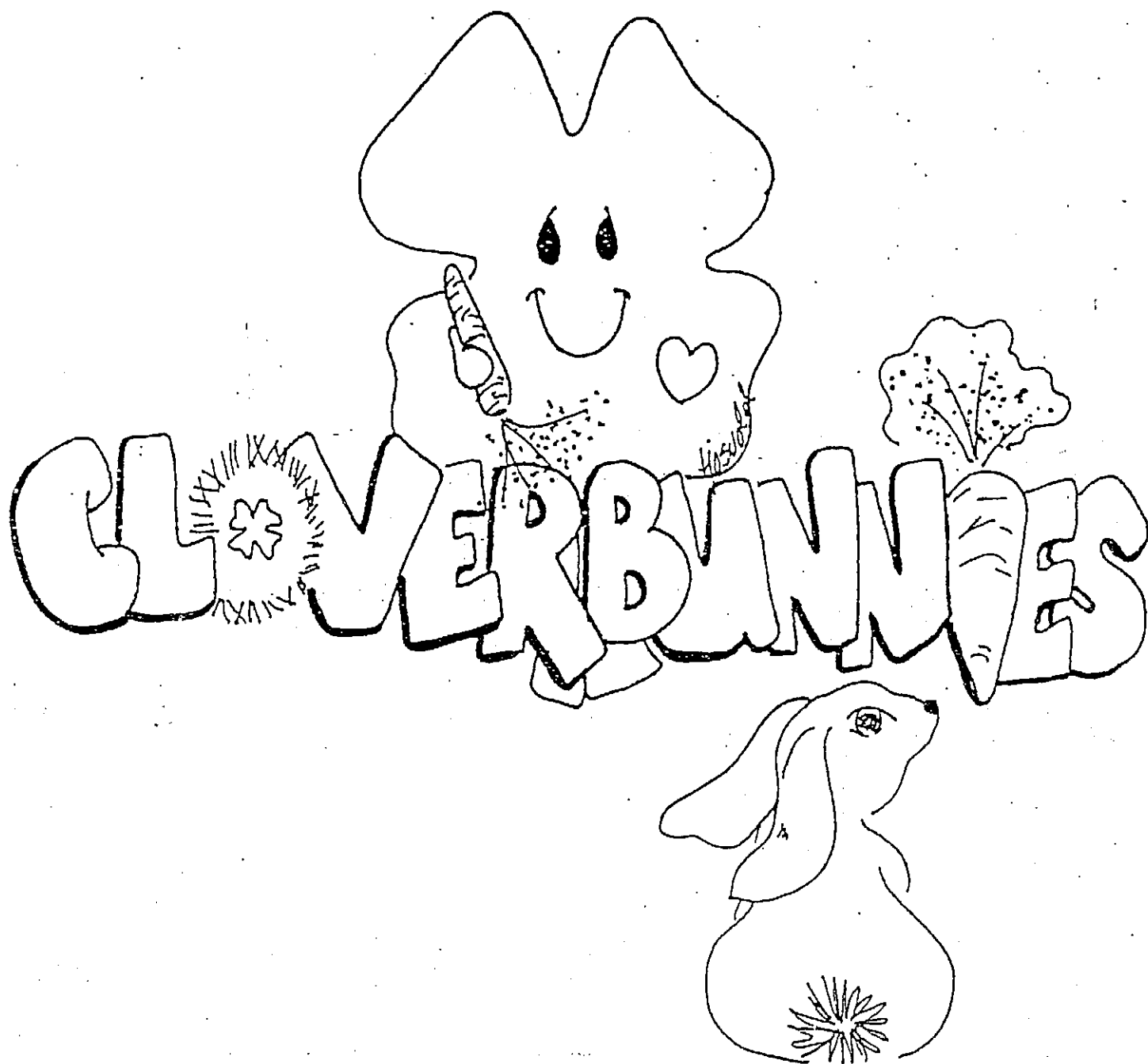
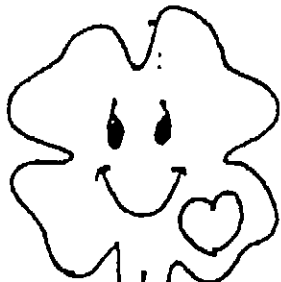




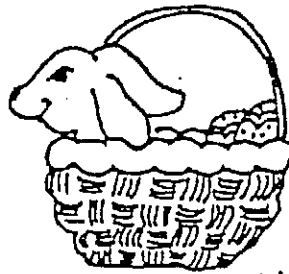
Created by:
Pam Tjosvold
MN Valley 4-H
Cloverbud Leader



Hi there Bunny Fans!

I guess you like one of my favorite little animals too. Aren't they cute? And they are so friendly.

But... if you are going to have one (or more) of your very own there are some important things we need to learn about. **OK?**



There are some things we need to know about, to take the very best care of them.

