

My Wetland Book on Brush rabbit



Written by Alexa

Hello fellow students. My name is Alexa
and I'm a 5th grade student at an elementary
school in Watsonville. I'm in a special class where
we are learning about *wetlands* and I'd like to
share with you about what *wetlands* are, how
important they are, and an *animal* of particular
interest to me, Brush rabbit.



Brushrabbitt



About me...

But before I start my book, I'd like to share with you about some of my favorite things.

I like food like ice cream and pizza.

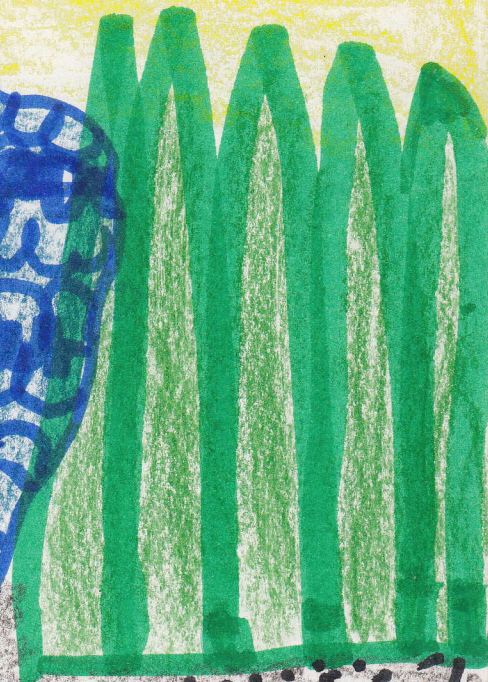
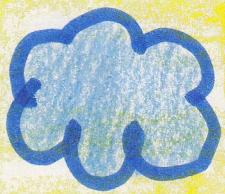
I also like flowers.



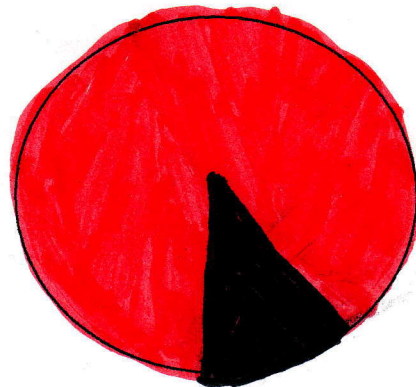
Okay, now I'm ready to write about what wetlands are, their importance, and facts about one of my favorite animals, Brush rabbit.

First, *wetlands* are essentially a very unique ecosystem in that the land is always, or at least most of time, wet- hence the name, *wetlands*. This ecosystem has special characteristics such as:

- the water is fresh and shallow
- the mud is wet and sticky
- water plants: duckweed, water lilies, rushes, & tules.



Second, 90% of the wetlands have been destroyed due to development and unsustainable farming practices. That means only 10% remain today. We must conserve and protect this ecosystem.



