

Rabbit Model Curriculum





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Curriculum Structure

The Rabbit Model Curriculum is composed of the following lessons. Approximate lesson times are included.

Lesson	Title	Approximate Time
One	FOCUS: Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit	10 minutes
One	LEARN: Rabbit Anatomy Slide Presentation	30 minutes
One	REVIEW: Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit	20 minutes
	Total	1-1.5 hours

Lesson Structure

Each lesson begins with a Lesson Overview, Lesson Objectives and a Lesson at a Glance table which lists the lesson activities, materials required, suggested preparation steps and approximate class time.

Lesson Sections

The actual lesson follows the overview, which will contain some of the sections described below. Most lessons are designed to be completed within 45 minutes.

FOCUS

Every lesson begins with a FOCUS activity intended to capture participants' attention. This may be in the form of a small or large class discussion, a game, a review of previous lesson information or a demonstration. During this activity, participants are introduced to the topic of the lesson.

LEARN

The LEARN activity in each lesson varies in its presentation mode. It may be a slide presentation, group activity or demonstration.

REVIEW

The majority of lessons end with a REVIEW activity intended to briefly recap the lesson's key messages or main points.

Lesson One – Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit

Lesson Overview

This lesson will teach the basic external and internal anatomy of the rabbit. It will describe some key terminology and main body parts of a rabbit. It will also include more in-depth focus on the digestion and reproduction of the rabbit.

Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- Learn the key terms of rabbit production and key terms of basic external anatomy
- Understand the purposes that a rabbit has within agriculture (and the number of them in the U.S.)
- Understand the digestive and reproductive systems of a rabbit

Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	• Whiteboard • Markers • Paper for students to jot down answers	1. Ask the question or write the question on the whiteboard: “What are rabbits used for?”	10 minutes
LEARN	• <i>Rabbit Anatomy</i> slide presentation • Rabbit Model • <i>Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet</i> • <i>Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet – Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy the <i>Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet</i> for each participant 2. Prepare the <i>Rabbit Anatomy</i> slide presentation for viewing 3. Hand out the <i>Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet</i> and have students follow along and take notes with the <i>Rabbit Anatomy</i> slide presentation	30 minutes
REVIEW	• <i>Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet</i> • <i>Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet - Answer Key</i>	1. Print/photocopy the <i>Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet</i> for each participation 2. Have students work on the <i>Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet</i>, helping them as they have questions	20 minutes

Lesson 1 – Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit

FOCUS: Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit

10 minutes

Purpose:

Participants work in groups for a brainstorming activity about what the purposes or uses for a rabbit are.

Materials:

- Whiteboard
- Markers
- Paper for students to jot down answers

Facilitation Steps:

1. Ask the question to your class or write the question on the board: “What are rabbits used for?”
2. Have the students partner up (groups of 3 are acceptable as well) and discuss the question. Have them write down their ideas
3. After 5 minutes, discuss the students’ answers and write them on the board. If time allows, talk about their answers and why they answered how they did.
4. After 5 minutes, move into the “Learn” section of the lesson while keeping the answers on the board, as the answers will be given in the *Rabbit Anatomy* slide presentation.

Lesson 1 – Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit

LEARN: Rabbit Anatomy Slide Presentation

30 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will learn about the internal and external anatomy of a rabbit. They will gain a good understanding of key terms of rabbit anatomy.

Materials:

- *Rabbit Anatomy* slide presentation
- Rabbit Model
- *Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet*
- *Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet - Answer Key*

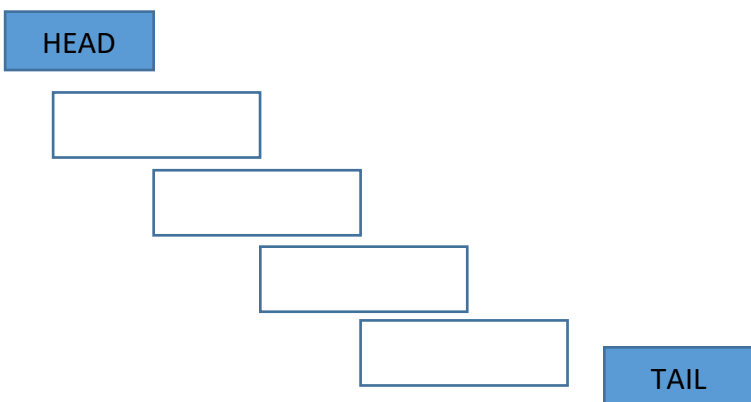
Facilitation Steps:

