

## Dangers for Barn Owls

Barn Owls like to nest in old barns but will also nest in a hollow tree. Unfortunately a lot of these barns are now broken down. This makes it harder for the Barn Owl to find a suitable nesting spot. A Barn Owl lays 4 to 5 eggs. This is an average, which means they sometimes lay more eggs and sometimes less. Within four months a baby Barn Owl is fully-grown and capable of hunting for its own food. It is now an adult, and will leave the nest to find a place of its own.

Barn Owls are great hunters; they are masters of the silent attack. But there is a price to pay for this silent flight! Because their feathers are velvety and furry, they cannot wax their feathers, as this would ruin their silent flight. And because they cannot wax their feathers they are not waterproof. This means that Barn Owls can't hunt during rainy days, and will starve if the rain continues for too long.

Barn Owls hunt mainly for short-tailed voles. Short-tailed voles need long grass to live in. This long grass grows well along the roads, and so the short-tailed vole lives there, with the result that the Barn Owls hunt there. This is why a lot of Barn Owls get killed in road accidents.

What are the three most threatening dangers to the Barn Owl?



1.	
2.	
3.	