# What foods do gerbils like and why HTAL

# What foods will gerbils like and why?

We are trying to understand why gerbils like some foods and why they don't like other foods. There are 2 gerbils that we will be observing.

# Hypothesis: We think that the gerbils will like almost all the food

We think that we will observe the gerbils and find out that there is 1 or 2 foods that only one of them likes or dislikes.

## **Experiment Design**

We gave the gerbils strawberries, lettuce, carrots, bananas, raspberries, apples, and broccoli.

We put all the food onto a plate.

We gave each gerbil one kind of food one at a time, and wrote down if the gerbils liked the food or didn't.





### Pictures of the gerbils eating food

Here is where the gerbils were eating bananas, raspberries, and strawberries.







### What food the gerbils liked and didn't.

We observed that both of the gerbils liked most of the food and ate it, but there were some foods that they didn't like. Raven (which is the black gerbil) did not like carrots. We think she didn't like them because carrots are a bit harder to eat than the other foods. Raven also didn't like broccoli, and this proves that Raven did not like the vegetables as much as the fruit. Misty (the white gerbil) liked all the foods and she had 2 pieces of the broccoli and apples. She might have liked them more because they were easy to nibble on.

### Conclusion

Our project confirmed our hypothesis, because the gerbils did like more foods than they disliked but Raven didn't like some foods. We learned that part of the reason the gerbils liked some foods more than others was because different foods have different textures and taste. Part of the reason why Misty (the white one) liked apples so much might have been because the skin of the apple was yummy to chew on. A reason why Raven didn't like Broccoli could have been because the tops of it had a weird texture. We don't know any of this for sure, but by observing we can make a good guess. We learned a lot and our hypothesis was close to correct.