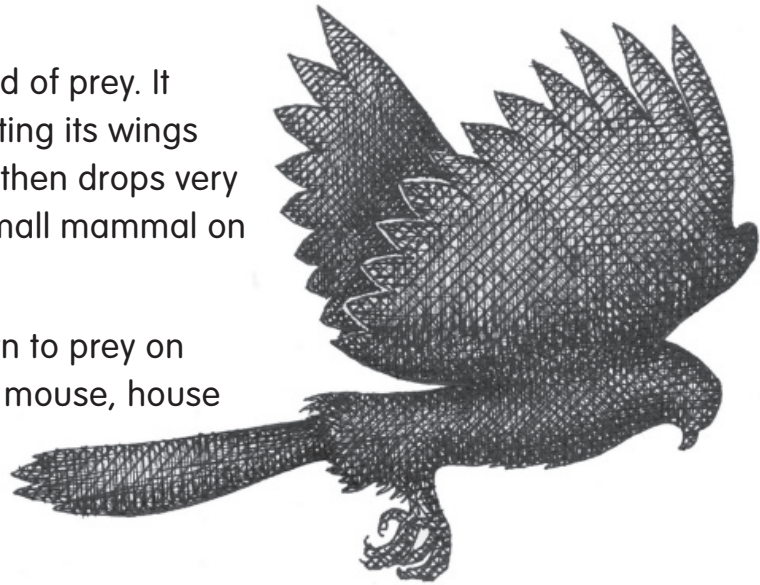


Look up

The Kestrel is our most common bird of prey. It hovers over fields and hedges, beating its wings very fast to stay in the one place. It then drops very suddenly on to its prey, usually a small mammal on the ground.

In Ireland, kestrels have been known to prey on the following small mammals: field mouse, house mouse, rat, pygmy shrew, white-toothed shrew and bank vole.



Look up each one of these and find out how common and widespread each one is.

Field Mouse _____

House Mouse _____

Rat _____

Pygmy Shrew _____

White-toothed Shrew _____

Bank Vole _____

Which of these are considered to be pests by humans? _____

Are kestrels of benefit to humans? _____

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**Name 5 other birds of prey in Ireland.**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**FIND OUT** what 3 other species of birds of prey that once were native here, have been re-introduced in the last 10 years.

\_\_\_\_\_

Why is this re-introduction such a good idea? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_