



## Birds of Prey



An information booklet for my friends

Dusty decided to make another booklet. This time he was going to write about birds of prey. Click on the arrows to begin reading.

## Birds of prey

Birds of prey are hunting birds. They soar and glide across the sky searching for small animals to eat. They have curved talons which they use to stun and grab their prey and large, hooked beaks for tearing up the flesh.



## Golden Eagle

Golden eagles have very good eyesight. They can spot food far away. They swoop to the ground and grab rabbits, mice and other small animals in their strong claws. Their beaks are strong and curved so that they can tear flesh from their prey when they are feeding.



## Sea Eagle

Sea eagles need good eyes and strong claws to catch a swimming fish. Each foot has a pointed hook for holding on to slippery fish. Sea eagles take their catch to a cliff or rocky ledge to eat.



## Snowy Owl

Snowy owls have claws like daggers. They kill with their feet. They hunt for lemmings, mice, rabbits, moles, rats and other small animals. They sit and wait until their sharp eyes see their prey or their sharp ears hear movement. Snowy owls swallow their prey whole.



## Barn Owl

Barn owls are known as the farmer's friend because they catch rats and mice that live in barns and eat the farmer's grain. Like all owls, the barn owl has very good eyesight and hearing. Its eyes are at the front of its head. It can't swivel its eyes around like a human, but it can turn its head right round to see behind.



## Little Owl

The little owl is a small bird of prey. It's often busy during the daytime and can be seen perched on branches close to the tree trunk or on fence posts or walls. It flies low over the ground and feeds mostly on insects and earthworms but also on small birds and small animals such as shrews.



## Sparrowhawk

The sparrowhawk is a small bird of prey. It lives in woodland where it hunts smaller birds including pigeons and bats. Sometimes a sparrowhawk can be seen in gardens or parks. It swoops down on its prey with a surprise dive, or chases it amongst the trees.



## Kestrel

The kestrel is a small, chestnut brown bird of prey. It's often seen hovering by the sides of roads and motorways where it hunts voles, shrews and mice. It also feeds on beetles, worms and grasshoppers. When it finds food it swoops down and snatches it up in its talons.



## Common Buzzard

This is one of the most common birds of prey in Britain. It is very, very strong and can pick up prey that is quite heavy. It will happily take pheasants, rabbits, snakes, and lizards. It can also be seen walking along the farmer's ploughed field looking for insects and worms.



## Peregrine Falcon

The peregrine is a large, powerfully built bird with long pointed wings and a short tail. They feed mainly on medium sized birds, such as pigeons and gulls that they catch in flight. They can attack birds by diving from high up with their wings closed. Its prey is usually killed by the impact of the peregrine's talons.