Maybe

your bunny came in your EASTER BASKET or from a PET STORE or from a RABBITRY. Where ever they come from they all need:

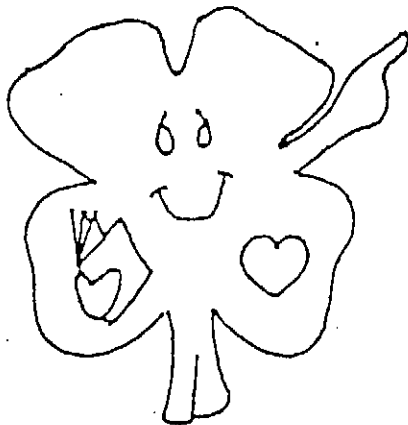
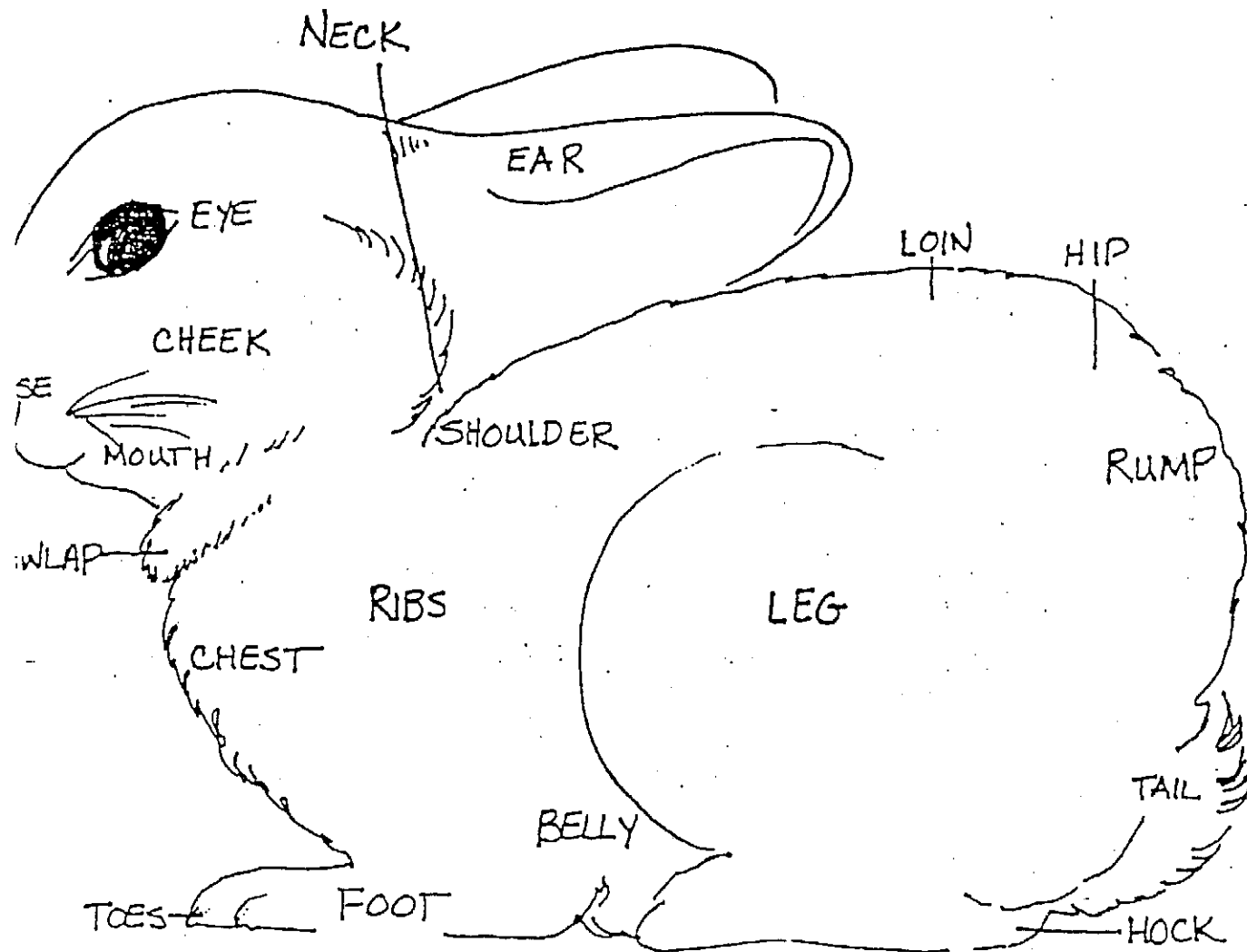
1. A place to live...
2. Food and water...
3. Some body to take care of them and keep them healthy..

★ 4. Lot's of **LOVE**

Well - let's get started then



Bunny Parts...



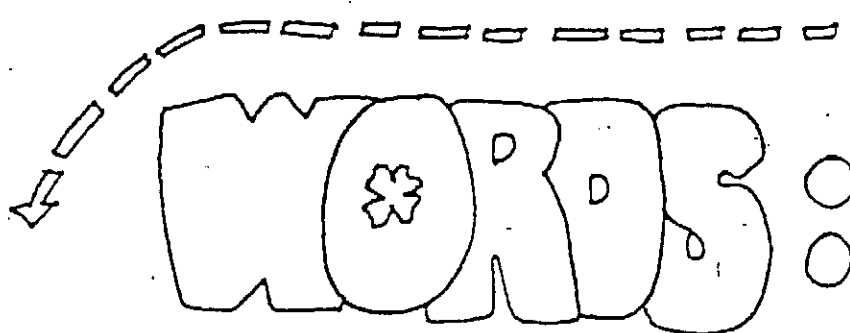
According to my book
on Rabbits — his back
left foot is the "LUCKY"
foot!



