All About Owls



by Mrs. Olive Owl

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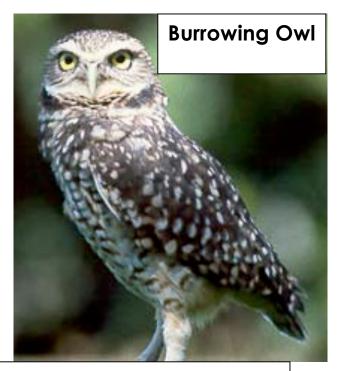
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Types of Owls









There are many types of owls. On this page, there are pictures of four owls. In the world, there are about 200 kinds. Owls are very interesting and many people enjoy studying about them.

Facts About Owls



Owls are found in **habitats** all over the world except in Antarctica, parts of Greenland, and some smaller islands.



There are about 200 kinds of owls. They are divided into two groups: barn owls and true owls.



Owls are carnivores.



They prefer to live in homes that have already been made by other owls instead of building their own homes.



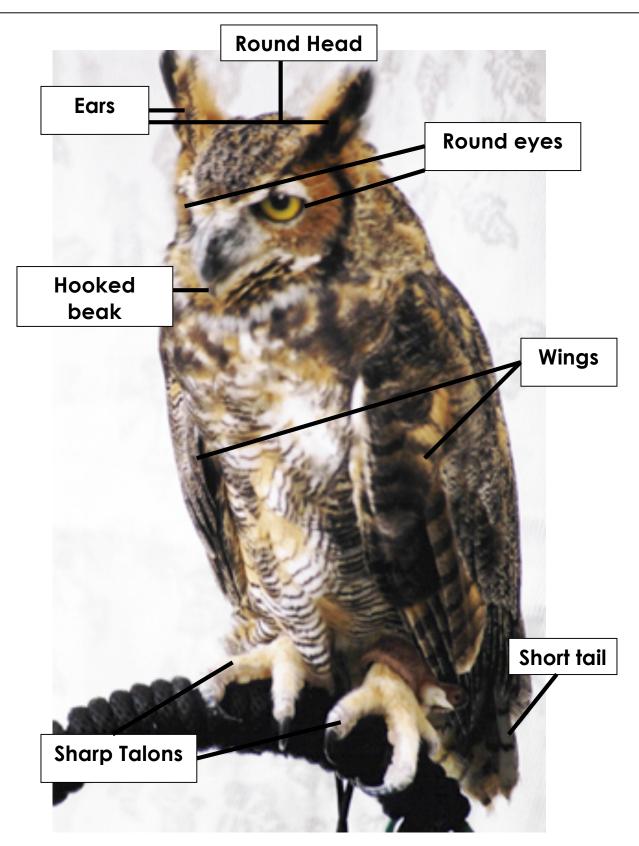
Small **species** live for only 2 to 3 years, but larger species live much longer. In captivity, owls can live as long as 34 years.



There are four species of owls that are in danger of **extinction**.

Parts of an Owl

The body parts of an owl help it to live in this world and protect itself. Even though there are different kinds of owls, they all have some of the same body parts. For example, their eyes are big and round to help them find prey at night. Their head can turn more than a human's can. These traits help them to survive.



An Owl's Diet

Owls are carnivores that eat many different types of foods. Here is a list of some of the foods that owls eat.

insects	spiders
amphibians	snails
crabs	mice
earthworms	birds
rabbits	fish
reptiles	voles

Strange and Funny Owl Facts



- Certain people think owls are wise, but in some countries they think owls are evil or magical.
- A great gray owl can hear a beetle in the grass up to 100 feet away.
- Most owls hoot, but some can also shriek, bark, and even sing. Some pairs of owls even sing together.
- Owls swallow their food whole without chewing it, including fur and feathers. Six or seven hours later they cough up pellets, which are parts of the prey that owls will not digest.





- The elf owl looks for a home in the hole of a cactus.
- Some larger owls eat smaller species of owls.
- An owl's features become damaged and worn over time, so once a year old feathers drop out and new ones grow in their place. This is called **molting**.

Glossary

Words	Definition
Birds of prey	birds such as eagles, owls, and falcons that hunt and eat small animals
Carnivore	animals that eat meat
Extinction	when a species does not exist anymore, like dinosaurs
Habitat	geographical location where an animal or plant lives
Indigestible	unable to be broken down and pass through an owl's body
Molting	when an owl replaces old or damaged feathers with new ones
Prey	an animal that is hunted by other animals
Species	group of animals that look alike and can produce young together