

The **STONHAM SCREECHER**

Autumn/Winter 2012-13



Long Eared Owl



Barn Owl



Snowy Owl



Great Grey Owl



Little Owl



Tawny Owl



Hello!
My name is Cobweb and I am a Barn Owl. I live at the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary with my friend Nightshade and about 80 owls and other birds of prey. Here are some Barn Owl facts:

Barn Owl's wings measure about 3 feet (91cms) from tip to tip

Barn Owls are found all over the world, except in the very cold Antarctic

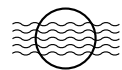
Barn Owls feed on mice, voles and other small rodents.

Barn Owls like to nest in farm buildings but like to hunt in open farmland, meadows and fields

In olden times, Barn Owls were called Ghost Owls or Screech Owls

Although they are usually seen flying at dusk, Barn Owls often hunt in the daytime

Do you have any questions about Owls and other Birds of Prey? Cobweb is happy to answer all your questions and will personally reply to every letter or email!



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A Minute With Matt

Matt Lott is the Head Falconer at Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. He is responsible for the welfare of all the birds and is in charge of the falconry team.

Every day is busy for Matt! Here he tells you about one important part of his job.

Every morning the birds that take part in the flying displays have to be weighed on special scales. This is because the falconers use food to bring the birds back to their glove. If the birds are too fat and not hungry, they will not come back when the falconer wants them to.

If the birds are not fed enough, though, they might be too light and then they could become weak and ill. The weights of all the birds are written on a Daily Weight Chart, as it is important that they all receive the correct amount of food.

The bird on Matt's wrist is called a Ferruginous Buzzard. 'Ferruginous' means reddish brown, which as you can see is the colour of the birds main feathers.

I'VE FOUND AN INJURED OWL - WHAT SHOULD I DO?

1. Gently throw a jumper or blanket over the injured bird to keep it warm
2. Put the bird into a well ventilated, darkened cardboard box - not so small that the bird will sustain further damage, but not so large that it can jump around inside. The box should preferably lined on the bottom with another towel or, if not available, newspaper. Never use straw or sawdust and do not place water in the box).
3. Do not try to feed the bird. Get the bird to the nearest bird of prey centre as soon as possible.
4. Remember that bird of prey centres and raptor rescue organisations are there to deal with birds of prey - **OUR NUMBER IS 08456 807 897** or email info@owl-help.org.uk. Contact the RSPCA about other types of injured bird, or take it to a vet.
5. Always wash your hands if you have touched a bird.





A wise owl sat in an oak
 The more he heard the less he spoke;
 The less he spoke, the more he heard
 Why aren't we all like that wise old bird?

Can you write a poem about owls? Think of lots of different words that describe owls and then decide whether you would like your poem to rhyme, what shape you would like it to make on the page and whether you would like to draw a picture to go with it.

WORDSEARCH

See if you can find all the words in the grid below!

- barn owl
- hoot
- prey
- beak
- wings
- talons
- egg
- hunting
- feathers
- nocturnal

b	a	r	n	o	w	l	a	r	n	b	w	l	n
r	a	t	o	v	b	a	b	c	e	g	g	k	o
t	b	a	w	w	e	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	c
h	c	l	p	t	a	l	o	n	s	n	m	l	t
o	d	g	q	x	b	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	u
o	d	g	r	y	c	w	z	f	y	x	w	v	r
t	p	i	s	z	d	i	f	e	n	o	p	q	n
t	r	p	r	e	y	n	g	a	u	t	s	r	a
o	n	j	n	a	z	a	h	t	v	d	e	f	l
r	e	k	o	b	f	b	i	h	w	c	b	g	n
b	f	l	c	c	g	c	j	e	i	b	e	h	m
h	u	n	t	i	n	g	t	r	x	a	a	i	l
o	g	m	t	d	h	d	k	s	y	z	k	j	k
h	w	i	n	g	s	e	l	m	h	n	u	e	i

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