



Light and Shade: Why Rabbits Have Long Ears

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Did you know why rabbits have long ears? Not many people do but I do and I want to tell you my little story. A long, long time ago before I was even born, there was an island in the middle of the ocean, just near Australia. This was a very hot island and the sky was always blue, the sun was always shining bright and there was so, so much light all around, all of the time. Well, this was just right for all of the unicorns who lived there. They had a great time and loved to play games and have fun, like tag and hide and seek. One day, one of the unicorns, Twinkle, who a very beautiful, cheeky, Unicorn, was playing hide and seek and was trying to find a good place to hide. She spotted a hole in the ground and put her head inside. Then, she heard a noise.

‘Oy, what are you doing?’ said a cross voice from somewhere inside the deep, dark hole.

‘Don’t be rude,’ Twinkle said ‘I am trying to find a place to hide.’

‘You can’t here, it’s too squishy for you, you’re too big....anyway what are you hiding for?’

‘We are playing a game of hide and seek, so I have to hide’ said Twinkle.

‘Oh that sounds fun, can I play please?’ said the voice from inside the hole.

‘Yes of course, pop up out of the hole and we can find a place to hide together’ said Twinkle. She was super excited that she had a new friend to play with.

This is when Twinkle found out all about the animals who lived under the ground (we call them rabbits now). The voice in the hole, who was actually called Poppy, said that she couldn’t come up out of the hole because her eyes hurt when she was in the light, she had to live in the shade underground. Twinkle felt sad. She really wanted Poppy to be able to play with her. Then she had a great idea...she found, two, long thin leaves which she gave to poppy to put on top of her head to shade her eyes from the light. This worked perfectly and Twinkle and Poppy got to play together out in the sunshine, whenever they wanted. Nowadays, these long leaf shapes have become a rabbit’s ears and that is why rabbits have long ears.