1. Familiarize yourself with the *Rabbit Anatomy* slide presentation.
2. Have the Rabbit Model out on the table for reference.
3. Present the *Rabbit Anatomy* slide presentation to the class.
4. Have students take notes on the *Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet* as you present the *Rabbit Anatomy* slide presentation.
5. Reference the *Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet – Answer Key* to help answer any remaining questions after the presentation is complete.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet

Fill in the information below while following along with the slide presentation:

Notes Questions	Notes Answers
Rabbits are multi-purpose. Name at least 3 examples of uses for rabbits.	
How many rabbits are there in the United States for: 1. Pets, 2. Meat Production, and 3. Research	1. 2. 3.
Define these key terms:	Doe: Buck: Kit: Fryer:
Draw a rabbit's digestive tract from head to tail (a diagram is also acceptable). (Keywords: Colon, Stomach, Caecum and Small Intestine)	
What is the sexual maturity by breed?	Small Breeds: Medium Breeds: Large Breeds:
Name two interesting facts about Kits	1. 2.

Rabbit Anatomy Notes Sheet – Answer Key

Fill in the information below while following along with the slide presentation:

Notes Questions	Notes Answers
Rabbits are multi-purpose. Name at least 3 examples of uses for rabbits.	- Fiber in wool, pelts for fur - Meat for food, droppings for manure - Research as lab animal, hobby animals, pets
How many rabbits are there in the United States for: 1. Pets, 2. Meat Production, and 3. Research	1. 5 million 2. 2 million 3. 250,000
Define these key terms:	Doe: female rabbit Buck: male rabbit Kit: baby rabbit Fryer: rabbit that is ready for market, 8-10 weeks, 4-5 lbs.
Draw a rabbit's digestive tract from head to tail (a diagram is also acceptable). (Keywords: Colon, Stomach, Caecum and Small Intestine)	<pre> graph LR HEAD[HEAD] --> Stomach[Stomach] Stomach --> SmallIntestine[Small Intestine] SmallIntestine --> Caecum[Caecum] Caecum --> Colon[Colon] Colon --> TAIL[TAIL] </pre>
What is the sexual maturity by breed?	Small Breeds: 4-5 months Medium Breeds: 5-6 months Large Breeds: 9-12 months
Name two interesting facts about Kits	1. Born blind, furless, fur grows at 4 days of age, nurses once a day 2. Eyes open about 10 days after birth, can wean at 28 days

Lesson 1 – Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit

REVIEW: Basic Anatomy of a Rabbit

20 minutes

Purpose:

Participants will review their knowledge of the internal and external anatomy of a rabbit. They will gain an understanding of key terms of rabbit anatomy.

Materials:

- *Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet*
- *Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet - Answer Key*

Facilitation Steps:

1. Print and hand out the *Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet*.
2. Have students work on the *Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet*, helping them as they have questions.
3. Using the *Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet - Answer Key*, correct the worksheet for grade or review.

Name: _____ Class: _____

Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet

Directions: Complete each section of the worksheet on rabbit anatomy.

QUESTIONS:

1. Domestic rabbits have ancestors from what continent?
2. What two textiles (clothing material) come from a rabbit?
3. Approximately how many rabbits are in the U.S. based on numbers from the American Pet Products Association?
4. How many unique rabbit breeds do the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) recognize?
5. What is the average weight range for rabbits?

WORK BANK MATCHING:

DOE BUCK KIT FRYER

6. _____: baby rabbit
7. _____: male rabbit
8. _____: female rabbit
9. _____: market rabbit

