

## Nursery pets

**While most settings will have toy animals there's no substitute for the real thing.**

Interacting with and learning about live animals allows children the opportunity to learn in a much deeper and richer way.

**Here are some things to think about when considering a nursery pet:**

- Pets are a big responsibility and you are not open at weekends so who is going to be responsible for its care then?
- Make sure you have told parents as some children may have allergies or phobias and remember to include the children in the final decision, but give them the final options to vote for
- Before you purchase your pet, you will need to research its requirements and set up a rota for weekend caring, feeding and cage cleaning
- Get your pet from a shelter or buy it from a reputable vendor to ensure the animal is well
- Seek advice in safe caring methods as well as purchase pet insurance
- If you have decided on a larger pet, you will need to register it with the local vet and keep their vaccinations up to date
- Some animals will be frightened of loud noises so get advice on where best to position their home so they have a safe and quiet area to escape to.

