

Barn Owl!

by **KATIA**



The scientific name for the barn owl is Tyto Alba, it is very hard for me to pronounce. The barn owl is classified as a mammal because it drinks its mother's milk. The owls usually lay 5 to ten eggs over 2 days time. That is a lot of eggs to hatch. The owls build nests out of regurgitated pellets. That means a throw up, of small parts of animals that the owl could not digest. Baby owls are called owlets they all usually hatch at the same time. The mother must be very tired. The babies can leave the nest at 7-10 days old. They stay around the nest and the adult feeds them for about a month. The average size barn owl is 15 to 20 inches. The female is a little larger than the male. You can tell the difference between them because of their size and the male has less plumage. That means feathers. The barn owl is found in Australia, and other varieties are found everywhere in the world except Antarctica. It is safest in the woods. It sometimes lives in abandoned houses, boxes and

holes. Barn owls like to eat voles. A vole is another way to say rodent. They are hunted by owls that use their great hearing to find them. They also like lizards, frogs, small birds and bugs. They hunt at roadside ditches, grassy fields, and swampy areas. They look in places away from buildings. The barn owl doesn't sound like other owls; it makes a sound like chirrip. It is strange the way that they talk. When the barn owl is frightened he will crouch down and spread his wings. They are endangered because there are people that hunt them down, maybe for their feathers, or just for sport. Predators include the great horned owl. They also fly into things that kill them like electric lines, cars and trucks. Some other animal predators are skunks, opossums, and snakes can kill them too!

