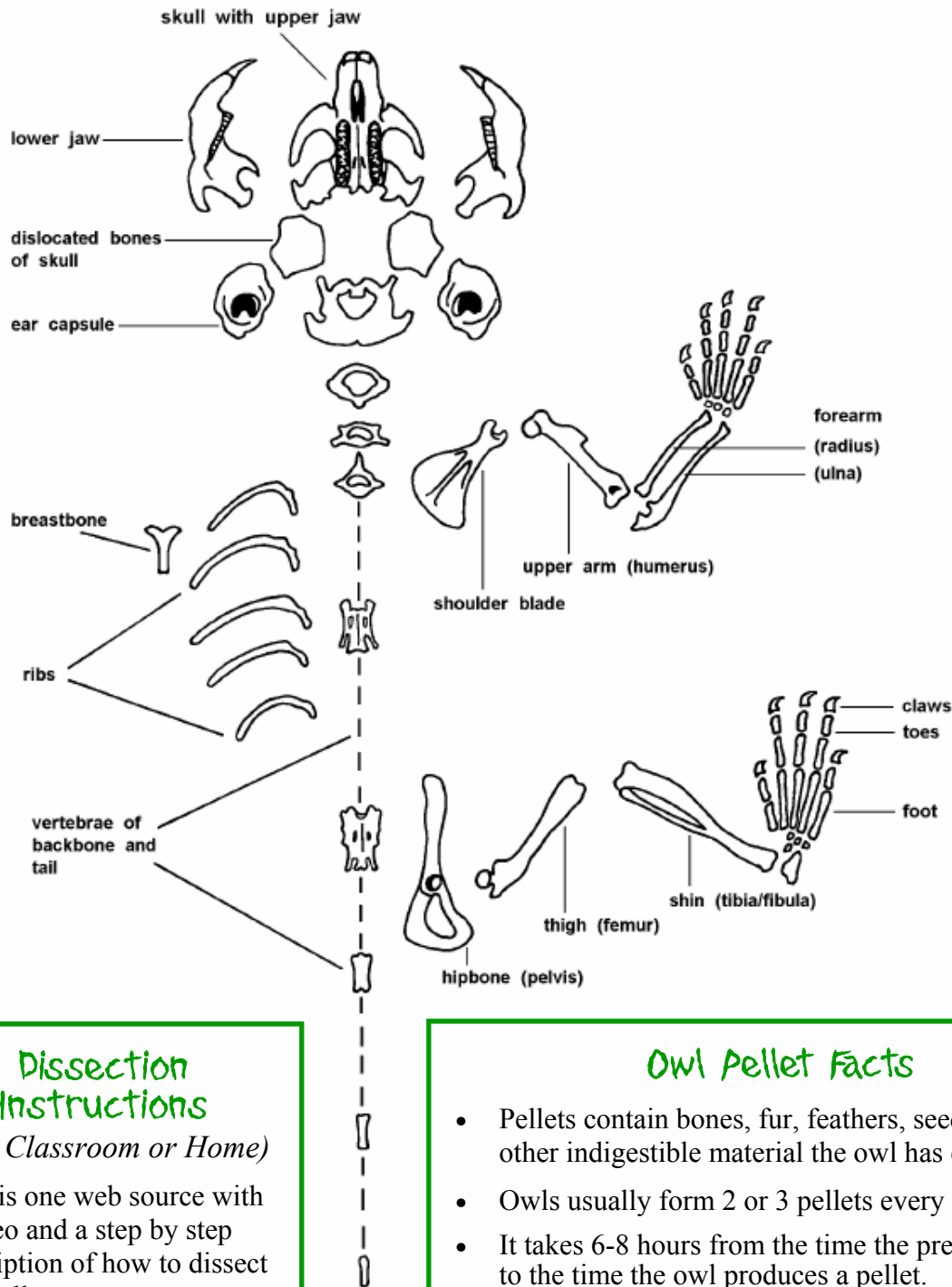


All About Owl Pellets

Directions: Below is a diagram showing the main bones in a small rodent skeleton (a vole) that you may be able to find inside an owl pellet. If your class dissects owl pellets, use the pictures to help you identify the contents.



Dissection Instructions

(For Classroom or Home)

Here is one web source with a video and a step by step description of how to dissect owl pellets.

www.hometrainingtools.com/owl-pellet-dissection-project/a/1244/

Owl Pellet Facts

- Pellets contain bones, fur, feathers, seed pods, and other indigestible material the owl has eaten.
- Owls usually form 2 or 3 pellets every 24 hours.
- It takes 6-8 hours from the time the prey was eaten to the time the owl produces a pellet.
- Studying owl pellets gives us information on owl hunting schedules, what they eat, how much they eat, and the location of different types of small animal prey.