

Spring 1 2025



WHO'S AFRAID OF THE DARK?



EYFS

6 week study

What's it all about?

In this topic your child will:

- learn about nocturnal woodland creatures, in particular owls.
- learn about light and dark and how we can use technology to discover new things.
- act out parts from the story 'Owl Babies'.
- also be exploring the story of the 'Enormous Turnip'.



The topic will start with the children discovering a dark area in the classroom which they will need to help complete. How could we make it darker? What light sources could we use? Why are there three baby owls all by themselves?

Outcome: 'Owl Babies'

At the end of the topic your child will be able to act out parts of the story, describe characters, recognise words and phrases from the stories, solve number and measure problems and learn how to be creative in art, music and dance.

Curriculum Focus:

Personal, Social and Emotional development:

Children will be able to:

- express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.
- think about the perspectives of others.
- understand how others might be feeling.
- find solutions to conflict and rivalries.

Literacy:

- We will blend sounds together to read simple words and sentences. We will share books in groups and talk about characters and settings in stories. We will discuss non-fiction books and their layout.
- We will write letters in response to sounds we hear; forming letters correctly. We will also write speech bubbles, labels, captions and information posters.

Mathematics: Children will learn to:

- subitise.
- play games and sing number songs to develop understanding of adding and subtracting.
- record their thinking, beginning to write the numbers using the correct formation.
- solve practical problems involving addition and subtraction.
- order objects by size and length.
- recognise 2D and 3D shapes.

Ways to support your child at home:

- ❖ Help your child to recognise and write the numbers to 15 and their values - carry out a number hunt, which numbers can you find? Can you make the number 12 out of blocks? How much bigger is a block of 14?
- ❖ Play board games using dice, helping children to count on as they move their counters etc.
- ❖ Share your child's school reading book and write a comment in their reading diary.
- ❖ Find out about different forest animals. Are there any other nocturnal animals? Can you find some facts about owls and bring them into share with everybody else? Could you find an owl/ forest book in the library and bring it in to talk about in class?

Vocabulary

owl, owlet, wings, talons,
nocturnal, habitat, nest,
woodland, dark, light, carnivore.

In addition to the topic based learning outlined above, your child will also be learning about the following:

Expressive Arts and Design: Pupils will learn how to:

- create an owl collage, using a variety of materials to create collage for different types of owl.
- make and decorate clay owls.
- mix colours and investigate cotton bud painting.
- create music to accompany our stories - what noise does an owl make?

Understanding the World: Pupils will investigate:

- How do we create darkness and light?
- What can we find out about woodland creatures and nocturnal animals?
- What animals will we find in our wild area? Would there be more at night? Why?

Physical Development: Pupils will learn how to:

- write recognisable letters.
- travel with confidence and skill; over, under and through balancing and climbing equipment.
- use different tools correctly and safely.