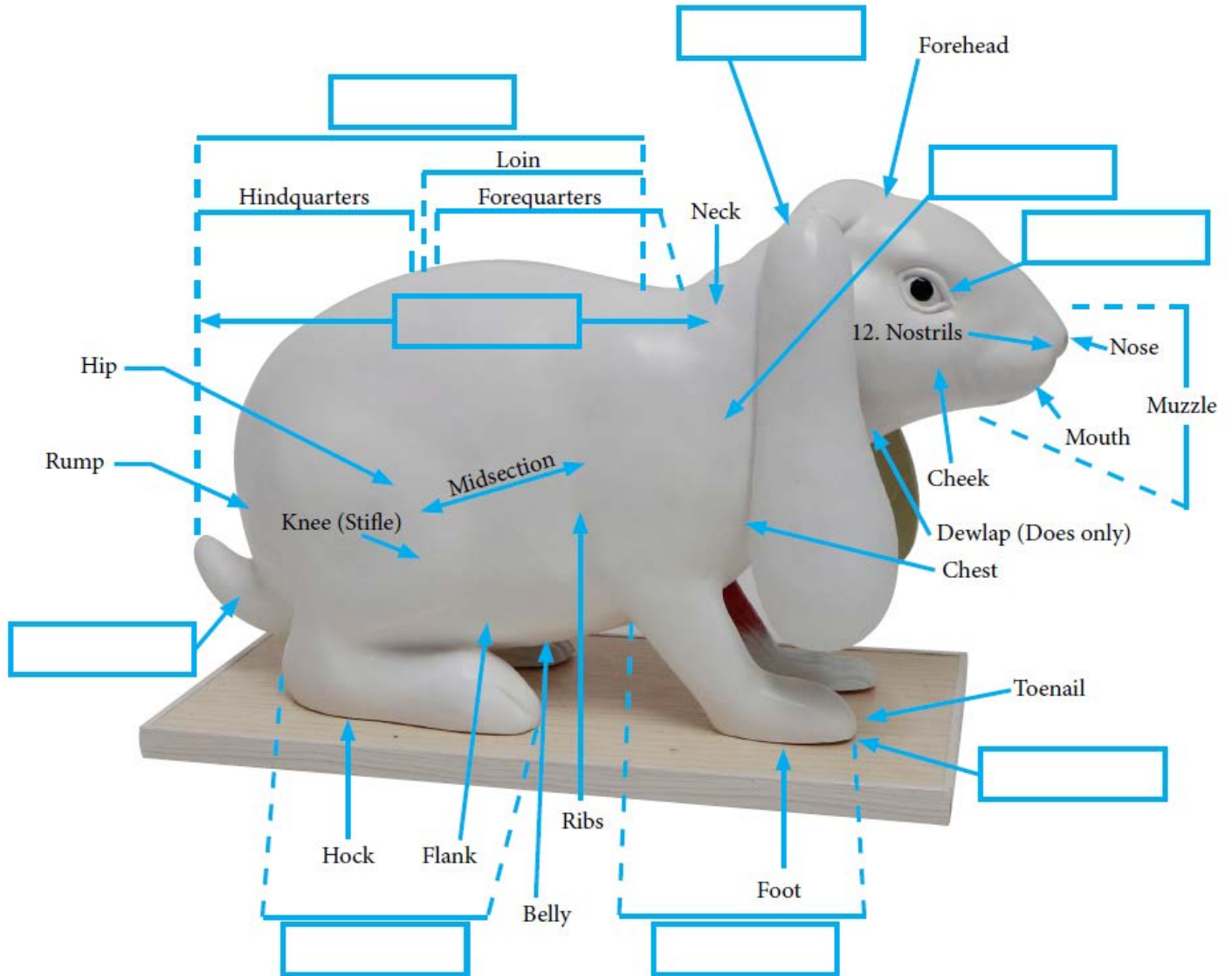
Rabbit Anatomy

FILL IN THE BLANK: EXTERNAL ANATOMY

- 10. Ear
- 11. Eye
- 12. Shoulder

- 13. Back
- 14. Tail
- 15. Saddle

- 16. Toe
- 17. Hind Leg



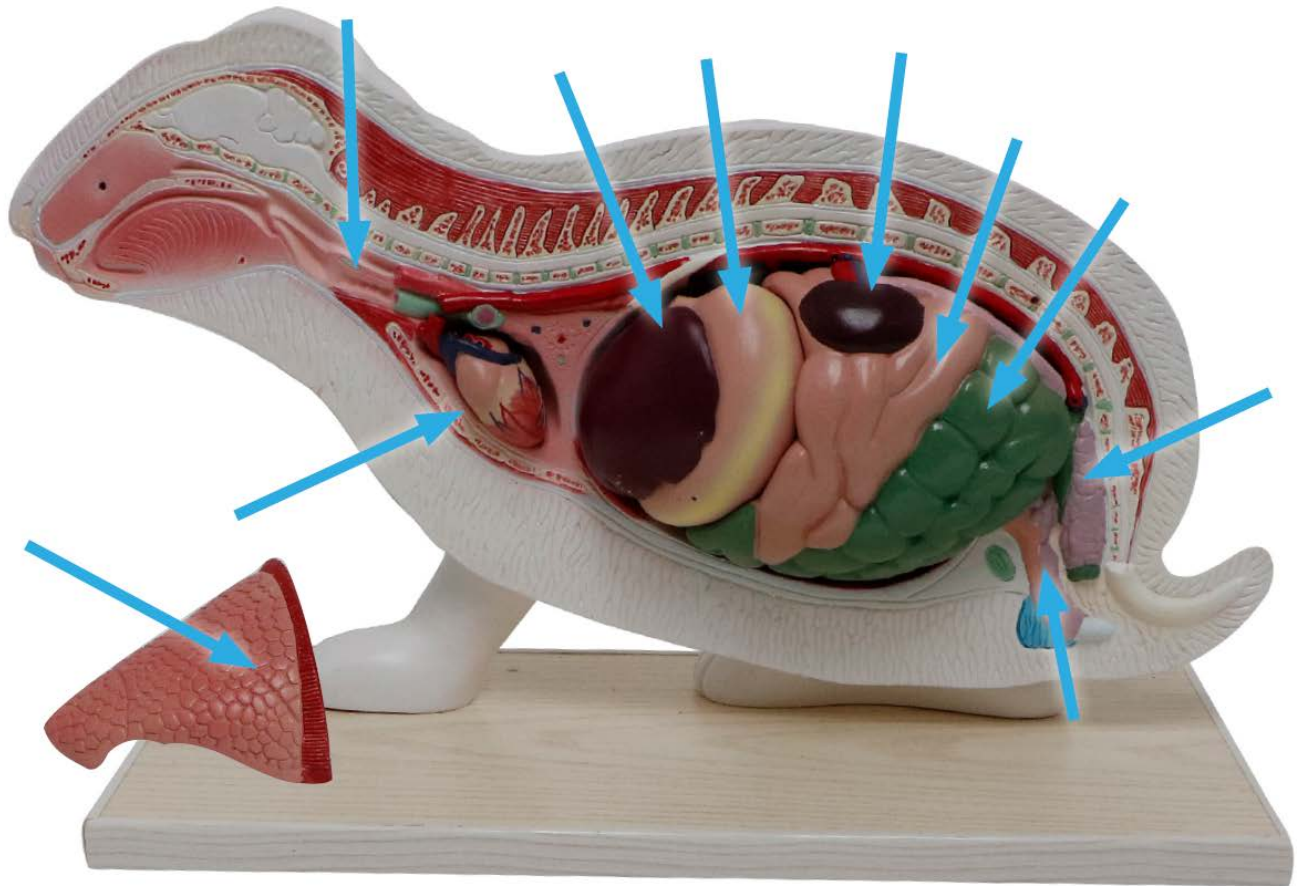
Rabbit Anatomy

FILL IN THE BLANK: INTERNAL ANATOMY

- 18. Stomach
- 19. Lungs
- 20. Heart

- 21. Large Intestines
- 22. Small Intestines
- 23. Rectum

- 24. Caecum
- 25. Oesophagus



Rabbit Anatomy

MULTIPLE CHOICE:

26. Rabbits are:

- a. Carnivores
- b. Omnivores
- c. Herbivores

27. Rabbits are:

- a. Hind-leg fermenters
- b. Hind-gut fermenters
- c. Front-leg fermenters
- d. Front-gut fermenters

28. Rabbits:

- a. Mature sexual between 4-12 months depending on breed size
- b. Coprophagy or re-ingest their soft feces
- c. Have a caecum for digestion
- d. All of the above

TRUE OR FALSE: Circle one

29. Average litter size can range from 1-14 for rabbits. True False

30. Bucks will get bigger (heavier) than does. True False

Rabbit Anatomy Worksheet – Answer Key

Directions: Complete each section of the worksheet on rabbit anatomy.

QUESTIONS:

1. Domestic rabbits have ancestors from what continent?

Europe

2. What two textiles (clothing material) come from a rabbit?

Fiber for wool

Pelts for fur

3. Approximately how many rabbits are in the U.S. based on numbers from the American Pet Products Association?

5-7 million

4. How many unique rabbit breeds do the American Rabbit Breeders Association (ARBA) recognize?

47

5. What is the average weight range for rabbits?

2-13 lbs.