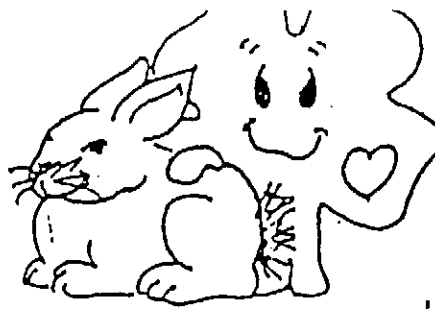


I think I'm
really getting
to know my Bunny!

NOW, we know
where all our bunny's
parts are, let's learn
some new Rabbit words,



- * Back: the whole top of your bunny - From his neck to his tail.
- * Belly: the lower part of your bunny. (Her tummy.)
- * Breed: that special kind of bunny you have. Some breeds would be California, Dutch, French Lop - there are lots of Breeds. You can tell different Breeds by their EARS, SIZE, COLORS AND 'MARKINGS'!
- * Breeder: A person who raises rabbits and bunnies.
- * Buck: A full grown boy rabbit
- * Chest: The front part of your bunny, between his front legs and his throat.
- * Dewlap: Loose skin hanging from the throat.
- * Doe: A full grown girl rabbit.



I love my bunny —
But this is hard to learn all of this!

Don't try to learn this all by your self. —

Ask mom and dad or an older 4-H'er in the rabbit project to help. And look at the big Bunny picture to help you with the RABBIT WORDS.

* Foot: the part of the leg the bunny walks on.

* Forehead: the part the head between the eyes and the bottom of the ears.

* Hip: the thigh joint and first joint of the bunny's back legs.

* Hock: the middle section of the back leg between his foot and hip.

* Intermediate: A bunny between 6 months to 8 months old.

* Junior: A bunny under 6 months old

* Kindle: To give birth to baby bunnies

* Knee: Another name for the Hock



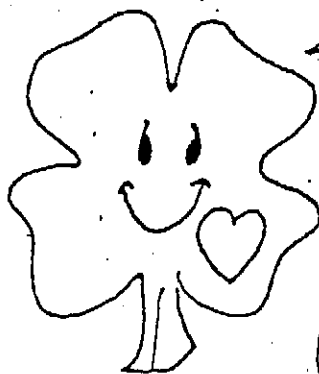
* Litter: All the babies born at one time.

* Loin: Part of your bunny between her ribs and her hips.



* Pedigree: A paper that shows your bunnies and their family trees. When the bunny, her parents, grandparents and great-grandparents were born and who they belonged to.

* Tattoo: A special mark in your bunny's ear to identify him. The mark will be there forever.



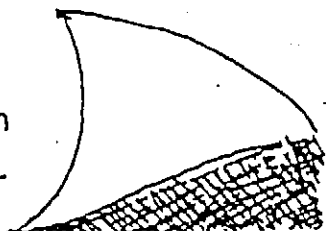
I think I can learn all of that - it sure is a lot to remember. But I still want to learn how to take care of my bunny.

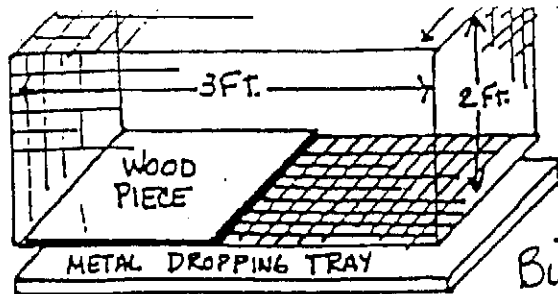
OK

□ let's keep going! The first thing we need to do is get a new house - called a **Hutch**....

Most bunnies can live through even the COLDEST of winters if their HUTCHES are built right. They wear real fur coats you know!!

let's turn the page and see





An all metal hutch is best - easiest to keep SPIT-SPOT clean. Mostly wire mesh, with piece of wood to sit or lay on.

If you keep the hutch really clean, Bunny will be more healthy and comfortable.

Floor and tray should be cleaned EVERY DAY. The WHOLE HUTCH should be cleaned and disinfected EVERY WEEK.

Air and dry completely before putting Bunny back in.



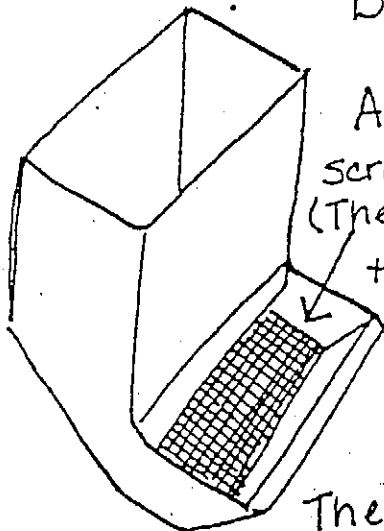
That's a great Hutch if you will be keeping your Bunny in the house or in a shed or barn - if you will be keeping her outside, she'll need a few more things!

