Night Hunters

Grades 3–5
Main idea and details

Name: _____ Date: _____

Read the passage. Then complete the organizer on the next page.

Owls are birds that hunt at night. While most birds are sleeping, owls are wide awake and searching for food. Their bodies have special parts that make them excellent night hunters.

First, owls have very large eyes. Their eyes are so big that they cannot move them from side to side. Instead, an owl can turn its head much farther than a person can. Its big eyes collect a lot of light, which helps it see in the dark.

Owls also have amazing hearing. Some owls have ears at slightly different heights on their heads. This helps them tell exactly where a sound is coming from, even a mouse moving under the snow.

In addition, owls have soft, fluffy feathers with fringed edges. These feathers let them fly without making a sound, so their prey does not hear them coming. Finally, owls have sharp, curved claws called talons that help them catch and hold mice and other small animals.

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Write the main idea at the top. Write three details that support it below.

Main Idea		
Detail 1	**Detail 2**	**Detail 3**

Which detail do you think is the most important? Why?

_____

_____

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Night Hunters — Answer Key

Grades 3–5
Main idea

Main idea: Owls have special body parts that make them excellent night hunters.
Details (any three): large eyes collect light to see in the dark · they can turn their heads far · ears at different heights help them find sounds · soft fringed feathers let them fly silently · sharp talons catch prey

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