

Nancy

**Species**

Guinea Pig (*Cavia porcellus*)

Habitat:

Grassy, rocky areas. Native to South America. Lives in underground burrows.

How we look after our pet:

A good hutch, an outdoor run, a friend to live with. Plenty of hay. Shelter and protection from the weather in winter.

Food:

Grass, hay, vegetables/fruit. Small amount of guinea pig pellets. Extra Vitamin C.

Characteristics:

Up to 40cm long. No tail. Short legs with claws on each toe. Body covered in fur. Sociable—like to be with other guinea pigs.

Why we love Nancy:

Nancy likes to look after her friends. She lives with Nellie Guinea Pig. Nancy is bigger than Nellie and always looks after her.

Nancy's Story

Nancy has been with Lion Learners since Rachael joined in 2012. She has always been good at meeting people, and likes attention, but she will let you know if you do anything wrong. She doesn't like being stroked on the very top of her head, and if you stroke her there for too long, she will give you a little head butt! We ask people to stroke her back, or to very gently tickle behind her ears, as that is what she likes.

Nancy is greedy, and we have to be careful not to overfeed her on guinea pig pellets. Guinea pigs should mainly eat grass and hay, and a few greens now and then.

Nancy is very maternal, and also a little bit bossy. She looks after her best friend Nellie very well. It is very important for guinea pigs to have another guinea pig friend, they are very social animals, it is natural for them to live with other guinea pigs, and they feel safer and happier together.

