**Animal Testing 101**

Right now, millions of [mice](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/mice-rats-laboratories/), [rats](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/mice-rats-laboratories/), [rabbits](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/rabbits-laboratories/), [primates](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/primates-laboratories/), [cats](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/cats-laboratories/), [dogs](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/dogs-laboratories/), and other animals are locked inside cold, barren cages in [laboratories across the country](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/animals-laboratories/). They are in pain, ache with loneliness, and long to roam free and use their minds.

Instead, all they can do is sit and wait in fear of the next terrifying and painful procedure that will be performed on them. The stress, and boredom causes some animals to develop behaviors such spinning in circles, rocking back and forth and even pulling out their own hair and biting their own skin.  They shake in fear whenever someone walks past their cages and their blood pressure spikes drastically. After enduring lives of pain, loneliness and terror, almost all of them will be killed.

More than 100 million animals every year suffer and die in cruel chemical, drug, food, and cosmetics tests as well as in [biology lessons, medical training exercises](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/classroom-dissection/),and curiosity-driven [medical experiments at universities](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/animals-medical-experiments/). Exact numbers aren’t available because mice, rats, birds, and cold-blooded animals—who make up more than 95 percent of animals used in experiments—are not covered by even the minimal protections of the Animal Welfare Act and therefore go uncounted. To test cosmetics, household cleaners, and other [consumer products](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/cosmetic-household-products-animal-testing/), hundreds of thousands of animals are poisoned, blinded, and killed every year by cruel corporations. Mice and rats are forced to inhale toxic fumes, dogs are force-fed pesticides, and rabbits have corrosive chemicals rubbed onto their skin and eyes. Many of these tests are not even required by law, and they often produce inaccurate or misleading results.

The federal government and many [health charities](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/charities/) waste precious dollars from taxpayers and generous donors on cruel and misleading animal experiments at universities and private laboratories.

Millions of animals also suffer and die for [classroom](http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-experimentation/dissection.aspx) biology experiments and dissection, even though other choices have been shown to teach students better, save teachers time, and save schools money.