pie chart

90%

percentage

$\frac{90}{100}$

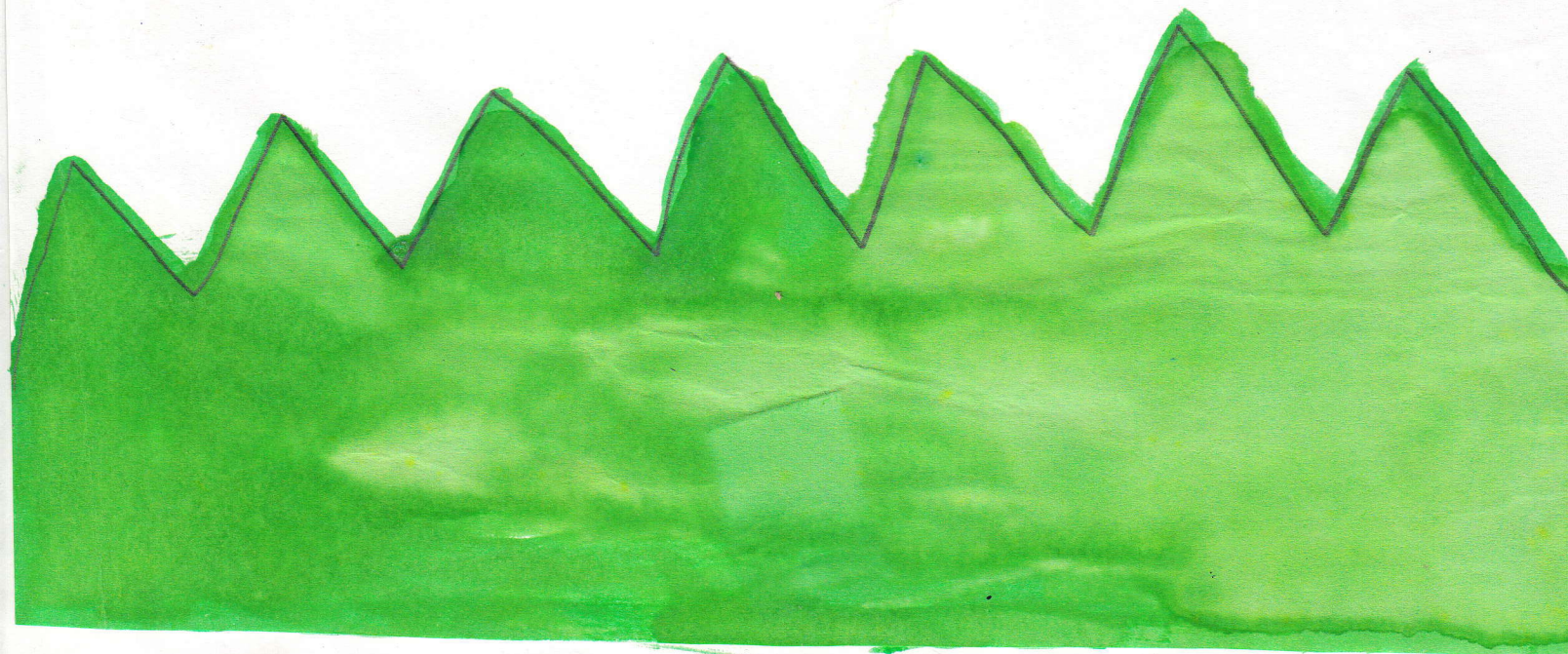
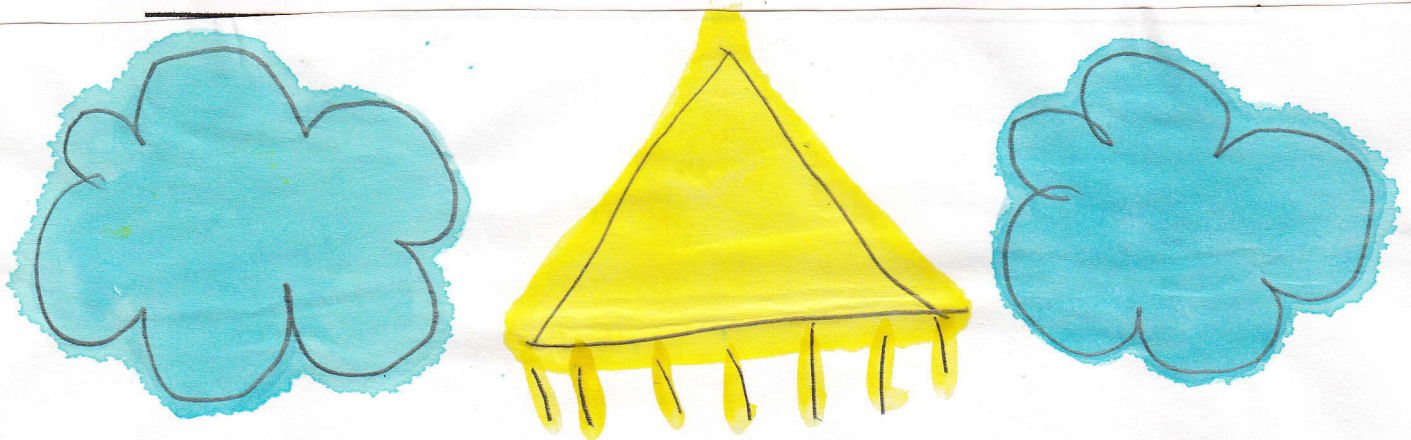
fraction

0.90

decimal

Third, we are very fortunate to literally have *wetlands* as part of our community. They serve many *important* purposes, such as:

- water plants filter the water
- water plants absorb water (prevent floods)
- habitat for plants and animals



Fourth, there is a particular *animal* of interest to me, namely the Brush rabbit. I chose this *animal* because I like rabbits and the Brush rabbit is a rabbit.



In the following paragraphs, I will briefly discuss what I researched about my animal of interest, the Brush rabbit. I will cover the following: classification, common name, scientific name, physical characteristics, behavior, if the animal camouflages, adaptations, range, migratory, population, status, reproduction, habitat, prey, predators, where animal fits in food web, and whether the Ohlone Indians used the animal for food, clothing, or other purposes.
I hope you enjoy the book!