1. Shade from the sun
2. Shelter from Rain and WIND

Soooo you will probably want to ADD: a little house to your hutch!

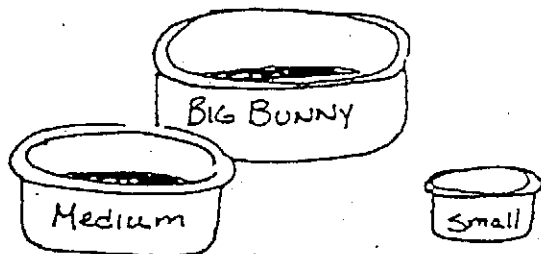
Maybe even a solid lid over your whole hutch. But still - the screen is the best material to use for the rest of the cage. (Check the Rabbit Project Book.)

? What else? do you need to put in the the hutch to care properly for Bunny?



A FEEDER

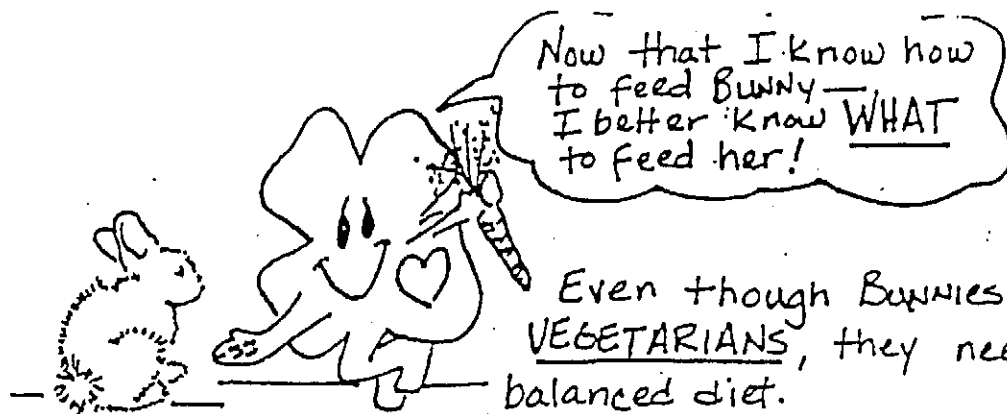
Screen and metal
(The screen lets the dust fall out the bottom so Bunny doesn't get sick)



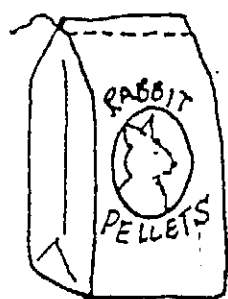
WATER CROCKS

Ceramic or polyvinyl
* crocks should be sized to Rabbit Size!

These attach to the side of the cage - 2" from cage bottom for small rabbits - 3"-4" for most others.

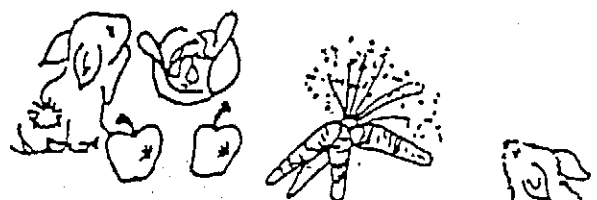


Even though Bunnies are VEGETARIANS, they need a balanced diet.



You can give Bunny balance by giving her Rabbit pellets the you get at a pet store or feed mill. There are special feeds for mother bunnies AND babies.

Once in a while, it's OK to give a treat! Try carrots, apple bits, a lettuce leaf or some grass.



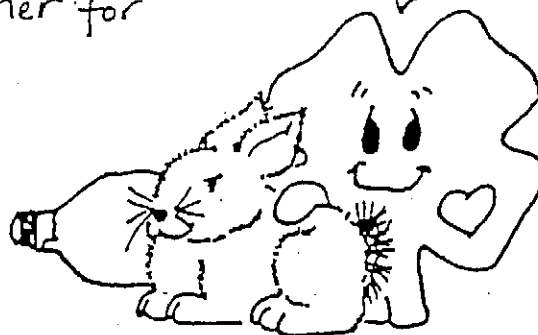
CAREFUL... feed these carefully and only a little at a time... too much will give them **TUMMY ACHES!**

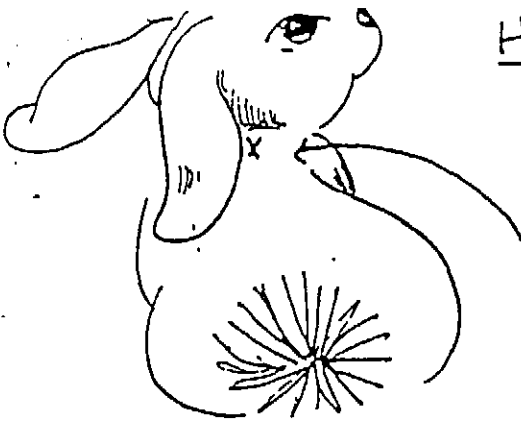


They will need Fresh water everyday! Especially in hot weather. Serve it in either a heavy ceramic crock or in a gravity flow bottle.

