

Name:	
Class:	Date:

# Design a Hamster Playground

An activity of "Goat Towers and Cat Ladders"

In "Goat Towers and Cat Ladders" (page 20, *What's Up* August 2021), animal owners have gone the extra mile to improve the quality of life for their four-legged friends. They have made creative structures that fit the animals' needs.

In Singapore, where land is scarce, small pets like hamsters are popular. Your challenge today, is to **design a fun and stimulating playground for a hamster**. Before you start, find out what makes an environment safe and enriching for a hamster.

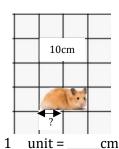
#### PREPARE YOURSELF

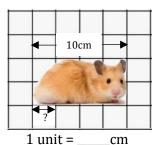
1. Watch this video: "All About Hamster Enrichment" ➤ <a href="https://youtu.be/sxVEEoqE6yI">https://youtu.be/sxVEEoqE6yI</a> by Victoria Raechel (2021)

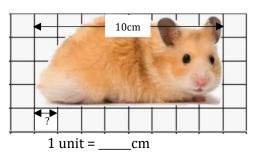
What contributes to an enriching hamster space?		
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- 2. Learn about scale drawing. Watch this video:

  "Scale drawings | Geometry | 7<sup>th</sup> grade" ➤ https://youtu.be/XUOPGqKGbjk
  by Khan Academy (2018)
- 3. Let's check our understanding. If Mr Hamster is 10cm long in real life, how much does 1 unit represent in each of the following?







- 4. Decide on a suitable scale of your choice e.g. 1 unit = 5cm.
  - You can cut out any of the three Mr Hamsters above if he fits your scale. Placing him beside your design can give you a general sense of scale and proportion.
  - Use the grid lines on the next page to guide you. Feel free to draw through or between the lines.

• Include elements that would contribute to a safe, enriching environment for a hamster.

## **DESIGN THE PLAYGROUND**

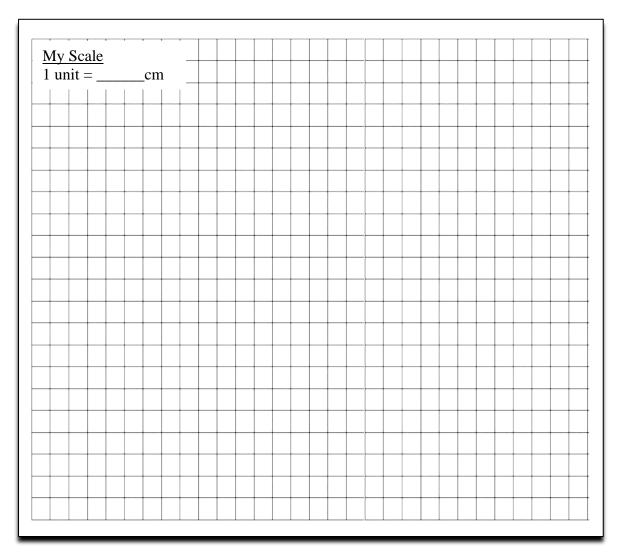
5. Now, you are all set to design a fun and stimulating hamster playground! Here are a few examples of hamster playgrounds for inspiration.







# **My Hamster Playground Design**



### **SHARE**

6. Would you like to share your awesome design of a hamster playground with other *What's Up* readers? Scan or photograph it and email the image to <a href="letters@whatsup.sg">letters@whatsup.sg</a>. Include your name, class and school. We would love to view your creation!