

Rat

Whether you're planning on becoming a top chef in Paris, or simply want to know more about these amazing animals - our Rat-pack will give you the low-down.

What animal can squeeze through a hole the size of a penny? What animal has teeth so sharp they can grind through rock, wire or even glass?

The brown rat, also known as the street rat or sewer rat has a poor image but, in actual fact, is social, friendly, trainable and extremely clean.

Where does a rat get a new tail?
A re-tail store!

Colour me in!



Scientific Name:

Rattus norvegicus

Class: Mammal

Lifespan: 2-3 years

Threats: Large birds of prey and human activity

Distribution: The black rat and the brown rat live virtually everywhere that human populations have settled.

Habitat: Rats nest in burrows but can be found in lofts, attics, under eaves and even in cavity walls.

Height: About 8 inches long

Diet: Omnivores (Meat and vegetables)

Social Behaviour:

Rats commonly groom each other and sleep together. Rats are said to establish an order of hierarchy.

Things To Know: Rats should be kept in groups as they do not like being on their own. Rats like to climb, jump and play so need lots of things to do in the cage. They like hammocks to sleep in too.

Their Tails Keep Them Cool

Rats don't sweat; they control their body temperature by expanding and contracting the blood vessels in their tails.

FACT FILE:

Rats are very social and will take care of injured and sick rats in their group.



ZOOLAB

Activity Sheet!

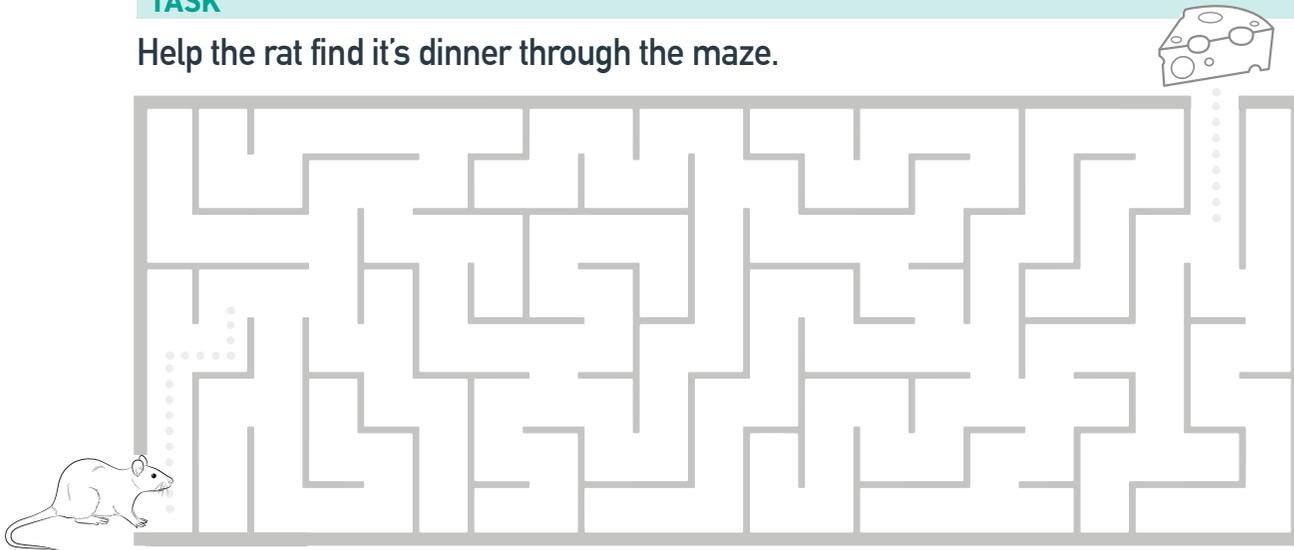
TASK

Can you guess what it is? Join the dots to find out!



