

# The Barn Owl Quiz

*A free printable quiz for schools and owl fans, with answers*

## QUICK FACTS

- 15 questions
- Suitable for ages 8 and up
- Answers included at the end
- Great for a classroom or a quiet afternoon

## Questions

1. What sound does a Barn Owl make? Is it a hoot, a screech, or a bark?
2. True or false: Barn Owls build a proper nest out of twigs.
3. What is the Barn Owl's favourite food?
4. How many eggs does a Barn Owl usually lay in one clutch?
5. About how many days does it take for a Barn Owl egg to hatch?
6. What is the hard lump on an owlet's bill called, which it uses to break out of its egg?
7. True or false: Barn Owls can see perfectly well in total darkness.
8. What is a Barn Owl's furry, bony cough up called?
9. How far can a Barn Owl turn its head: all the way round, or about three quarters of the way round?
10. True or false: Barn Owls migrate to Africa every winter.
11. What is special about the edges of a Barn Owl's wing feathers?
12. Roughly how many weeks does a young Barn Owl stay in the nest before fledging?
13. What colour conservation list is the Barn Owl on in the UK: Red, Amber or Green?
14. True or false: Barn Owls often eat bats.
15. What is the Barn Owl's scientific name?

## Answers

1. A screech. Barn Owls do not hoot, that is a Tawny Owl.
2. False. A Barn Owl lays its eggs straight onto whatever is already there, such as old pellets or straw.
3. The field vole.
4. Usually four to six eggs.
5. About 30 to 32 days.
6. An egg tooth.
7. False. They see well in dim light but rely on hearing in true darkness.
8. A pellet.
9. About three quarters of the way round, around 270 degrees.

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10. False. Barn Owls do not migrate. Most stay within a few kilometres of the same spot all year.
  11. The front edge is shaped like a comb and the back edge has a soft fringe, which helps them fly silently.
  12. About eight to ten weeks.
  13. Green.
  14. False, very rarely. Studies show only about three in ten thousand meals are bats.
  15. Tyto alba.
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