

Owls (National Geographic Kids)

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Owls, Animal Adaptations, Habitats, Survival

Book Brief: What makes owls such amazing nighttime hunters? Get an up-close look at these fascinating birds and discover how their bodies, behaviors, and special abilities help them live and survive in the wild.

Author:
Laura Marsh

Photographs by:
National
Geographic Kids



BEFORE READING

The Cover & Pictures: Look at the cover and take a quick picture walk. Ask, “What do you notice about the owls? What can the photographs help us learn about them?”

Prior Knowledge: Ask, “What do you already know about owls?” Record student ideas using RIF’s [KWL](#) Chart.

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using RIF’s [Tier Two Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: “As we read, pay attention to the characteristics and behaviors of owls. Think about how these features help them survive.”

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What physical characteristics make owls unique?
- What behaviors help owls find and catch food?
- Where do different kinds of owls live?
- How do an owl’s characteristics help it survive?
- Why do you think owls are such successful nighttime hunters?



Think Aloud: “I’m noticing that the author describes special characteristics that help owls survive. I’m going to think about how each characteristic, like an owl’s eyes, feathers, or other body parts, helps it live and hunt.”

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: “What characteristics and behaviors did we learn about? How do they help owls survive in their habitats?”

Extending Our Thinking: Ask students to choose one owl characteristic or behavior they learned about. Have them explain how it helps the owl survive, using a detail from the book.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.