

# BIRDS OF PREY WORKSHEET

## SOME FUN FACTS

- ★ Burrowing owls live on the ground in holes or burrows.
- ★ Burrowing owls hiss like snakes to ward off predators.
- ★ Barn owls have very soft feathers on their wings which helps them fly quietly.
- ★ Barn owls can turn their heads ALMOST all the way around up to 270°
- ★ Harris's hawks originally come from Central and South America but are often used in UK falconry programmes.
- ★ Harris's hawks live in family groups like we do.
- ★ Baby owls are called "owlets"
- ★ All birds of prey have ears or ear openings.



## ACTIVITY 1

Choose which type of bird of prey the following fun facts describe best:

**Barn owl**    **Burrowing owl**    **Harris's hawk**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ➞ I have super sensitive hearing and hunt mostly at night.                        | ➞ I can be found soaring in the skies of Central and South America.                    |
| ➞ My feathers are very soft and help me stay quiet, but I am not very waterproof. | ➞ My primary diet consists of a lot of things, but rabbits are a particular favourite. |
| ➞ I do not "hoot." I screech.   | ➞ You can recognise me as I'll be hanging out with my family members.                  |

**Answer:** .....

**Answer:** .....

- ➞ I can hiss like a snake when I am trying to ward off predators.
- ➞ I am active both day and night.
- ➞ Who needs a tree? I like to hang out in holes on the ground.

**Answer:** .....

## ACTIVITY 2

**A. Circle which physical traits we have in common with a bird of prey.**

- A. Eyes
- B. Feathers
- C. Ears
- D. Talons
- E. Legs

**B. True or False, circle the correct answer.**

**1. A baby owl is called a kitten.**

True or False

**2. Birds of Prey can turn their heads all the way around - 360°.**

True or False

**3. All birds of prey have ears or ear openings.**

True or False



## ACTIVITY 3

Using the words listed, fill in the blanks to complete the sentence.

**Eyes   Wings   Talons   Tail   Ears**

1. Sometimes, they are hidden under my feathers, but my ....., work very well.
2. A ....., helps keep me balanced.
3. I do not need spectacles because my ....., are exceptionally sharp.
4. The soft feathers on my ....., help me fly in silence.
5. My sharp ....., help me catch and hang on to my dinner.

## EXPERIMENT TIME!

**Supplies you will need:**

**Coloured pens or markers, sheets of blank white paper**

- ⇒ Split learners' into small groups of four or five
- ⇒ Have them draw their version of an Owl. Each taking turns adding different parts.

Looking for eyes, beak, wings, feathers, and talons or feet. Did they remember to include ears? What kind of ears did they choose – Tufted ears or ear openings?

**Use this time to further explore how each body part help owls to survive.**