

Owl Sees Owl

Classroom Activities

About the Book

With just three or four words per page, this story follows a baby owl one night as he leaves the safety of his nest (Home/Mama/Brother/Sister) and explores the starry world around him (Soar/Glide/Swoop/Swoosh). Inspired by reverso poetry, the words reverse in the middle when the baby owl is startled upon seeing his reflection in the pond (Owl/Sees/Owl). Afraid of it, little owl takes off toward home, soaring over farms and forests (Swoosh/Swoop/Glide/Soar) until he is finally safely home again (Sister/Brother/Mama/Home).

Reverso Read-Aloud

The structure of this book lends itself perfectly to an engaging read-aloud. Write each word of the poem on a separate piece of plain construction paper, and randomly pass them out to students. Ask them what comes to mind when they think about the word, and have them illustrate the card. Read the poem aloud once, and as you do, have students arrange themselves in a circle as each word is read. When the words reverse in the middle (Owl/Sees/Owl), have students take over and read their words to recite the poem. For a fun challenge, read, scramble the students, and have them try to rearrange themselves without the help of the book!

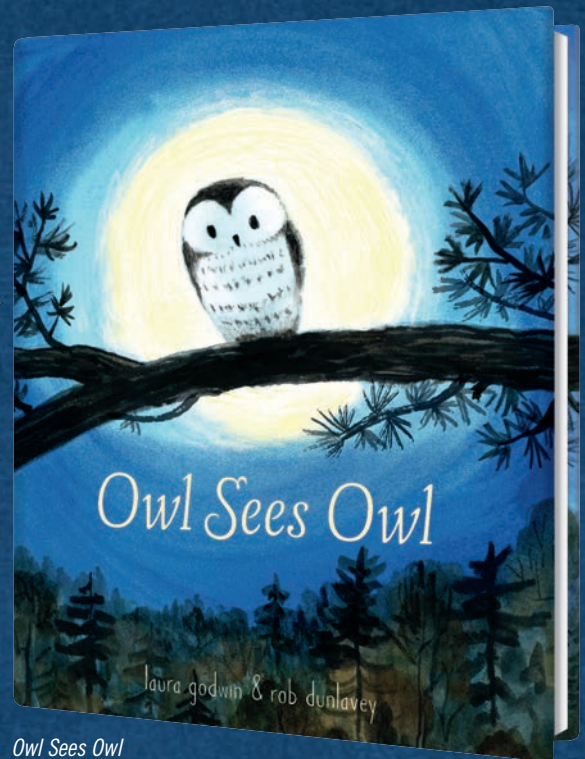
Note: Thirty words are used in the poem, so you may have to double up or assign students multiple words depending on your class size.

Craft Activity

Create your own owl for a classroom read-aloud.

What you'll need: glue, scissors, a toilet paper roll, black marker, googly eyes, and white and black paper

- [1] Color the toilet paper roll black.
- [2] Cut out an oval of white paper, and use a marker to draw feathers on it. Glue the oval near the bottom of the toilet paper roll for the stomach.
- [3] Paste on the googly eyes.
- [4] Cut out a small black triangle for the beak, two medium black triangles for the feet, and paste them on.
- [5] Stand up your owl, and use it for a storytime prop!



Owl Sees Owl
Laura Godwin
Illustrated by Rob Dunlavey
Grades: Preschool–2

- ★ “A perfectly paced, holistically rendered home-away-home story.”
—*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred
- ★ “Simple yet stirring, this is perfect for preschooler bedtimes.” —*Booklist*, Starred
- ★ “Meditative and soothing. . . Will appeal to any audience.”
—*School Library Journal*, Starred
- ★ “Luminous and peaceful.”
—*The Horn Book*, Starred



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