

DENTAL CARE TIPS

DID YOU KNOW...?

That a rat's teeth can grow five inches in a year?

The front incisor teeth of all rodents, including all mice, rats, hamsters, gerbils and guinea pigs, grow continuously and must be worn down by chewing..and chewing..and chewing!



Providing a variety of safe chew toys along with a nutritionally

balanced diet including lots of coarse fibrous roughage is one of

the easiest ways to promote natural wear of teeth and good dental and oral health. Offering a variety of materials from cardboard to hardwood toys and rawhide will also give mental stimulation to your pet. Keep the chew toys clean and free from fragments which could endanger your pet if ingested. Replace chews when badly soiled or worn.

Your critter's teeth may overgrow, causing serious health problems if he doesn't have enough to chew on. Overgrown teeth will curve inward, cutting into the mouth, creating abscesses and preventing your pet from eating. Don't expect your rodent's teeth to be pearly white; a brownish or yellow-orange hue is normal, as the enamel of their teeth contains iron.

Check your Fuzzy Wuzzy Friend's teeth regularly. If they are overgrown, broken, chipped or missing, or if you notice your pet has difficulty eating, drools, or has pain around the mouth, contact ANIMART's veterinary department at 608.242.2140 ext 4223 to schedule an appointment.