Theme: FEELINGS

Throughout life as people experience different events they may experience many feelings/emotions. When children learn about their feelings they will grow a greater self-awareness. The book Owl Babies can help children understand how to deal with emotions, or scary situations.

Read Together:

Before reading: Show the front cover as you read the title and author’s name. Tell the children, “Today we’re going to read a story about three owl babies who wake up one night and find their mother missing.” Discuss with children how the owl babies might feel when they discover their mother missing.

As you read: Take time to look at and talk about the pictures. Help children to notice how the feelings of the owls change throughout the story.

After reading: • Ask students to retell the story. What happened first? Next? At the end? (You may provide puppets or pictures.)
• Make connections to the children’s lives – have they ever felt this way when mom or dad leaves them?
• Have children talk about how the story makes them feel.
• Discuss how the owls cope with their missing mother.

MUSIC/MOVEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Owl Song</th>
<th>Whoooo’s There?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Sing to the tune I’m A Little Teapot)</td>
<td>Owls have great hearing. They can hear a mouse squeaking from far away. Have one child act as the owl and stand with his or her back facing the others. Another child is given a squeaky toy. All children place their hands behind them. The “owl” needs to figure out who is holding the squeaking toy.</td>
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<tr>
<td>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 all day.</td>
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ART ACTIVITIES

Owl’s Nest

Build an Owl’s Nest on Construction Paper – Many owls and other birds live in nests in trees. They make their nests out of twigs, leaves and anything they can find that will be comfortable!

• Have children make an owl with paper and other materials.
• Go for a walk to collect twigs and leaves to make a nest for an owl.
• On a large piece of construction paper draw a tree outline with a trunk and some branches (the trunk should be large).
• Cut out a black oval of construction paper for the hole in the tree where the owl’s nest would be.
• Children glue their owl and collected twigs and leaves into the bird nest hole and/or branches.
**SCIENCE**

**Animal Homes**
Animals live in all kinds of different homes. We learned that some owls live in trees. Introduce children to other animals and their homes. Cut out pictures of different animals in their habitats. Play a matching game.

**Types of Birds**
Just like people come in all different shapes and sizes so do birds! Introduce children to different birds through books, the Internet, videos or even taking a nature hike! Talk about the similarities and differences.

**Nocturnal vs. Diurnal Animals**
Owls are nocturnal – that means they sleep during the day and are awake at night. Teach children that some animals sleep during the day, and other animals sleep at night. Give examples of each, and have children sort them into the two categories.

**COOKING**

**A Wormy Dessert**
Many birds (sometimes owls) eat worms. Let’s make our own wormy snack!

*Ingredients:*
1 – 4 ounce package chocolate instant pudding  
2 cups cold milk  
3 ¼ cups whipped topping  
1 – 16 ounce package chocolate sandwich cookies (crushed & separated)  
8 – 8 ounce paper cups  
Candy Worms

*Directions:*
- Mix 2 cups cold milk and pudding mix. Beat with whisk until blended. Let sit for 5 minutes.  
- Add whipped topping and half of the crushed cookies to the pudding, stirring gently until mixed well.  
- Place a small amount of remaining cookies in the bottom of each cup. (Save some for the top!)  
- Fill cups ¾ full with pudding mixture.  
- Top each cup with remaining crushed cookies. Refrigerate for about 1 hour or until pudding is set.  
- Garnish with gummy worms and enjoy!

**Owl Face Snack**
- Place one slice of round sandwich meat flat on a plate for the owl’s head.  
- Place a triangle of cheese (½ a slice) on the top half of the circle to form the ears and the beak.  
- Put two circle crackers for eyes on each side of the beak.  
- On top of the crackers, use pickles or olives for the center of the eyes. OR… make the face out of construction paper!

**LANGUAGE**

Encourage children to use feeling words when talking about the story: brave, worried, excited, scared, fearful, nervous, happy, sad.

**FINE MOTOR**

**Catching Dinner**

*Materials Per Child:* Several pipe cleaner segments about 3 inches long, one clothespin, one cup.

*Procedure:* Children catch a worm dinner of Pipe cleaner worms with their clothespin beak and place them in the empty cup. Children can race to beat their own best time!

**DRAMATIC PLAY**

**Puppets, Props**

Act out the Owl Babies story. Children can take turns being the mother owl or each of the baby owls (they all act a little different).

**SUGGESTED APPLICATION OF CONCEPT (TOY)**

**Barnyard Fun & Farm Cube Puzzles**
Continue your study of animals by heading to the farm! Your youngest children can have fun with the Chunky Barnyard Fun Puzzle, and for older children, try the Farm Cube Puzzle.

Talk with the children as they complete the puzzles.
- Name all the colors in each puzzle piece.  
- Name the different animals and the sounds they make.
Matching Colors

Color the insides of an egg carton with a marker. Dye eggs to match. Have children match the dyed eggs to the colors on the inside of the egg carton.

1...2...3!

Practice counting to three by counting the baby owls on each page. Then children can look for other sets of threes in books and around the room to count.

Books
- *I Am an Owl*, by Yvonne Hooker
- *Whoo-oo is it?*, by Megan McDonald
- *Wake Up, Oliver*, by Sue Hendra
- *All About Owls*, by Jim Arnosky
- *Owls*, by Gail Gibbons

Websites
- www.kidsparks.com/owls