

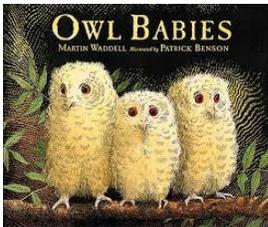
## Nocturnal Animals Read-Aloud Outline

Kids often get to stay up late during the summer. Explore the world of nocturnal animals at your Read-Aloud to get a feel for how the other (nighttime) half lives!



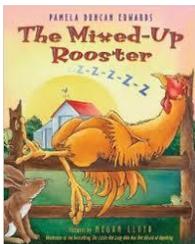
***Red-Eyed Tree Frog*** by Joy Cowley  
Ages 3 to 8

Eye-popping photographs will grab kids' attention in this simple picture book about a tree frog's search for food. Simple text will move you through the story quickly; two pages of detailed information at the end of the book will provide answers to kids' questions.



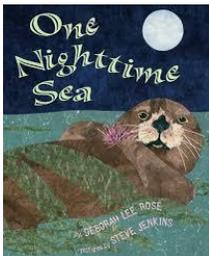
***Owl Babies*** by Martin Waddell  
Ages 4 to 6

Three owl babies awake to find their mother has gone hunting. They stick together as they worry about what might have happened to her and if she'll return. The illustrations tell as much of the story as the spare, repetitive text.



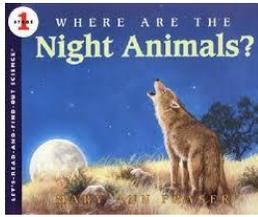
***The Mixed-Up Rooster*** by Pamela Duncan Edwards  
Ages 4 to 8

What happens when a rooster isn't a morning person? He gets fired! This silly picture book with its simple text and bright illustrations will delight the youngsters at your Read-Aloud.



***One Nighttime Sea*** by Deborah Lee Rose  
Ages 4 and up

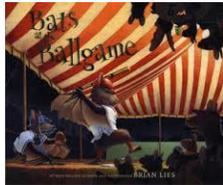
Steve Jenkins' gorgeous cut-paper illustrations take this simple, rhyming counting book about nocturnal sea animals to a new level. Little kids will like the rhyme and counting up from one to nine and back down again, while older kids will love the illustrations and additional information about the animals provided at the back of the book.



***Where are the Night Animals?*** by Mary Ann Fraser

Ages 5 to 7

Lush double-page illustrations make this introduction to nocturnal animals an effective book for a Read-Aloud. Take time to let the kids examine the pictures for animals and details hiding in the dark. Part of the *Let's Read and Find Out* series.



***Bats at the Ballgame*** by Brian Lies

Ages 6 to 10

Bats playing baseball? You bet! Great illustrations, rhyming text and word play will have the kids laughing and pointing at the pictures as you read this book aloud. Additional bat books by Brian Lies are *Bats at the Beach* and *Bats at the Library*.



***Night Creatures*** by Susanne Santoro Whyne

Ages 8 and up

Chockfull of beautiful illustrations and information about nocturnal animals in their respective ecosystems, this picture book is best suited to reading in a small group with older kids. Kids may be most familiar with the animals in the first ecosystem explored: the neighborhood.

### **Books about nocturnal people**

*Night Shift Daddy* by Eileen Spinelli

Ages 3 to 5

*In the Night Kitchen* by Maurice Sendak

Ages 3 to 6

*Night Noises* by Mem Fox

Ages 5 to 7

*The Elves and the Shoemaker* by Paul Galdone

Ages 6 to 8

*The Twelve Dancing Princesses* by Rachel Isadora

Ages 6 to 9

*Brothers of the Knight* by Debbie Allen

Ages 6 to 9

## More books about nocturnal animals

*Mouse Mess* by Linnea Riley  
Ages 3 to 5

*The Very Lonely Firefly* and *The Very Quiet Cricket* by Eric Carle  
Ages 3 to 5

*Ten on the Sled* by Kim Norman  
Ages 3 to 6

*Whooo's There?* by Mary Serfozo  
Ages 4 to 6

*Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon  
Ages 5 to 8

*Fireflies* by Sally M. Walker  
Ages 6 to 10

*Henry's Night* by D. B. Johnson and Linda Michelin  
Ages 6 to 10

*The Bat Scientists* by Mary Kay Carson  
Ages 8 and up

## Activities

1. **Make nocturnal animals.** Bring materials for the kids to make bats, owls, fireflies or their favorite nocturnal animals. This Pinterest page has lots of ideas:  
<http://www.pinterest.com/acollom/nocturnal-animals/>
2. **Play nocturnal animal trivia.** Use this to make a game for the kids or make up your own questions based on the books you plan to read.  
<http://www.funtrivia.com/html5/index.cfm?gid=342852>
3. **Disect owl pellets.** Get a first-hand look at what these predators eat.  
<http://obdk.com/store/products.asp>
4. ***Night Science for Kids: Exploring the World After Dark*** by Terry Krautwurst is full of information and activities about nocturnal animals. Some of them call for taking the kids outside in the dark, but you could just turn off the lights in the Read-Aloud room for the same effect. Some activities include the following:
  - Showing the kids how their eyes change to adapt to the lack of light or how their vision changes in the dark,
  - Practicing listening for night noises,
  - Walking like various nocturnal animals,
  - Using blindfolds to simulate walking in the dark or being a moth and

- Experimenting with “artificial fireflies,” using pitchers of hot and cold water and glow sticks.

### **Conversation Starters**

1. Show the kids this short video about nocturnal animals and then ask them about their favorites. Were they surprised that some of the animals are nocturnal? Have they ever seen a fox, bat, owl, firefly or badger? [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ql9KBrA\\_3iY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ql9KBrA_3iY)
2. Sometimes people are nocturnal. Brainstorm a list of jobs that might require folks to work at night (baker, doctor/nurse, custodian, police officer, fire fighter, bus or taxi driver, grocery store clerk/stocker). Would the kids like to have any of those jobs?