WORK BANK MATCHING:

DOE

BUCK

KIT

FRYER

6. Kit : baby rabbit

7. Buck : male rabbit

8. Doe : female rabbit

9. Fryer : market rabbit

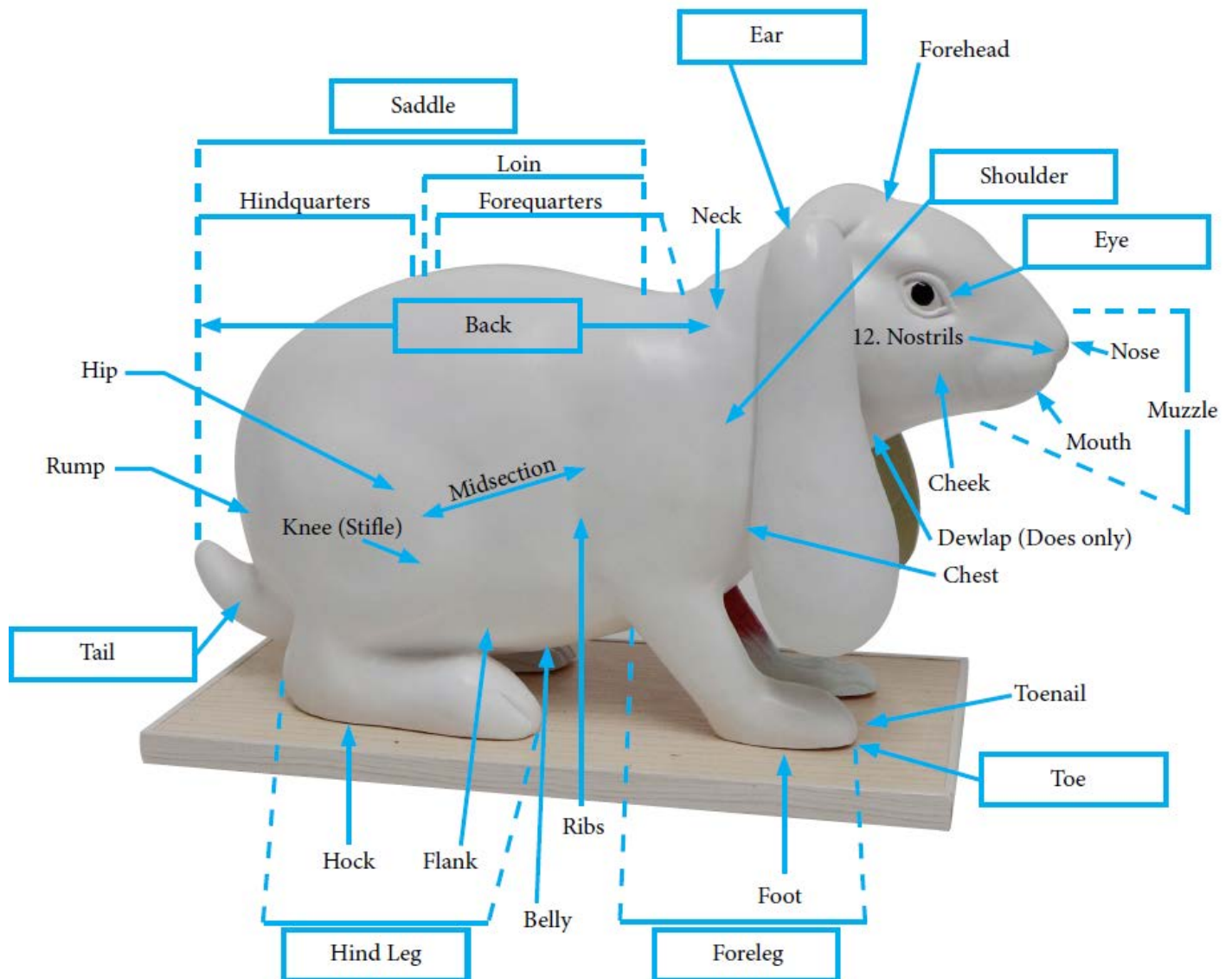
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FILL IN THE BLANK: EXTERNAL ANATOMY

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- 13. Back
- 14. Tail
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- 16. Toe
- 17. Hind Leg



