



# OWL BABIES

By Martin Waddell

This gentle tale of three baby owls reassures young readers that Mommy will always come home.

## READ

**Before:** Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, what do you think this story is about? Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

*I wonder what the baby owls are thinking? Do they look happy, scared or sad?*

**During:** Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words

twig- a small branch

afraid- feeling scared or worried

brave- being strong

flapped- moved up and down when flying or preparing to fly

swooped- moved quickly downward through the air

**After:** Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- How do the owl babies feel when they wake up and their Mommy is gone?
- Where did their Mommy go?
- How do the owl babies feel when their Mommy comes home?



## Paper Bag Owl Puppet

### Materials:

- paper bag
- construction paper
- scissors
- glue stick
- googly eyes

### Instructions:

1. Flip the bag over, so that the flap is at the top.
2. Make eyes by cutting out two brown construction paper circles (size of a quarter).
3. Glue onto center of bag flap.
4. In the center of each construction paper circle, glue a googly eye.
5. Cut out one large orange triangle for the owl's beak and glue beneath eyes.
6. Cut out two small brown triangles for the ears and glue to the back of the top of the flap.
7. Cut out two brown wings from construction paper and glue them to the back of the paper bag about halfway down.

Put your hand inside the paper bag and you can flap the beak up and down. HOOT HOOT!