



Owls



Reading Made Simple



Soft g

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You can sound these words out. Practice them before you start to read the book.

replied

nocturnal noc turn al

clearly

eyesight

animals

really

pellet



This book is to be read after the sound

soft g

has been learnt.

Practice these words before you begin to read.

Tick the circles when you can read the words.

eyes

pigeon soft 'g'

One night, just as Sam and Pam were going to bed, there was a noise outside in the woods at the end of their garden. “Too-whit-too-whoo!”

“It's an owl,” said mum.

“Why is the owl not asleep like all of the other birds?” asked Sam.

“Well, owls are nocturnal which means that they hunt at night.” They have very good eyesight so that they can hunt in the dark,” replied mum. “They also have very good ears so that they can hear things very clearly.

“What do they eat?” asked Pam.

“They eat small animals like mice and voles. They have big wings and soft wing feathers so that they don't make a loud noise as they swoop down to get their food.”



A Vole

“Where do they go in the daytime then?” asked Pam.

“They rest in holes in trees, or sit on branches near the trees trunk.” said mum.

The next morning, Sam found a book about owls on his book shelf. He read about Tawny Owls who say ‘Too-whit-too-who’ and live in woodland. He found out that Tawny Owls only hunt after dark, so they are hard to see. The book said that if you



A Barn Owl

see a crowd of small birds making a lot of noise around a tree, then they might be trying to chase a Tawny Owl away.

Then he read about Barn Owls which hunt over farmland. He read that Barn Owls can sometimes be seen in the daytime, flying low over the ground and hovering while it is hunting.

There was so much to find out!

“Mum,” he said later that day, “I think it was a Tawny Owl making that sound last night. Please can we visit the woods soon so that I can look for owl pellets.”

“What are owl pellets?” asked Pam.

“Well, when the owl eats his food, he spits out the fur and bones in a little pellet. If you find one under a tree it means that an owl rests in that tree.” replied Sam.

“We will go soon.” said Mum. “Let's eat our tea while it is hot. You have found out a lot about owls, Sam. It is good to read.”



An Owl Pellet

Why don't you find a book about owls and see what you can find out?



A Tawny Owl

