

Science Story Adventures



Owls

Learning outcomes

» Adaptations in physical structure or behavior may improve an organism's chance for survival. (Grade 3 - Life Sciences)

» Students know animals eat plants or other animals for food and may also use plants or even other animals for shelter and nesting. (Grade 1 - Life Sciences)

» Students know that organisms reproduce offspring of their own kind and that the offspring resemble their parents and one another. (Grade 2 - Life Sciences)

From: California's Science Content Standards

Books we read

White Owl, Barn Owl by Nicola Davies

Owl Babies by Martin Waddell

Activities we did

» We examined a taxidermy barn owl and talked about what physical characteristics it has that make it a good hunter.

» We pretended to be owls trying to grasp a prey animal with our talons.

» We examined an owl pellet and talked about why owls make them.

Today's craft: Barn Owl Mask

You will need:

- » Barn owl mask template
- » Cardstock
- » Crayons or colored pencils
- » Scissors
- » Crepe paper streamers
- » Craft stick
- » Scotch tape



Directions:

1. Print out the owl mask template (included).
2. Cut out the mask, including the eye holes.
3. Color the beak and around the eyes.
4. Cut two pieces of crepe paper streamers that are each about 22 inches (55 cm) long. Scallop the edges of the crepe paper.
5. Glue one of the pieces of crepe paper around the sides and top of the owl head, gluing it on the back of the head and folding it over in places so that it lays on the curves. Trim any excess if necessary.
6. Glue the second piece of the crepe paper in the same way, but offsetting it slightly from the first one so that you see the scallops from each one.
7. Tape the craft stick on the back of the mask.

Want to find out more?

Here is a selection of further resources to explore in the Naturalist Center, in the public library or at home. Please ask if you can't find what you're looking for.

Books

Búhos Por Dentro y Por Fuera por Gillian Houghton. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 .S8 H6818*

An introduction to owls including their physical characteristics, where they live, what they eat and how they take care of their young. Photos and illustrations complement the text.

Lechuzas por Lynn M. Stone. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 .S8 S74818 1992*

Enter the world of owls through pictures and engaging text.

Owl by Mary Ling. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 .S85 L56 1992
Through photos and simple text see how an owl grows from when it first hatches until it is twelve weeks old.

Owl Moon by Jane Yolen. Nat. Ctr. Juv. PZ7 .Y78 Ow 1987
One cold winter night, a young girl and her father go owl-ing. You have to be quiet. You have to be brave. If you are lucky, you just might see an owl.

Owls: On Silent Wings by Ann C. Cooper. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696.S8 C66 1994
A compendium of games, crafts and other activities related to owls.

Spotted Owlets by Victoria Miles. Nat. Ctr. Juv. QL696 . S83 M55 1993
Spend an evening with some owlets as they explore their surroundings while waiting for their dad to bring them some food.

**Libro en español*

DVDs

The Cat in the Hat Knows A Lot About That! Wings and Things. Nat. Ctr. Media PN1992.77.A1 C38 2010

Join the Cat in the Hat and his friends Sally and Nick as they discover what animals like to stay up at night, including owls in the episode "I Love the Nightlife".

Websites

Dialogue for Kids (D4K): Owls

An online version of a TV show produced by Idaho Public Television. Learn cool facts about owls and watch interviews with biologists.

<http://idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/season9/owl/>

Hungry Owl Project

An organization in Marin County that works to reduce the need for rodenticides by encouraging natural predators, such as barn owls, through habitat conservation, erecting nest boxes and education.

<http://www.hungryowl.org/index.html>

National Geographic Creature Features: Snowy Owls
Fun facts about this Arctic-dwelling owl. Includes video and photos.

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/animals/creaturefeature/snowy-owl/>

Owl Prowl

Kindergarten through third grade classes from around the US studied owls and then wrote reports, stories and poems about owls, which are shared on this website.

<http://kids-learn.org/owlprowl/>

Barn Owl Mask Template

