

# The Class Pet

Miss Ford takes a glass box to school. "This will be a house for our class pet," Miss Ford tells the class. The pet is a cute tan mouse. The class names it Dory. Miss Ford teaches lessons on pets. She uses Dory in these lessons. Dory is tan. But mice can be black, white or brown. Mice can have stripes or spots too. Mice need to eat and drink. Pet stores may sell seed mixes or hard pellets. But mice will eat all sorts of things, such as corn and nuts. Mice like to run and jump late at a night. It is time for them to sleep when the sun rises. Mice use torn cloth and cotton to make nests. Mice that live outside use grass and branches. A mom can have lots of very small mice. Ten of them can be born at the same time. They nap in a nest. When mice are born they have no fur. These mice cannot see yet. For a short time, small mice cannot eat seeds. They just sleep and drink milk. Time passes and small mice get fur. More time passes and small mice can see. They can be away from the nest. These mice can eat seeds and nuts like their mom. Miss Ford tells the class that mice like friends. She tells the class that Dory wishes for one. The next week, Miss Ford takes a box from her car. In it is a mouse. The class names it Cory. Dory and Cory become friends.