In very **HOT** weather give Bunny a special treat - freeze water in a plastic bottle and set it in the hutch. Works like an air conditioner for your bunny

The **ICE** cools US BOTH off





HANDLING:

Never...

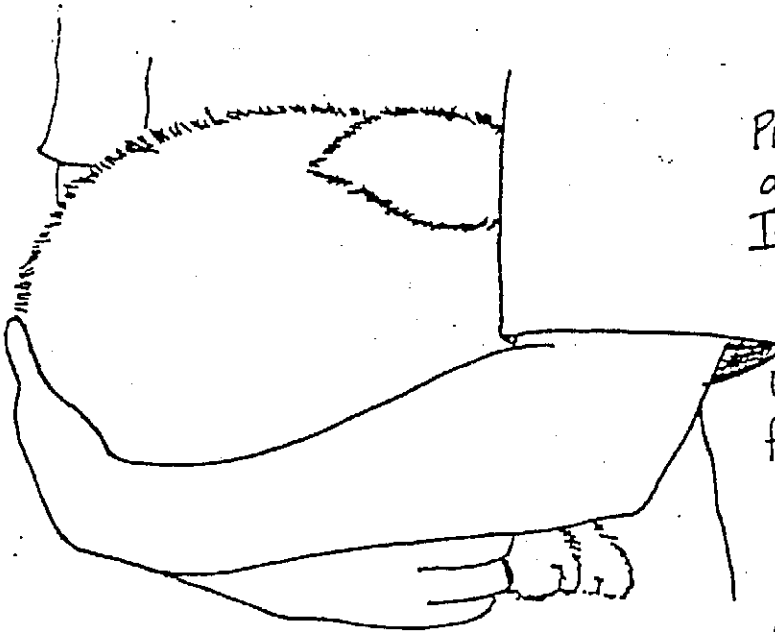
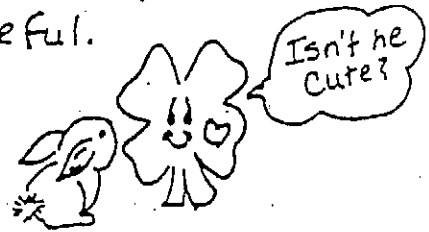
pick up Bunny by his EARS or legs... that could hurt him very badly.

Grab the loose skin over his shoulders - x - with your right hand and put your left under his bottom. Raise him

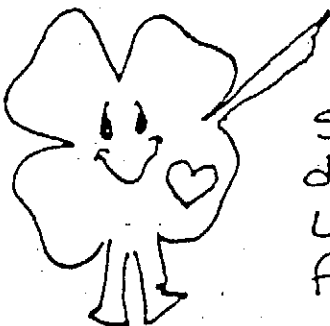
Slowly...

and GENTLY.

Hold him close to your body. He will feel the best when he feels Secure. AS soon as he gets used to you holding and petting him - he will be very calm and peaceful.



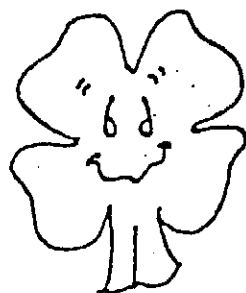
Pick your bunny up gently and slowly and securely. If he is held too loosely he may scratch you because he is afraid of falling. When you carry him from place to place, hold him close to your body and tuck his head under your arm to cover his eyes.



See - that's the right way to do it! Ask your RABBIT PROJECT LEADER to help you until it feels comfortable to you.

So Far...

We have learned about the parts of the bunnies, their houses, how and what they eat and how to handle them.



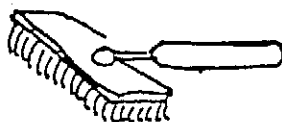
Is there more?

YUP!

Let's keep going then,

And we'll start with:

- ★ Grooming — Your bunny will take care of most of it himself. But if yours is a long haired kind, you will need a brush, and you will need to brush him. This is to keep the coat (or fur) from matting.



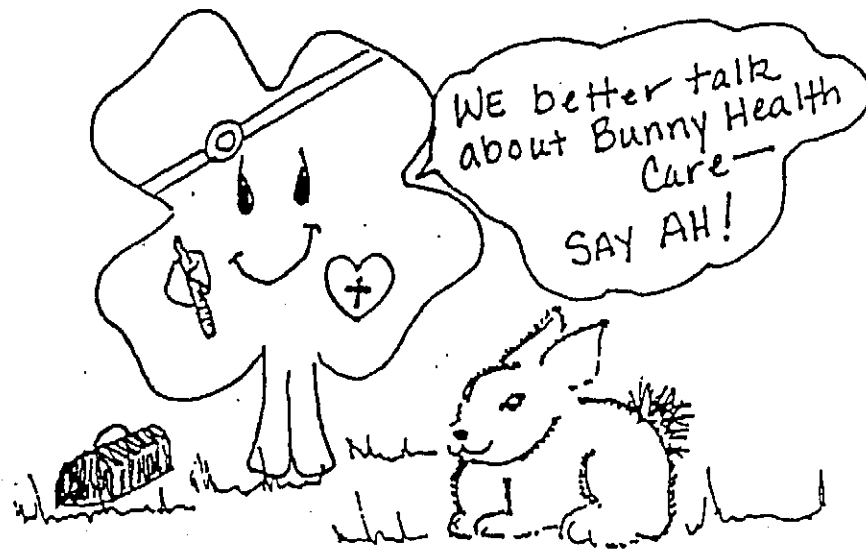
Wire Bristles
or a hair brush -
(Please!!! NOT your own.)



