

Owls

What goes “HOO-HOO” and comes out at night? It is an owl, which is a unique species of bird found all over the world. There are over two hundred different species of owls. The “Elf Owl” is the smallest in the world. Measuring only five inches tall, it is not much larger than a can of soda pop! Compare that to the “Eurasian Eagle Owl,” one of the largest owl species. The Eurasian Eagle Owl stands 30 inches tall and weighs about 10 pounds.

Owls live in all kinds of habitats, from forests to grasslands. They are respected for their keen hunting abilities. Throughout history, owls have also been a symbol of knowledge and wisdom. The owl is recognized by its large eyes, which help it see very well in the dark. The owl's eyes do not move, so it must turn its head to see in different directions. Owls can rotate their heads almost all the way around. They have very sensitive hearing, which help them locate and catch their prey. Owls are great hunters and flyers. At night, they can swoop from above to catch unsuspecting prey, such as mice, squirrels, and rabbits. The next time you hear “HOO HOO,” think of this unique bird.