**Owl Pellet Lab: Research Guide**

**Prey Species**

What was your prey species?

* Common name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Scientific Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Adaptations**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Owl*** | | ***Prey*** | |
| *Adaptation:* | *Use:* | *Adaptation:* | *Use:* |
| *Adaptation:* | *Use:* | *Adaptation:* | *Use:* |
| *Adaptation:* | *Use:* | *Adaptation:* | *Use:* |

**Habitat**

What can you conclude about the habitat of the owl from its food? How?

What can you conclude about the habitat of the prey from its bones? How?

**Population**

What can be said about the population of the owls and the prey? \*Think about population size.

**Niche**

What is a niche?

Identify and describe the niche of the owl:

Identify and describe the nice of the prey:

**Ecosystem**

What is an ecosystem? How is it different than a niche?

Identify and describe the ecosystem of the owl and prey species:

**Food webs**

1. Assemble the barn owl food web chart in the space below.
2. Describe how abiotic and biotic organisms are dependent upon each other.
3. Plants and animals make up food chains demonstrating the importance of interrelationships. Give one example to this interdependence:
4. Food chains are the transfer of energy from the source in plants through a series of animals, with repeated eating and being eaten. Explain the rule of 10!

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Producers** | **Consumers** | **Decomposers** |
| Role: | Role: | Role: |
| Example: |  |  |

**Keystone Species**

What would you argue is the keystone species in this ecosystem and why?