You don't use water and get your bunny wet — he might get very sick. But... you might try a baby wipes cloth and a paper towel to clean off a small stain on his fur.



Bunnies need their toenails cut just like you! But you will need special toenail clippers and help. Ask a junior leader or your Rabbit project leader — they have the proper knowhow, and equipment.



Most bunny sickness can be avoided with a Spit-Spot hutch. Some of the things you might see that would tell you your bunny is sick... And what to do.

COLDS: They catch Colds easy So -
Keep her hutch dry and airy, but
NOT DRAFTY

EARS: Problems here might include:
WAX, CANKERSORES and MITES.

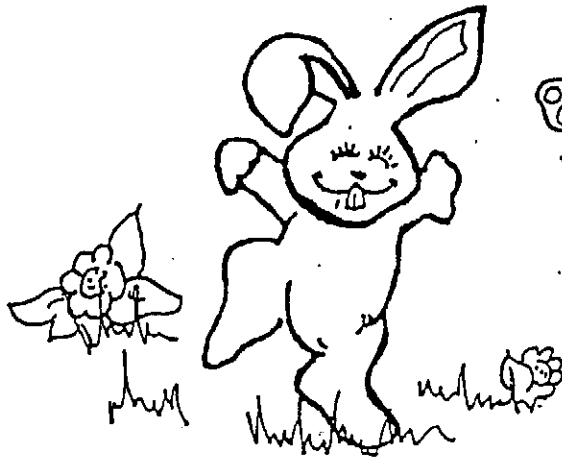
Use a Q-tip and coat the inside of the ears with mineral or olive oil, once a day for 3 days. Do it again in 2 weeks.

SNUFFLES: If you bunny sneezes loudly or has a runny nose she may have 'SNUFFLE' or BUNNY PNEUMONIA. That is a very serious sickness for her to have. Take her to the vet right away. Again keeping Bunny's cage Spit-Spot clean and airy can help to avoid getting this illness.

SORE HOCKS: Means Bunny has sores on her paws - and that happens when there are sharp places or rough spots on the cage floor. Make sure the floor is smooth or that the wire mesh has no sharp or rough spots.



Call the animal Dr. when your bunny is Sick - It will make everyone feel BETTER!

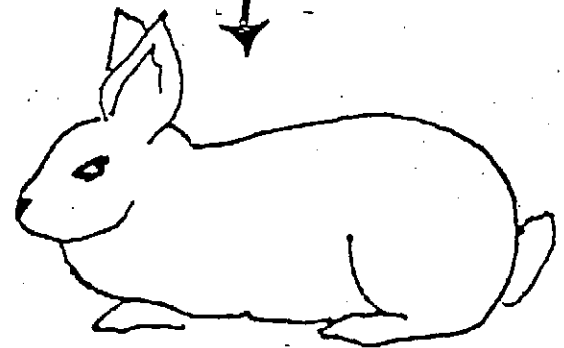
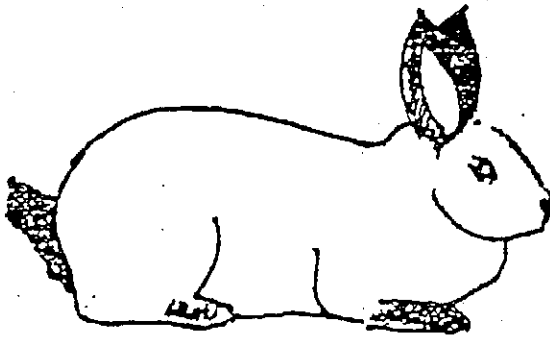


TAKE BUNNY OUT TO PLAY

In the summertime, your bunny will love to play out in the grass. It's good exercise for her. It will be good exercise for you, too! You'll have to chase her around.

Just be sure you don't take her out when it's too HOT.

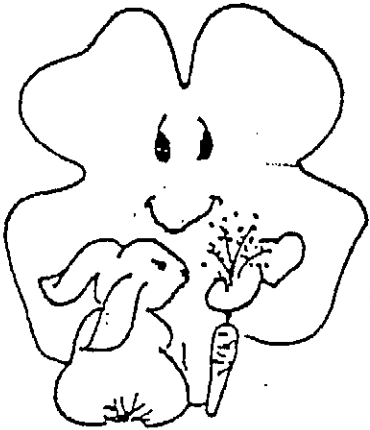
There are many kinds of rabbits - from ordinary to very fancy, but 2 kinds you might want to start with would be CALIFORNIAN or NEW ZEALAND.



