

Food for Animals Activity

DO IT--Dissecting an Owl Pellet!

1. Lay out a couple of sheets of blank paper on a flat surface. Unwrap the owl pellet and place it on top of the paper.
2. On your worksheet, write down anything that you notice that might suggest where your pellet came from when collected—in the woods? From a barn? Can you identify other materials stuck to the outside of the pellet? If so, jot it down on the worksheet.
3. Using the probe and tweezers, carefully pull apart the pellet and set aside any bones that you find. Be careful not to break any bones in the pellet. NOTE: If the pellet is difficult to break apart, fill a plastic cup halfway with warm water and soak the pellet. Once softened, continue to locate bones and other items in the pellet.
4. Match up any bones with the prey bone charts.
5. When finished, clean up and wipe down your workspace.

-If you have time, you can think about what you discovered dissecting your owl pellet by finishing the worksheet. It is provided to families to help them think about what they learned from the contents of the owl pellet.

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