



Birds, Owls and... Aliens!



Owls have lots of fascinating features; but which are special to them and which are features of all birds? Can you sort out which are which?

One has been done for you!

Lay eggs Talons/claws for catching mice Wings ~~Silent flight~~

Night vision Feathers Beak Excellent hearing



Bird features

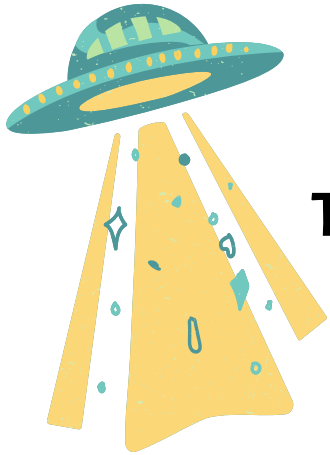
Owl features



Silent flight



Many birds can fly, but can you think of any birds that can't fly?



Speaking of flying objects... In 1952, some Americans came across a terrifying creature in the woods: an alien! The 'Flatwoods Monster' was tall and had "a head shaped like the ace of spades" with "small, claw-like hands". It hissed angrily and glided silently towards them.

Sceptics later suggested they had actually just seen an owl. It was dark and they were scared, so they mistook it for an alien. Do any of the features in their description match an owl?





Birds, Owls and... Aliens!



Answers

Lay eggs Talons/claws for catching mice Wings ~~Silent flight~~

Night vision Feathers Beak Excellent hearing



Bird features

Lay eggs

Wings

Feathers

Beak



Owl features

Silent flight

Talons/claws for
catching mice

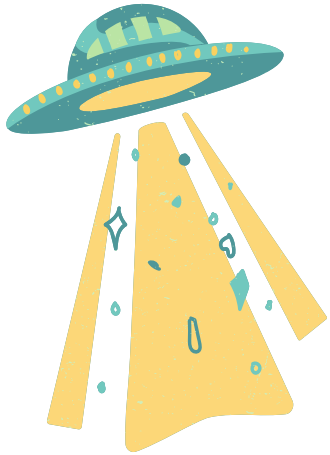
Night vision

Excellent hearing



Many birds can fly, but can you think of any birds that can't fly?

Ostriches, emus, rheas, penguins, kiwis etc.



Do any of the features of the Flatwoods

Monster match an owl?

The claw-like hands match an owl's talons and owls also fly or glide silently. Owl faces are quite pointed, like an ace of spades! It's almost definitely an owl!

There is no real evidence that aliens exist, but it's fun to imagine what they might look like if they did! Why not design your own alien? Think about all the different animals you know of and use our photos and videos to help you. Then have a go at classifying your extra-terrestrial and send us a picture of it!