- ★ Sr. Buck or Doe - 8 months of age or older ★
- INTERMEDIATE Buck or Doe - 6-8 months of age
- Jr. Buck or Doe - under 6 months of age
- Pre-Jr. Buck or Doe - under 3 months of Age

LASTLY... 000

Let's talk about moving your bunny from Place to Place.

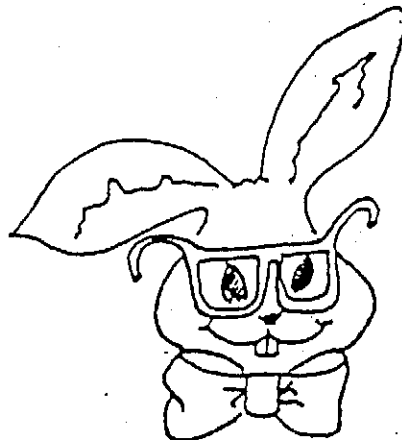


Transporting any animal takes special care — to see that they get there **OK**.

If you don't have a rabbit carrier (which is the best way) here are some ideas:

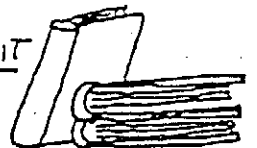
1. A Box with a lid, make sure you add plenty of air holes (ventilation)
2. A Milk Crate with straw or wood chips on the bottom and/or a carpet square. Put a board across the top, so bunny won't hop out.

★ Make sure you put your carrier in your car sideways. That way, if your car has to stop quickly, bunny will roll from side to side — rather than front to back. (He might hurt his nose or chip his front teeth.)



A FEW GOOD BOOKS TO HAVE

- 1.) Standard of Perfection
Am. Rabbit Breeders Assoc.
- 2.) 4-H RABBIT, RABBIT, RABBIT
Rabbit Project Book
- 3.) Rabbits
Paul Paradise



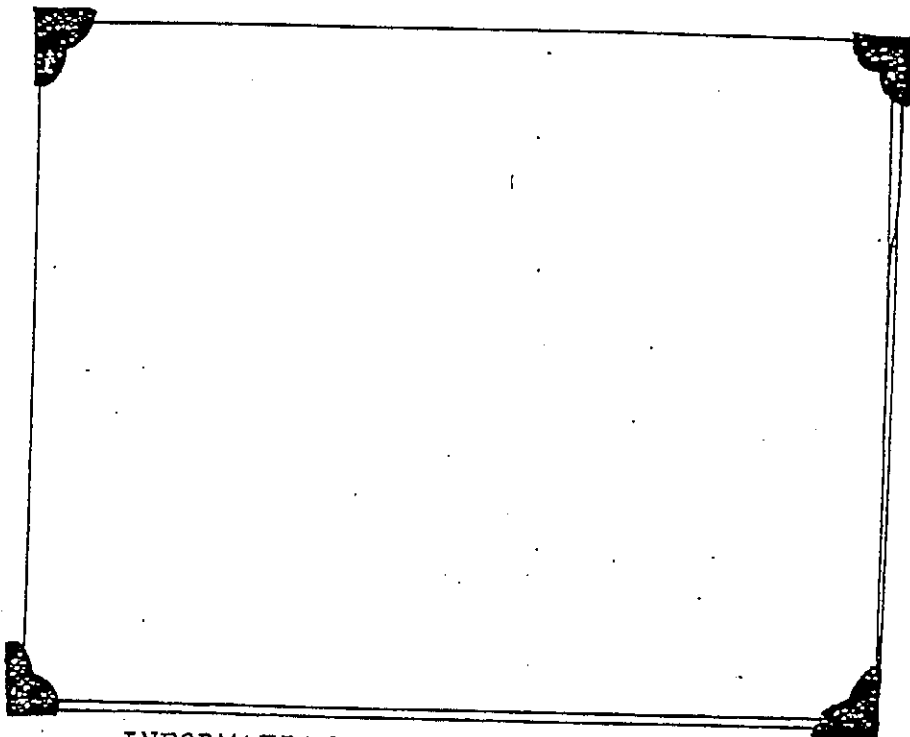
CLOVERBUD RABBIT PROJECT

Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____ Birthdate _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ Co. _____
Club name _____ Leader _____
Years in rabbit project _____ Started record _____ Completed record _____
() Check here if this record is for a mentally handicapped 4-H'er.

PURPOSE

To introduce the
Cloverbud to the
world of rabbits

Draw or paste a
picture of yourself
with your bunny.



