

# ***World of Wonder***

## **Educational Standards and Suggested Activities**

Release week May 19, 2013: Hamsters & Guinea Pigs

### **Standards**

- **Current Events:** Students will create a funny comic strip about hamsters and/or guinea pigs
- **Social Studies:** Students will write their opinion about the pros and cons of owning a pet
- **Art:** Students will use pastels/chalk to create a “fuzzy” picture of one or more of these little animals

### **Activities**

1. **Use the News:** Hamsters and guinea pigs can be funny entertaining pets. What funny behaviors have you seen? Share some of these stories with the class. Then create a cartoon strip you might see in a newspaper that features one or more of these cute creatures.
2. **Think about why people keep pets.** What do they provide us with? Is it worth the cost and responsibility? Is it a good life for the pet? Write a brief essay stating your thoughts about pet ownership.
3. **Hamsters and guinea pigs are furry animals,** so pastels and chalk work well to draw a picture of them. Find a picture of one of these animals as your model, and then make a drawing of it. The colors can be smeared to create a “fuzzy-furry” effect.

*World of Wonder* meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade.