The SIX GOLDEN RULES
for keeping your rabbits happy and safe

1. **When you are with rabbits, always have your parent/guardian close enough to hear and see you.**
   Listen to their instructions carefully, this will help keep you and the rabbits safe.

2. **Leave rabbits alone when they:**
   - Are eating or have a treat
   - Have a toy or something else they really like
   - Are sleeping
   - Are unwell, injured, or tired
   - Are blind or deaf.

3. **Be kind and polite to rabbits.**
   Treat rabbits with the same respect as other people—most people wouldn’t like someone pulling their ears, so we don’t want to do this to rabbits.
   It can be really scary for rabbits to be picked up, so it’s much better to sit quietly on the ground and let them choose when they want to be close to you.

4. **Play with your rabbits in a way they will enjoy it.**
   Rabbits love playing with toys that have food in them, so you can make them a puzzle toy out of a toilet roll tube stuffed with hay and a tasty treat in the middle. Sit back and watch them have fun!

5. **Along with your parent/guardian, learn the signs of unhappy rabbits from the RSPCA’s ‘Understanding rabbit behaviour’ pages, and leave unhappy rabbits alone.**
   If your rabbit looks unhappy or your parent/guardian asks you to, stay where you are and let the rabbits go somewhere they will feel safe and happy.

6. **Before meeting rabbits, ask the owner and your parent/guardian if it’s okay to say hello, and listen to how they want you to do that.**
   Remember to sit quietly on the ground and let the rabbits approach only if they want to. Some rabbits may not want to say hello; we can leave them alone to keep them happy.
   If there’s no adult owner around to ask, leave the rabbits alone.

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**My name is ____________________________**

and I pledge to be kind to rabbits by following the six golden rules.

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**TOP TIP**

We all need a break sometimes, give your rabbits a cosy spot in a quiet area where they can have their own space, preferably with a hiding space so they can feel secure. Everyone can then leave the rabbits alone when they’re in their private spot.