



Investigating Owl Pellets

Follow This Procedure

2–7. Record your **observations** in the chart.

	Observations
Outside of pellet	
Inside of pellet	
Teeth	
Skulls	

Interpret Your Results

1. Make an **inference**. What does the presence of fur and feathers tell you about the owl's niche in the ecosystem?

2. Make an **inference**. Based on your observations of skulls and bones, does the owl eat mostly one species of prey or several different species? Explain.

3. Think about the types of teeth you found. Make an inference. What type or types of food are eaten by the owl's prey?

Inquire Further

How can you identify the species that the owl eats? Develop a plan to answer this or other questions you may have.

Self-Assessment Checklist	
I followed instructions to examine an owl pellet.	_____
I recorded my observations of the owl pellet and its contents.	_____
I made an inference about the owl's niche in its ecosystem.	_____
I made an inference about the food the owl eats.	_____
I made an inference about the food eaten by the owl's prey.	_____



Notes for Home Your child learned about an owl's niche in its ecosystem by studying owl pellets.
Home Activity: Use an encyclopedia or other reference book to investigate the type of teeth a mouse has and speculate about what a mouse might eat.