

OWLS

Owls can be found all ...over... the world. Most of them sleep during the day, 1. makes it difficult for people to spot them.

Owls are unique birds with many special adaptations. All owls have similar features in common. They 2. large, forward-facing eyes, a rounded head, a short tail, and a stiff, upright posture. Owls are able to fly quietly 3. their large wings. Owls have also 4. in ways that help them survive in different habitats. Owls can be found in 5. different places in the world, including deserts and the polar tundra.

There are about 250 species of owls in the world. Their sizes ranging from the tiny elf owl, which is about the 6. size as a sparrow, to the eagle owl, which can have a wingspan of six feet. 7. with so many owls, it is rare for people to see them. This is because most owls are active only at night, not in the daytime. Owls have undergone many adaptations that have 8. them excellent predators. The two 9. important adaptations are probably their great hearing and eyesight. Even though owls can see very well at night, 10. usually rely on their hearing to find their prey.

DAY AND NIGHT

The Sun doesn't really ...rise... at all. It's the Earth that 1. to give you a sunrise each morning. The Earth is like a spinning ball. Wherever you are, it starts to get light as your part of the Earth spins around to face the Sun. The sky grows 2. and it's morning. The weather may be gray and gloomy, but above the clouds, the Sun is 3. shining.

The Earth spins day and night. 4. the day, the Earth's movement makes the Sun seem to travel across the sky. The hours pass, and your part of the Earth turns 5. away from the Sun. The Sun "sinks" in the sky, and the darkness comes. It's night. It takes 24 hours 6. the Earth to spin around once. While one half has daylight, the 7. half has night.

During the winter months, the lands around the poles don't see the Sun at 8. The Sun is so low in the sky that it is 9. below the horizon. 10. makes it night all day long in this place. In the summer, everything changes at the poles. The Sun is in the sky morning, noon, and night.

AN ISLAND

An island is a piece of land that has water around it. Most islands in the world are natural, but some of them are **made** by people. 1. [] example of this is Kansai Airport in Japan.

Greenland is the world's 2. [] island. But 3. [] many people live there because most of the island is covered by ice.

Around 1 in 6 people on the planet live 4. [] an island. Many people dream about living the island life with good weather, boat trips and sunsets by the beach. 5. [] are many good things about living on an island, but there are also many bad things. Firstly, you will be far away from 6. [] family and friends. Besides, everything is 7. [] more expensive. 8. [] you don't have a lot of money, it will be really hard to **buy** things. When you are living on an island, at the beginning you'll be really 9. [] to visit beautiful places. But 10. [] a few months, you will have seen almost everything and you will get bored. Of course, life on an island is very different from having a vacation there.

Bamboo is a plant, but it is a member of the grass family. It **grows** on every continent, except for Europe and Antarctica.

Bamboo holds 1. [] world records. It is the fastest growing plant and can grow 91 centimetres each day.

They can live for a long time as well. In the forest, a bamboo plant can live 2. [] more than 120 years. But bamboo is one of the slowest plants to flower. Most bamboo plants flower only 3. [] in 4. [] life. In the late 1960s, a species of bamboo in China burst into flower. The new generation is now close to 60 years old and has not grown any flowers.

They 5. [] flower until 2090!

Bamboo has various uses. In Asian culture, bamboo shoots have 6. [] a staple food of people's diets for thousands of years, 7. [] only for humans, but also for many animals such as pandas, elephants and chimpanzees.

Bamboo is also 8. [] as a building material. Bamboo is one of the strongest materials on earth as its strength is even 9. [] than steel. Today, bamboo is the main building material for over one billion people worldwide. There are bamboo houses in South America and Europe that are over 100 years old. If the bamboo is 10. [] chosen and carefully maintained then a bamboo house can last a lifetime.