



Title: Owl Babies

Author: Martin Waddell

Age Range: 3-5

Topics/Themes: owls, family, moms, separation

Vocabulary: owl, trunk, twigs, hunting, branch, ivy

See example of this story read aloud: [Owl Babies](#), [Owl Babies 1](#), [Owl Babies 2](#),

ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

I. COMPONENTS OF BOOK (REVIEW EACH SESSION)

- Author, Illustrator (roles of each)
- Title; front and back covers; spine

II. INTRODUCTION (PREP QUESTIONS)

- What do you see on the cover?
- What animal is on the cover?
- What time of day is it?

III. STORY TIME

- **Discussion Questions**
 - Ask kids to identify animals on cover and guess what the book might be about.
 - Discuss title: What do you think the story is about?
 - What do we know about owls?: What sound do they make? Where do they live? (In Trees or burrows) When are they active? Owls come out at night, are *nocturnal*.
 - How many owls are on the cover?
 - What does Bill say during the story?
 - **Prediction:** Do you think the mother owl will come back? Where did mother owl go?
 - Have you ever been sad because someone has left you to go to work or school? Did they come back?
 - Ask kids where they think the mother owl has gone to?
 - Use different voices for each of three owl babies.
 - **Recall:** What are the names of the three baby owls?
- **Other**
 - **Ahead of Time:** Bring an egg for kids to see and touch. Talk about baby birds coming from eggs & being covered in feathers.
 - **Ahead of Time:** Bring in an adult bird feather and a down feather. Let kids touch feathers to feel the different textures. Discuss what age bird has each kind of feather (baby vs. adult).
 - Find pictures of characters (or at least same animal). Cut out and attached them to Popsicle sticks.
- **Related Songs, Rhymes & Finger plays**

Five Little Owls

This little owl was sitting on a limb.
 This one flew over to play with him.
 This owl was calling, "Who? Who? Who?"
 This one answered, "I wish I knew."
 "The sun's coming up!" this one said.
 And five little owls went to bed.

IV. SUPPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES

- Talk about other animals that come out at night.

Hand Print Owl Craft ([source](#))

Materials:

- paper (for handprints) - brown, grey or white construction paper works well
- pencil or marker for tracing hand prints
- scissors
- glue
- printer and paper
- something to color with
- Owl Body [Templates](#)

Instructions:

- Print out the template of choice.
- Color the template pieces or trace on construction paper
- Cut out the template pieces (young children may need help with this step)
- Trace the child's hands on another piece of paper and cut out (two handprints) -- black construction paper works well (or you can color a piece of white paper)
- Glue the owl together:
 - Glue the chest (small oval) to the body (large oval)
 - Glue the head (triangle) to the body (oval)
 - Glue the face onto the head
 - Glue the tail to the back of the body
 - Glue the feet onto the bottom of the body
 - Glue the handprint wings on the back of the body
 - Glue the flower on a wing or beside the neck
 - OPTIONAL: Print a [Handprint Poem](#) on the back:

I miss you when we're not together
I'm growing up so fast
See how big I've gotten
Since you saw me last?
As I grow, I'll change a lot,
The years will fly right by.
You'll wonder how I grew so quick
When and where and why?
So look upon *this handprint* (*these handprints*)
That's hanging on your wall.
And memories will come back of me,
When I was very small.

- Talk about the need to sometimes leave your children with a family member or sitter, assure them that you will return.

V. TEMPLATES

