

## THE GREAT ESCAPE

Read about the hamster, guinea pig and gerbil who got out of their cages. Then fill in the table on page 38. Two answers have been done for you.



On Sunday night, when everyone in the house was snoring loudly, Harry the hamster planned his escape. He ran so fast in his hamster wheel that it smashed down the door of his cage.

George the gerbil was having the same idea. He lived in the shed. He had been keeping himself slim. So, just as Harry was breaking free, George squeezed through the bars of his cage. They met in the house at the foot of the stairs.

Harry said he was going straight to the kitchen to eat all the peanuts he could find. George wished him good luck. Instead, he went into the hallway. He chewed a hole in an old boot and hid inside. The cat saw him doing it, but when she peered inside, he bit her nose. He still hasn't been captured.

Meanwhile, Gloria the guinea pig was practising her jumping. When she was put outside in the garden in her play pen, she jumped over the side and ran off. A small boy up in his bedroom watched her through his binoculars. She crawled under the fence and chewed a hole in the neighbours' deckchair. They weren't pleased. But Gloria managed to run free for a week.

After ten days of freedom, the girl who lived in the house caught Harry in a box of cornflakes and put him back in his cage.

Now fill the boxes in this table with facts from the story.



Pet	Hamster	Guinea Pig	Gerbil
Name			
Escape plan		Gloria had been practising her jumping, so when she was put outside in the garden in her play pen, she jumped over the side.	
Where did they hide?			
Who saw them?			
When were they seen?			He was seen while he was chewing a hole in an old boot.
Free for how long?			