

Thistle



What am I?

Lesser Hedgehog Tenrec

Where do I live in the wild?

On the Island of Madagascar. There are many different types of Tenrec, all of which are prickly. Lesser Hedgehog Tenrecs are small and look like a little hedgehog, although we are not at all related to them.

How am I looked after as a pet?

I live in a large vivarium with lots of things to climb on and places to hide. I use a sand tray to keep myself clean and tidy instead of having a bath with water.

What do I eat?

I am an omnivore. Wild Tenrec eat a lot of insects. As a pet I love to eat bugs too, as well as cat food and some fruit.

What do we look like?

Like a mini-hedgehog! My little body is covered in brown spines to protect me from predators. They are made from fur and they are a lot softer than they look as my reptile predators have no teeth! I feel a bit like a hair brush!

Why do we love Thistle?

Thistle is a very good natured and friendly little creature. Despite being nocturnal he is happy to be handled during the day. He is calm enough to be handled by anyone!

Our Stories

I came to Lion Learners East Midlands from a brilliant breeder in Scotland when I was 4 months old. She spent lots of time with me as a baby so I was very used to people and being handled.



Where can I visit?

Anywhere! I am calm, friendly and easy to handle. I can be handled by children and adults of all ages.

Schools, parties, children's centres, holiday clubs, after school clubs, nurseries, libraries, care home, events and anywhere else you can think of.