TASK

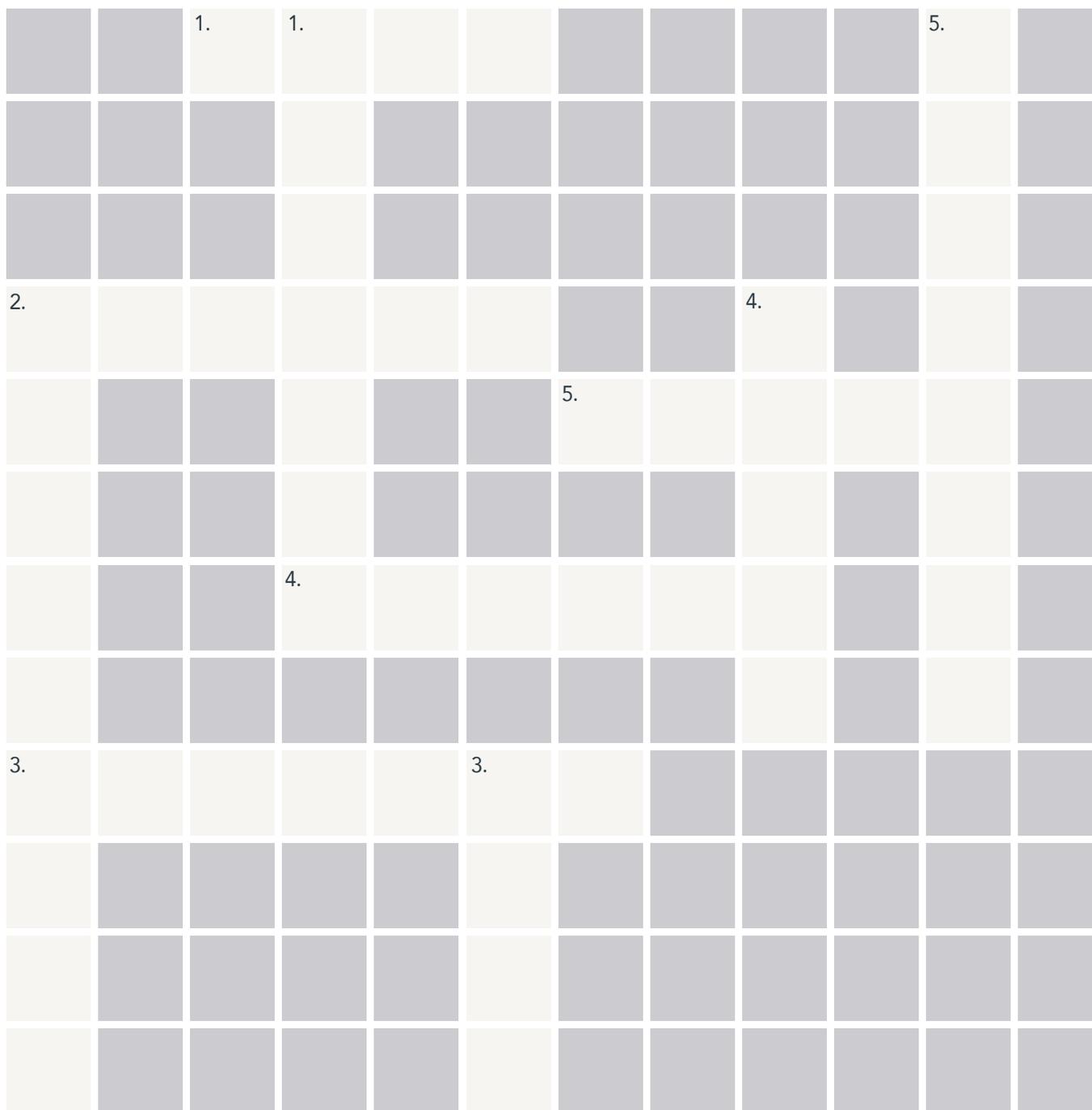
Help the rat find its dinner through the maze.



TASK

The rats have escaped! Count all the rats you can find and write the total in the box below.





Crossword

ACROSS

1. Rats originated from a place in the East (4)
2. Like humans, whales and dolphins, rats are...(6)
3. The place an animal lives is called their...(7)
4. Rats, squirrels, beavers, guinea pigs, and hamsters all belong to a group called...(6)
5. Your mum might insist you do this to your room (5)

DOWN

1. They can't do the breast stroke but a rat is a brilliant...(7).
2. A group of rats is called this. You may also get into trouble for getting into this (9)
3. Both humans and rats keep their hands on these (4)
4. Rats can chew through hard materials using their... (5)
5. If you've got loads of mates you could be described as... (8)