

Directions This story is about animals that are awake at night. Read the story. Then answer Numbers 30 through 38.



WHILE YOU ARE SLEEPING, some animals are just getting up and going out to look for food.

At night in the city and in the country, cats are out looking for mice and rats to eat. Many mice and rats feed at night too.

At night, owls sit in trees watching and listening for mice and rabbits. Like most nighttime hunters, owls see very well in the dark. Owls also have very good hearing. They can hear a mouse as it looks for nuts, berries, seeds, and insects. They can hear rabbits moving through the grass. When an owl hears these sounds, it swoops down from the tree and grabs the animal that will be its meal.

A raccoon is a furry, four-legged animal. It has a long black and white striped tail. Its face is white with a black mask of fur around its eyes. During the day, raccoons sleep in hollow tree trunks.

At night, raccoons go hunting for food. They look for frogs and fish in streams. They'll also eat birds' eggs, fruits, nuts, and insects. Some raccoons look for food near people's homes. These raccoons knock over garbage cans. They use their long claws to take the lid off the can and eat the garbage inside. They also look for cat and dog food dishes outside. Raccoons like these easy ways to get a meal better than hunting.



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Red foxes are also night animals. They can live anywhere. They live in woods, on farmland, in the desert, and even in towns with lots of people. Foxes hunt for mice, rabbits, birds, and even frogs, but if they are really hungry, they will eat insects.

As you fall asleep tonight, think of all the animals, large and small, that are just getting up!

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