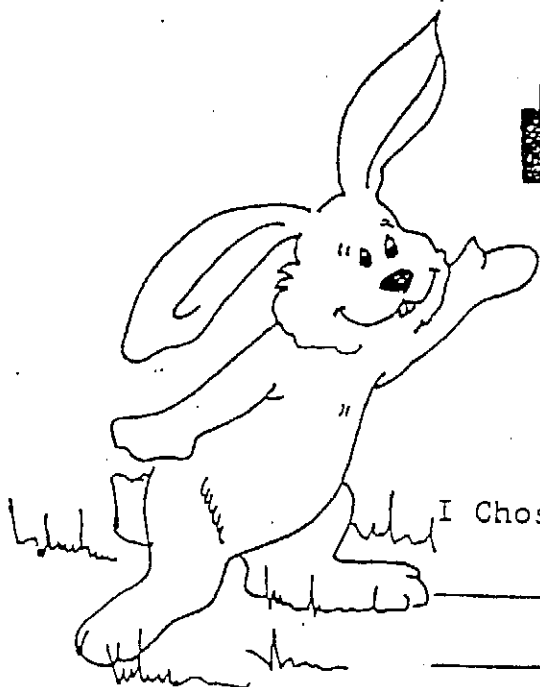
INFORMATION ABOUT MY RABBIT

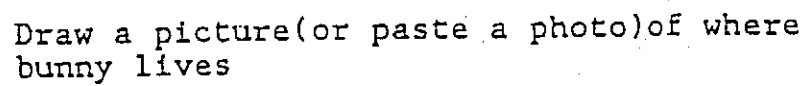
What breed of rabbit is it? _____

Name _____

When is your bunny's birthday _____

I Chose Rabbits Because: _____

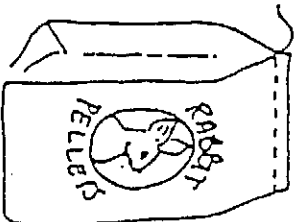
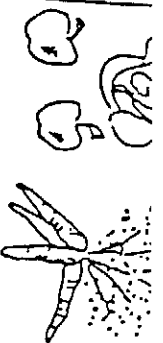




ist what was spent during the past year for feed, supplies, equipment
nd vet costs.

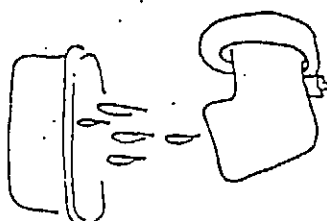
[illegible]

ACTIVITY

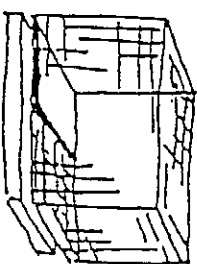


FEED - DAILY

Two times a Day - Three to Four times in hot weather



Fresh Water

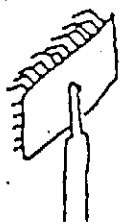


Clean and Disinfect Cage and Dropping tray (once a week)

LET Your Bunny Get Some exercise



LET THEM OUT ON GRASS



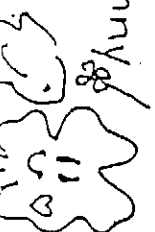
Groom your Bunny (once a week)

DAY ↓	WEEK →	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
SUNDAY																	
MONDAY																	
TUESDAY																	
WEDNESDAY																	
THURSDAY																	
FRIDAY																	
SATURDAY																	

Keep a one month record of how you take care of your Bunny

* Be sure you know how often you need to do each job.

To take care of your bunny you need to provide the proper care



Did you get your bunny from a rabbitry or a breeder? _____

How much did bunny cost? _____

How do you keep your rabbit hutch neat and tidy? _____

Does your bunny have a lucky foot? _____

Which one? _____

How many times a day do you feed and water bunny? _____

What makes bunny sick? _____

What makes him/her feel better? _____

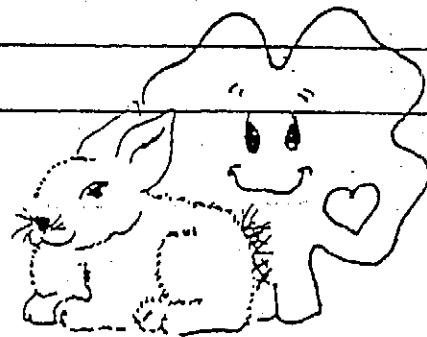
Talk with a breeder or a veterinarian and find out what shots or medicine your bunny may need. What are they? _____

Are they the same shots and medicines you get? _____

What part of the rabbit project did you like the best? _____

What would you like to learn more about next year? _____

Project review and comments

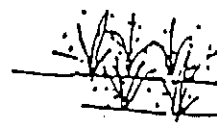


_____ has completed his/her records and I
have reviewed them with him/her. Comments by the project leader _____

Signed _____

4-H Leader

Below is a list of activities you may choose from to complete your Rabbit project. Try to complete 5 of the 8 activities. Describe what you did in the activity and the date you did it.



ACTIVITY

DATE
COMPLETED

* Give a talk or demonstration

∴

* Name the parts of your bunny

∴

* See a movie with bunnies in it

∴

* Read a book or story about bunnies

∴

* Make a scrapbook about your bunny
∴ Fill it with pictures of you and your bunny.
Collect stickers, pictures, articles and stories about bunnies. Can you think of more things to add?

∴

* Visit a Rabbitry

∴

* Visit a Small animal veterinarian

∴

* Visit a Rabbit Show

∴

* Introduce your friends to your bunnies

∴