

# Irish Hare

*Lepus timidus hibernicus*



The Irish Hare is a native mammal found only in Ireland. It is a sub species of the Mountain Hare which is found in Europe and Britain. The Irish Hare is found in most areas, not only mountains, and unlike the mountain hare its fur does not turn white in the winter.



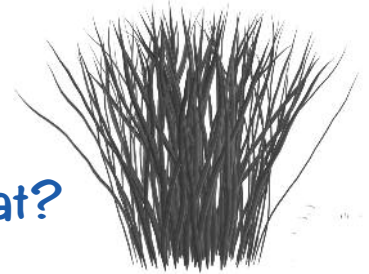
## Hare or Rabbit?

- Hares live above ground in flattened vegetation called a form, rabbits live below ground in a series of burrows which make up a warren.
- Adult hares are about twice the size of a rabbit.
- Hares are born with their eyes open and covered in fur while rabbits are born naked with eyes shut.
- Rabbits are social and like to live in groups whereas hares only usually meet up to breed.



## What is a lagomorph?

Both hares and rabbits belong to a family called lagomorphs. Although they have long front teeth like rats and mice they are not classed as rodents because they have a second set of these incisors which sets them apart and places them in a different species set.



## What do Hares eat?

Hares like to eat certain types of grass and vegetation but it varies according to where they are living and also the time of year. They mainly eat grass but also heather and sedges where they're available.

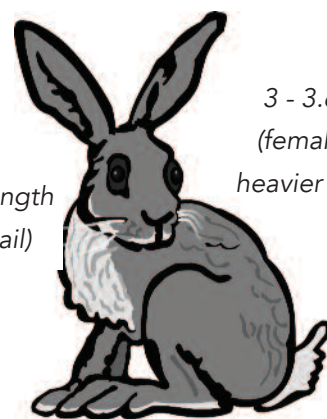


## Did you know?

Female hares are called Jills and male hares are called Jacks.

The females are slightly larger than the males.

approx 60cm in length  
(including 7cm tail)



3 - 3.6kg in weight  
(females are slightly heavier than the males)

## The Irish Hare wordsearch

Can you find all the words? The answers go in all directions!

S	C	F	L	A	G	O	M	O	R	P	H	J
I	S	K	Y	Y	U	O	O	I	L	N	A	L
A	S	A	G	U	R	T	U	U	S	C	S	P
N	F	P	R	E	I	E	L	M	K	E	E	M
R	J	N	E	G	Y	R	O	A	I	X	D	V
O	I	R	A	C	A	A	S	M	T	U	G	R
S	L	U	S	Z	I	H	S	M	Y	W	E	A
I	L	F	W	E	A	E	P	A	Y	A	O	B
C	J	V	T	O	A	Y	S	L	R	U	Q	B
N	H	E	A	T	H	E	R	U	M	X	I	I
I	S	U	P	B	N	D	N	A	X	U	J	T
V	E	G	E	T	A	T	I	O	N	I	V	X

jack species sedge incisor heather  
lagomorph vegetation mammal hare  
jill fur rabbit grass



Anaclann Éan Fian Loch Garman  
Wexford Wildfowl Reserve

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