Classification

The Brush rabbit is a vertebrate because it has a backbone. It is classified as a mammal because it has fur,
its warm blooded, and the mother
provides milk for her offspring.

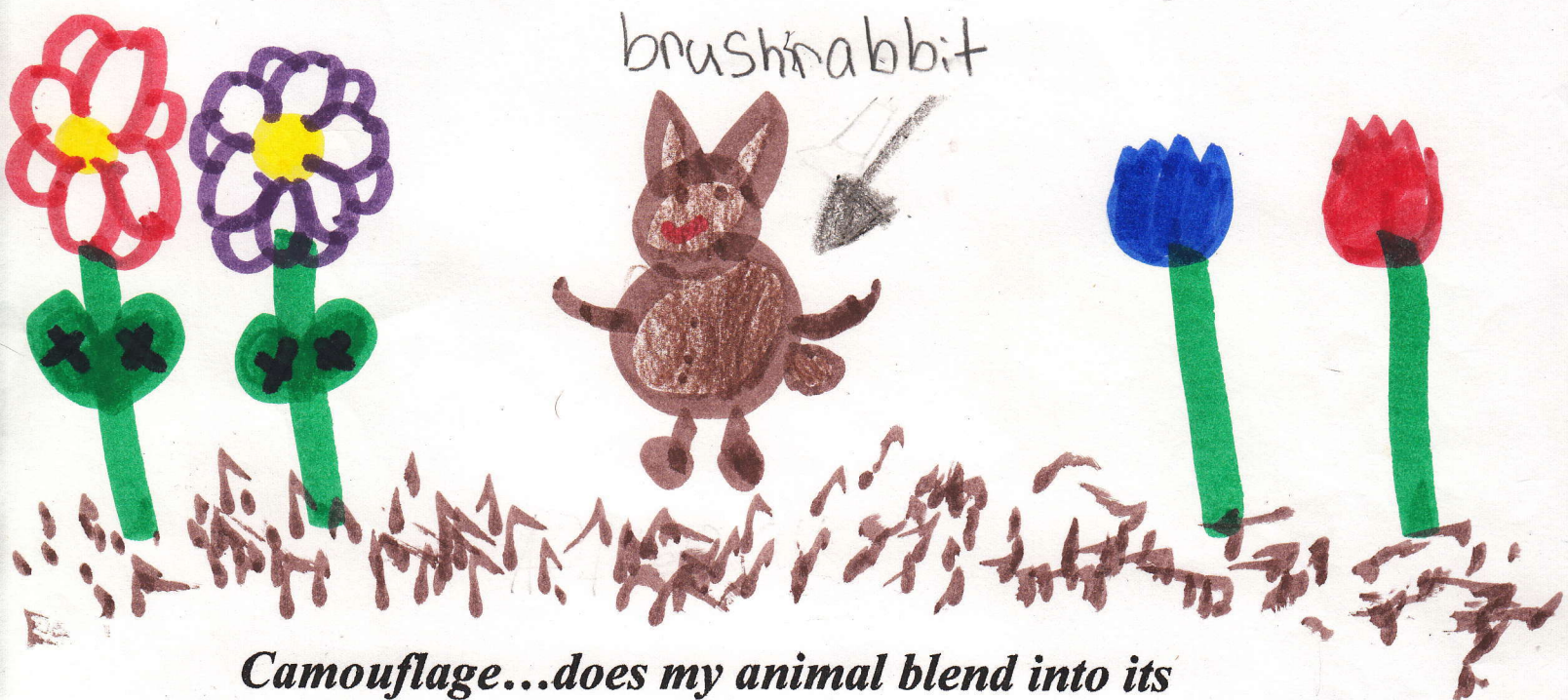
Names

The Brush rabbit has two names. The common name is Brush rabbit, and the scientific name is Sylvilagus
bachmani.

In science, the *scientific name* is the genus and species of the animal or plant.

Physical characteristics... my animal looks like...

My animal s fur is light brown to
gray in color. Adult rabbits measure
anywhere from 10-14 inches long and
rarely weigh over two pounds.

