

Chapter 4: Figure 1 “A Mystery Relationship”



A Mystery Relationship

A biologist specializing in screech owls found a nest that contained both owl eggs and – of all things – snakes! While some snakes are known to eat bird eggs, these snakes were too small. They also had an unusual characteristic – they were naturally blind. As she watched the nest for a few days, the biologist noticed that the mother owl allowed the snakes to live in the nest unharmed. This seemed strange, since owls generally eat snakes or feed them to their young. The biologist had a hard time explaining this unexpected owl behavior.

Can you explain the relationship between the owl and the snakes?

Facts/Evidence:

Argument (create an argument about what you think is going on, based on the evidence you listed above):

What other information would help you solve this puzzle?