

English and Literacy
Home Learning Read and Respond Units
Reception - Week 8



Listen to and enjoy the reading of *Owl Babies* here:
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/owl-babies/>

Listen to the story again, this time pausing to talk about what happens on each page. Questions you might like to ask may include: *How many owl babies were there? What were their names? What did they think might have happened to their mother? How do you think they were feeling? What did Bill keep saying all the way through the story? What was your favourite part of the story?* Be ready to share your favourite part too!

Ask your child to draw the three owl babies. Can they label them with their names? If you can, try to write a sentence inside a speech bubble for one, two or all three of the owl babies. Encourage your child to use their phonics to help them with their spelling.

Retell the story orally together. Can you remember what happened? Watch and listen again.

With help, have a go at making some owl puppets, following the simple instructions here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JStDN3ngm4w>

Talk through each instruction as you complete this together. Re-tell the story again, this time using your newly-made puppets to act the story out. If you're not able to make the puppets, use your teddies to take on the roles of the owls! Encourage your child to use words from the book in their retelling, e.g. *hunting, brave, swooped*.

Linked Texts

Enjoy a short animation of *Owl Babies*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPQRiSTYFHo>

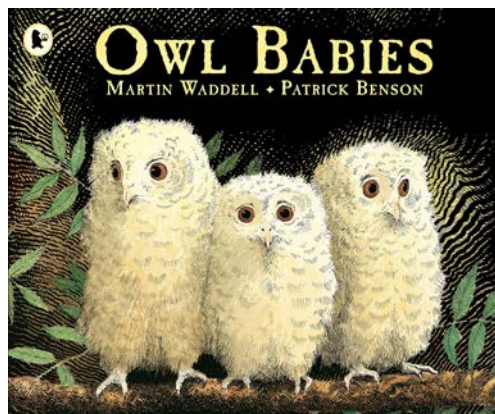
Have a read of some of these other stories, also all about owls!

Little Owl's Night: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lv7vYHqnXNc> Can you make a list of all the animals the owl meets during the night? Use your phonics to help you!

Little Owl's Snow: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RQb7dhUHFqE>

The Silent Owl: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4CyDQ81ius>

Hoot! Hoot!



When following links online, parents should monitor that children are remaining on that page only and are keeping safe online.

Discuss how the story *Owl Babies* is all about a family of owls. During lockdown, we have all been spending a lot of time with our own families or households. Can you draw a picture of everyone in your family or household? Use your phonics to help you label each person. If you can, write a sentence about each person, e.g. *This is my Mummy. My sister is called Beth and she plays games*

Ask your child what they already know about owls. Discuss and write down some questions they might like to find out. E.g. *What do owls eat? Where do owls live?*

Watch *All About Owls* (a basic introduction):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_1cATo9uw Pause the clip after each piece of information and repeat the sentence back to each other. If you can, have a go at writing one or two sentences down, using your phonics to help you.

Watch and discuss *All About Owls for Kids*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m0XgSrdYQRY> This clip is rich in vocabulary. Explore and discuss new words together, e.g. *nocturnal, hunters, species, talons, bill* etc.

Find out all about where different types of owl live by watching *Habitats – where do different owls live?*

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p011mfyv>

Discuss what you have learnt about owls. Tell people in your house a new fact(s) you have learnt! Have any of your questions been answered? If you can, write a/some sentences about what you have learnt. Say your sentence out loud before you write and use your phonics to help you with your spelling. You could draw a picture of an owl and label it, including some of the information you have learnt, e.g. *big eyes, a head that turns all the way round!*

Other Activities

- Enjoy learning some facts in *The Owl Song* by the Whizpops:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkFSJrNBsDE> Listen again and join in if you can!
- Find out all about the sounds owls make in this clip – *Why do owls say hoot?* (up to 5:11 mins): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKv5qJfYkGM>
- With the help of an adult, make your own barn owl mask:
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/kids--schools/mask-barn-owl.pdf>
- With the help of an adult, make your own short-eared owl mask:
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/kids--schools/mask-short-eared-owl.pdf>
- With the help of an adult, make a barn owl flyer:
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/kids--schools/flyer-barn-owl.pdf>