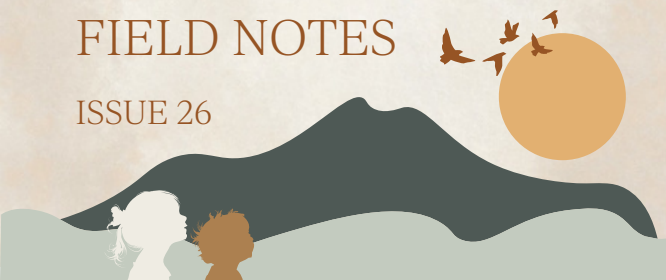


Nat Theo Club

FIELD NOTES

ISSUE 26



Cottontail Rabbit

MAMMAL

HABITAT

From Canada to South America. Prefer areas with a lot of bushes and plants. Often found around fields and in neighborhoods.

FUN FACTs

Rabbits are not rodents. They are mammals in the order called Lagomorpha.

A rabbit's diet is very seasonal. They eat tender grasses and herbs in spring, fallen fruit in summer and fall, and buds, twigs, and bark in winter.



HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A BABY RABBIT?

As I watched the rain falling outside our kitchen window, I watched for the baby rabbits who lived in a den underneath our shed. It dawned on me this was their first experience with rain. Can you imagine? My best friend in college grew up in Panama, and I remember her amazement the first time it snowed at our college in Wisconsin. First experiences in nature can be incredible but also sometimes frightening. I wonder what the baby rabbits thought as they poked their heads out of the den, and water fell from the sky.

I had watched the baby rabbits for three weeks as they cautiously explored further from the den each day. They were learning to avoid danger like hawks and neighborhood cats, but the rain was a new challenge. And yet, rain causes the grass to grow, which is needed for food. As I watched them, I realized that sometimes, when I face a new challenge, I want to burrow back into a safe place, like a rabbit retreating to its den. Yet God helps me to be brave and trust Him as I face new things. What new things seem scary right now? How can you trust God? Maybe, like a baby rabbit uncertain about rain, God will use something that seems scary to bring something good and to help you grow. When the rain stopped, I watched the baby rabbits come out to enjoy all the fresh grass and herbs. Maybe the next time it rains, they will remember the wonderful things it brings.

Jeremiah 17:7 says, "But the person who trusts in the LORD will be blessed. The LORD will show him that he can be trusted."

As we trust God and see Him working in our lives, it becomes easier to trust Him for the future. Faith is like a muscle, the more we use it, the stronger it gets. How has God shown you that He is trustworthy?

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