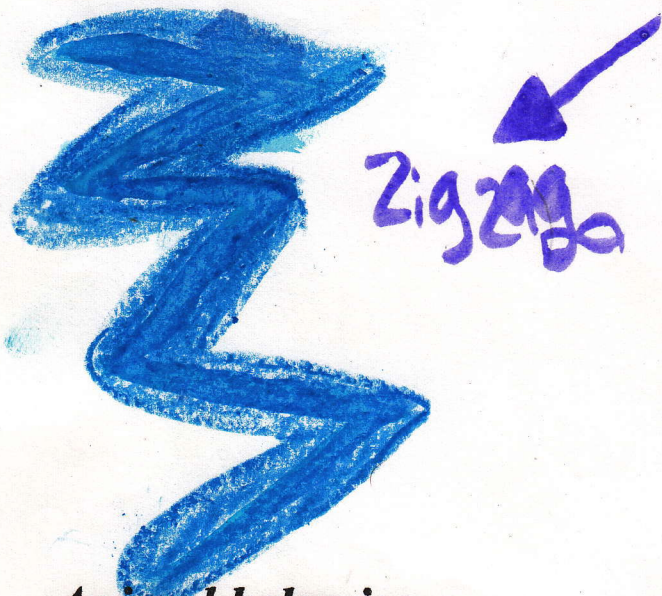


Camouflage...does my animal blend into its environment?

After looking at my animal and reading more about it, I realize that it does camouflage if
its on the ground (dirt).

Adaptations

My animal is unique because When trying to escape from a predator, it will freeze or run in a zig zag formation to get away from its predator.

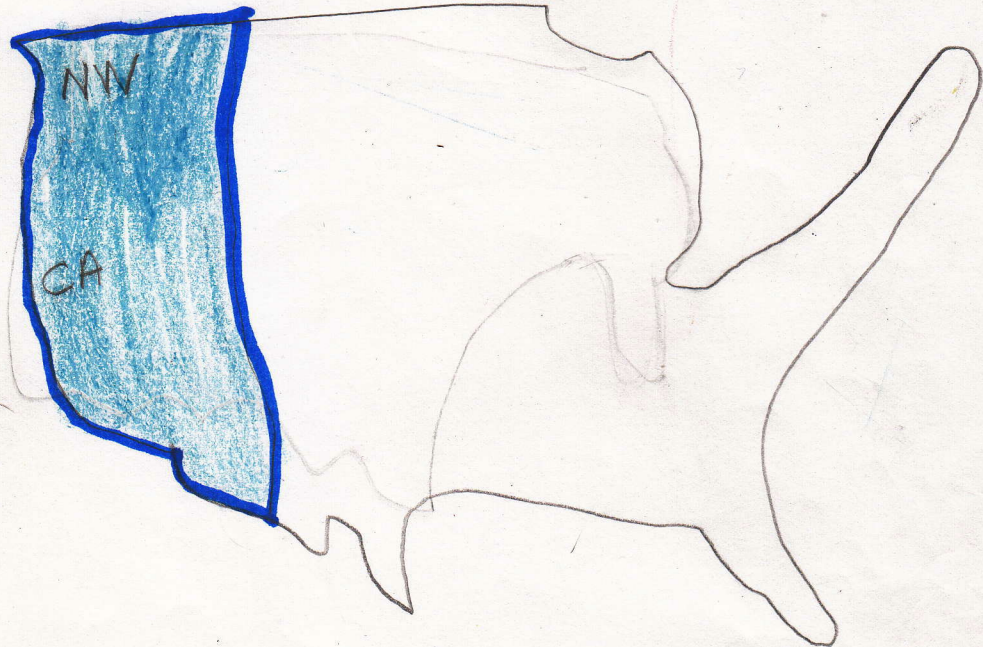


Animal behavior

The way I would describe the behavior of my animal is that the males have larger home ranges than females at all times of the year.

Range

The Brush rabbit is found in the
Plains, California, Northwest.



Migratory...does it travel from one location to another during seasons?

The brush rabbit does not migrate. For example, _____

Population

The population of my animal is extremely
low (only a few hundred in specific
regions of California).

Status

The status of the Brush rabbit tells me
whether it is endangered, threatened, or stable.
What I found out is that the Brush rabbit is
going extinct. I find this
interesting because about 90% of the
places riparian brush rabbit live have
been destroyed. some of the things that
did this are growth of cities, farms, dams,
and disease.

Reproduction

The reproduction of the Brush rabbit is
they have babies Jan - May and
they have 3-4 babies in
each litter.

Habitat...home

The brush rabbit habitat is in wetlands
(grassy, near muddy water) and
where there are plants, such
as clover.



Prey and predator...(to eat and to be eaten)

The prey my animal eats are: none

foxes, Hawks, owls, even gopher snakes, dogs and even house cats.