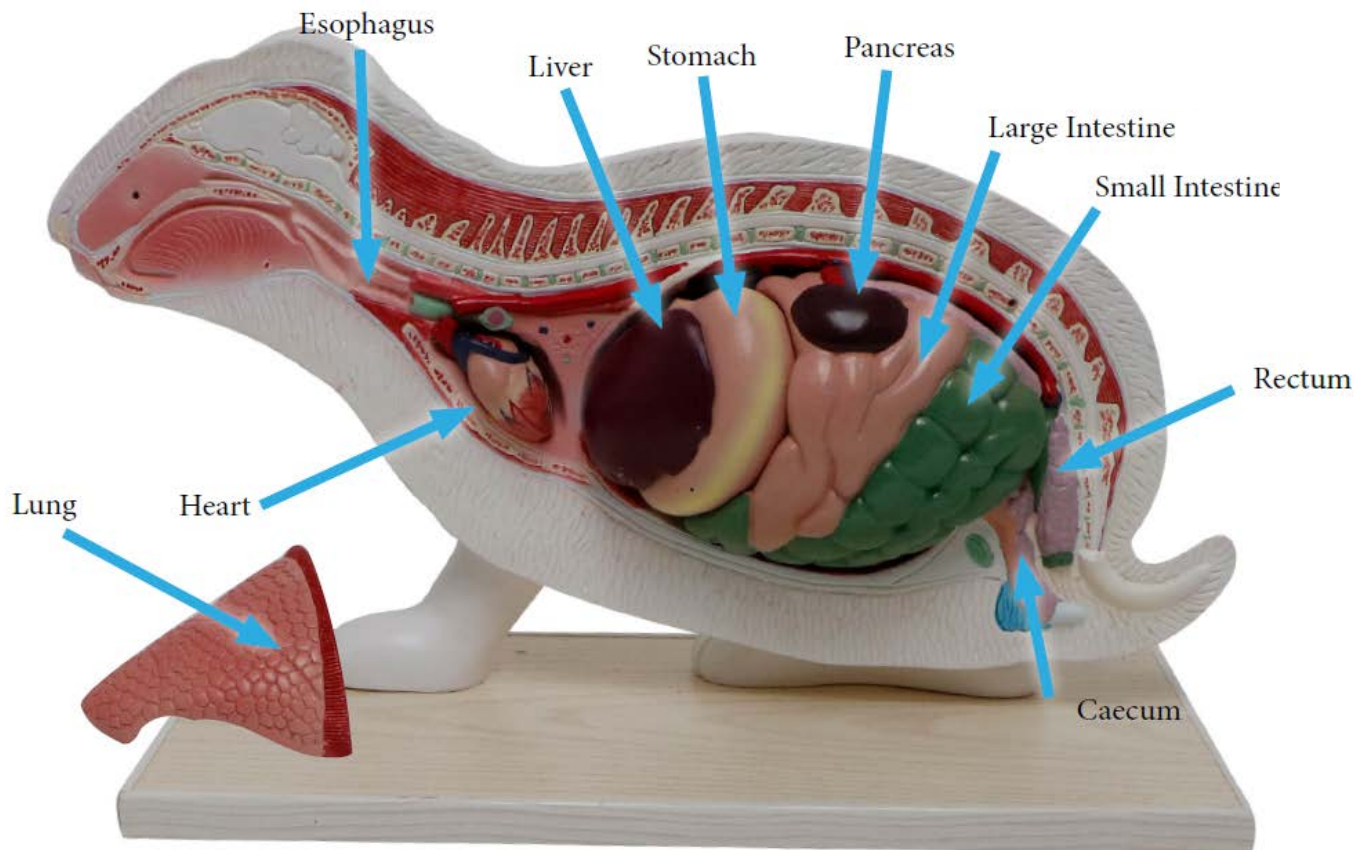
Rabbit Anatomy

FILL IN THE BLANK: INTERNAL ANATOMY

18. Stomach
19. Lungs
20. Heart

21. Large Intestines
22. Small Intestines
23. Rectum

24. Caecum
25. Esophagus



MULTIPLE CHOICE:

26. Rabbits are:

- a. Carnivores
- b. Omnivores
- c. **Herbivores**

27. Rabbits are:

- d. Hind-leg fermenters
- e. **Hind-gut fermenters**
- f. Front-leg fermenters
- g. Front-gut fermenters

28. Rabbits are:

- h. Mature sexual between 4–12 months depending on the breed size
- i. Coprophagy or re-ingest their soft feces
- j. Have a caecum for digestion
- k. **All of the above**

TRUE OR FALSE: Circle one

29. Average litter size can range from 1-14 for rabbits **True** False

30. Bucks will get bigger (heavier) than does True **False**