

## **“It’s Really About the Parents: Books and Toddlers in SRP”**

### **EARLY LITERACY STORYTIME FOR TODDLERS**

#### **Owl Storytime – “Who Hoots!”**

1.) “Hello Song”

Hello and how are you?  
Hello and how are you?  
Hello and how are you?  
How are you today?

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: To help your child practice listening skills and learn new words, talk about what you are going to do – for the storytime; for your day’s activities. Ask questions and listen to answers.**

(With puppet on hand ) “Whooo is this?” “Do you know what he says?”  
“Today we are going to talk about owls. They have sharp beaks -that is their \_\_\_\_\_ (nose), and very sharp claws or talons. They sleep during the day and hunt for food at night.”

2.) Read: *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell (BIG BOOK)

3.) Fingerplay/Song: “The Owl” (use with owl puppet) and put picture of Owl on flannel board. (*Tune: Five Little Ducks*)

There’s a wide-eyed owl (*thumb and forefingers around eyes*)  
With a pointed nose, (*point to nose*)  
Two pointed ears, (*point to ears*)  
And claws for toes. (*fingers bent into claws*)

He sits high up in the tree,  
And he looks at me and he looks at you, (*point at a child in the group*)  
He flaps his wings, (*crook elbows and flap arms*)  
And he says “Who, Who.”

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: You can help your child learn math concepts through daily activities. Children love to count, measure, sort, and compare. Use their natural interest in math to help them learn new words and concepts.**

4.) F.B. - **5 Little Owls**

5 little owls on a dark, dark night.  
5 little owls are quite a sight.  
5 little owls! Are you keeping score?  
1 flies away and that leaves 4  
4 little owls as happy as can be  
1 flew away and that leaves 3  
3 little owls calling, “Who, who, who.”  
1 flies away and that leaves 2  
2 little owls having lots of fun  
1 flew away and that leaves 1

1 little owl and we're almost done,  
He flies away and that leaves none (zero).

5.) Hand out bells: Let's practice with our bells. Ring them soft, now ring them loud. Ring them up high (in a high voice), let's ring them down low, and now we'll ring them in the middle.

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: Most songs have a different note for each syllable. This helps children break down words so they hear individual sounds. You can reinforce that with clapping or using a rhythm instrument.**

March around in a circle with " **Be Like an Owl**"

*(sung to the tune of "London Bridges")*

Now ring your bells and sing the words:

Flap your wings and fly around, fly around, fly around.  
Flap your wings and fly around, just like an owl.  
Open your eyes big and wide, big and wide, big and wide.  
Open your eyes big and wide, just like an owl.  
Land on the ground and hop along, hop along, hop along.  
Land on the ground and hop along, just like an owl.  
Turn your head and say who, who, say who, who, say who, who.  
Turn your head and say who, who, just like an owl.

\*OK, time to put the bells away.

6.) Song: "Owl Song" *(sung to the tune of I'm a Little Teapot)*

Everyone remain standing:

I'm a great big owl, as you can see.  
I live high up in a tree.  
All the other birds wake me up when they play,  
Because I like to sleep in the day.

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: Predictable patterns encourage reading together as children will repeat the easily learned patterns with you as you read or say the same phrase. When you come to a predictable line, use your voice and hand motions to encourage your child to read or say it along with you.**

7.) *Good-Night Owl!* by Pat Hutchins

Use finger puppets and tree to tell this story.

We will all say, "and Owl tried to sleep."

8.) Action Rhyme: "Owl"

The owl's eyes open wide at night. *(make round owl eyes with hands and act out.)*  
He looks to the left, he looks to the right.  
He turns his head around and around,  
And then he makes the scariest sound. *(Whoo, Whoo)*

9.) Hand out shakers: Nursery Rhyme  
A Wise Old Owl

A wise old owl sat in an oak,  
The more he heard, the less he spoke;  
The less he spoke, the more he heard;  
Why aren't we all like that wise old bird?

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: Singing develops listening skills, and helps children remember things for a longer time.**

9.) Song with shakers

Owl in the tree goes, "Hoo, hoo hoo," (*If you have animal characters for the felt board, it is even better.*)

*Tune: Skip to my lou*

Owl in the tree goes, "Hoo, hoo hoo,"  
Owl in the tree goes, "Hoo, hoo hoo,"  
Owl in the tree goes, "Hoo, hoo hoo,"  
Skip to my lou, my darling.

Robin in the nest goes, "Tweet, tweet, tweet..."  
Duck in the pond goes, "Quack, quack, quack..."  
Rooster in the yard goes, "Cock a doodle doo..."  
Owl in the tree goes, "Hoo, Hoo, hoo..."

10.) We just sang about an owl, a robin, a duck and a rooster (point to the animals and let children name the birds.)

Now let's visit with two little bluebirds.

Two little bluebirds, sitting on a hill.  
One named Jack and one named Jill.  
Fly away Jack, fly away Jill.  
Come back Jack, come back Jill.

11.) Good-bye song:

Goodbye, we'll see you soon  
Goodbye, we'll see you soon  
Goodbye, we'll see you soon  
See you soon again.

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: Please stay and color an owl. As children scribble and draw, they practice eye-hand coordination and exercise the muscles in their fingers and hands. This helps develop the fine motor control they need to hold a pencil or crayon and to write letters and words.**

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: Please stay and let your children play with our finger puppets and the tree. Pretend play helps children think symbolically and develop oral language skills. As children pretend to be an animal, they talk about what they are doing. They practice putting thoughts into words.**

**EARLY LITERACY TIP: All the books we used today are available for checkout so that you and your child can read together. We will be happy to help you choose other books. Look for our “kwik” pick bags if you are in a hurry.**