My animal eats other things such as:

grasses, forbs (green clover), and berries



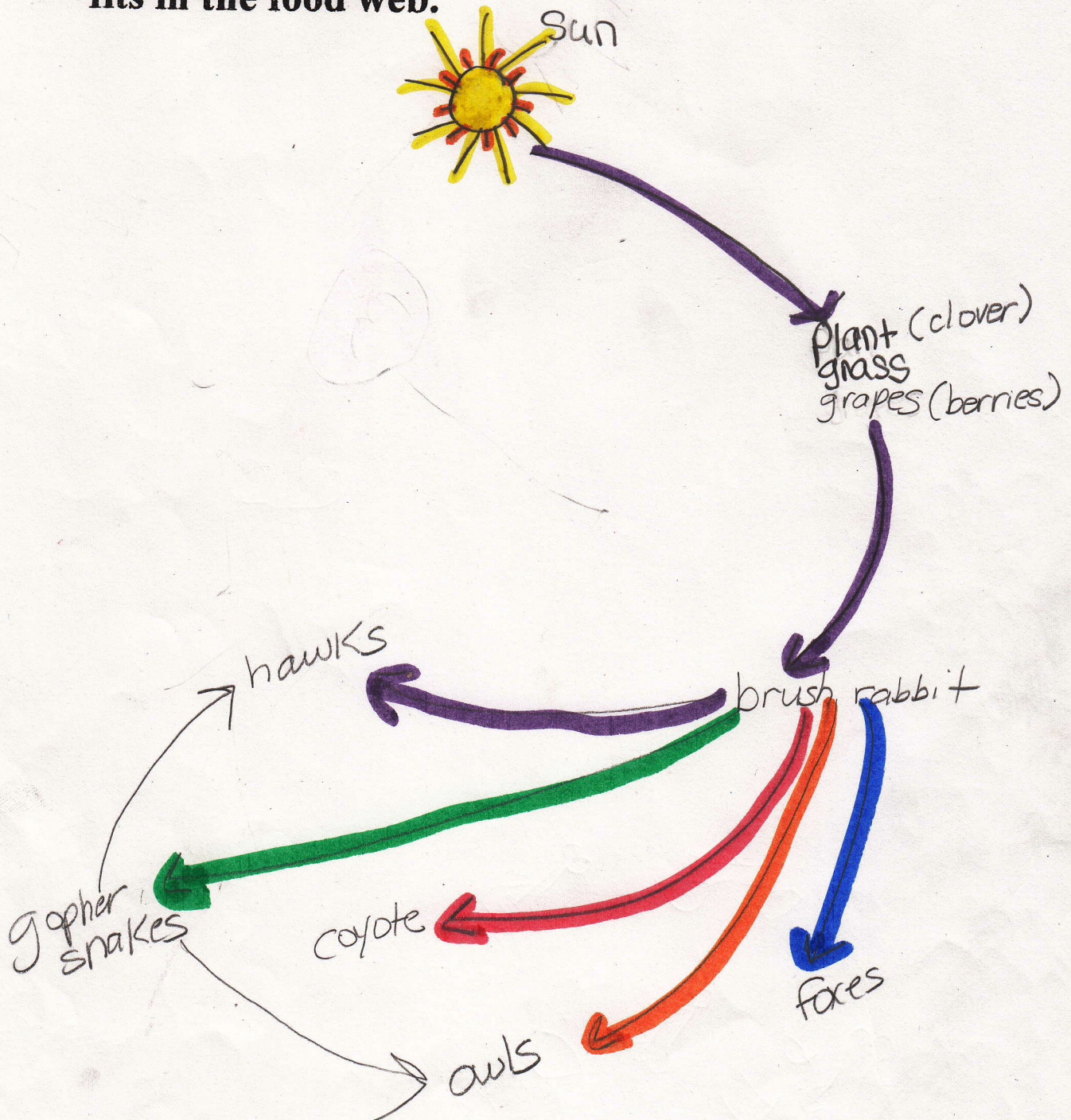
The predators that eat me are: COYOTE,

foxes, Hawks, owls, gopher snakes, bobcats,
dogs and house cats, and bobcats.



Food web

My animal is a Brush rabbit. The following picture demonstrates where my animal fits in the food web.



Ohlone Indians

I'm curious to see if the Ohlone Indians used the Brush rabbit in anyway, for example, for food, clothing, or for other purposes. What I discovered is that brush rabbit
remains (bones) have been
discovered in Ohlone shellmounds.



References

(books, articles, web-sites, etc.)

WWW.fws.gov

and
WWW.berkeleydailyplanet.com

www.naturemappingfoundation.org

www.primitiveways.com

Thank you for reading my book. I hope you enjoyed it and learned a lot about the Brush rabbit. Please feel free to *comment* about my book and also, test your knowledge by answering the following *questions* below. I look forward to hearing from you.

Comments for me:

Questions for you: (See if you can answer these...)

1. Where does it live & where is it found?
2. Who eats the brush rabbit?
3. What is the brush rabbit's behavior?