Books of the Month

**Owl Babies by Martin Waddell** - Three little owl babies are waiting for their mommy to return from a night of hunting. Although little Bill "wants his mommy!" and is concerned she won’t come back, of course she does. Great for ages 2-5.

**Little Hoot by Amy Krouse Rosenthal** - A funny, light-hearted story about a little owl who learns all the ins and outs of being owl-like, including staying up late and playing more even when he wants to go to bed! Ages 4-6.

Other fun books featuring **Owls:**

**I'm not Sleepy! by Jonathan Allen**— As described in a book review, this is a "charming tale of a cranky little owl determined to stay awake." Ages 3-5.

**Owls by Gail Gibbons**— Gibbons informative book is helpful for children wanting to find out more facts and information about owls. Ages 6-8.

**Wow! Said the Owl by Tim Hopgood**— This story is a great introduction to the many different colors and shades we encounter in our day and, of course, at night too! Ages 4-6.

**Good-Night, Owl! by Pat Hutchins**— Poor owl is trying to sleep but all the other animals are making too much noise. When everyone finally quiets down for the night, though, look out because owl is just waking up! Ages 3-8.

**Owl at Home by Arnold Lobel**— This classic is a comforting, cozy story that is perfect practice for children learning to read. Ages 5-8.

**Exploring the World of Owls by Tracy C. Read**— Complete with beautiful pictures, this book answers many questions and presents fascinating facts about owls. Ages 7-11.

**Little Owl's Night by Divya Srinivasan**— For many animals, night time is when they are most awake as shown in this simple story. A great starting point for talking with children about nocturnal animals. Ages 2-5.

Rhyme of the Month

**Wise Old Owl**

A wise old owl sat in an oak,
The more he heard, the less he spoke;
The less he spoke, the more he heard;
Why aren’t we all like that wise old bird?

Poem of the Month

**Wide-Eyed Owl**

There’s a wide-eyed owl
With a pointed nose
Two pointed ears
And claws for toes
He lives way up in the tree
And when he looks at you
He flaps his wings
And says, “Whoo! Whoo!”

Free STARS trainings are listed at [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)

You may register for STARS classes by clicking on the date of the class on the Calendar of the Pierce County Library website: [www.piercecountylibrary.org](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org)
Learning Ideas for October

Art and the Outdoors
Go outside and collect fall items like leaves, pine cones, maple seeds, and acorns. Ask each child to find a small stick. Bring the materials back inside. Put out paper, glue, markers, and scissors along with all the nature items the children have collected. Invite them to make owl collages.

For inspiration, post photos of owls around your room or put out books with photos of owls. You can find many information owl books at the library in the Easy Non-fiction section. Each child can then place their owl they’ve created on the stick perch they found outdoors.

Baby Hand or Foot Print
Owls
Paint each child’s hands (or feet) with washable paint of any color. Stamp their hands/feet onto paper. Let children “walk” on the paper or explore creating hand prints/foot prints before you create the final product. Might be messy but also fun! Draw a simple branch for the owl feet to perch on. Glue on googly or paper eyes, a beak, and feet to create adorable owls. This would be a fun autumn gift to give to parents after it has been on display in your room. A fun activity for infants or toddlers.

Listen to Owl Calls
As part of a large group circle time activity, discuss basic facts about owls and listen together to their calls. Play the calls from the recommended web sites below for children. Discuss how the sounds are different and how they are the same. Can children repeat the different owl calls they hear?

Below are two useful web sites with information about owls and actual owl calls.

http://stokesbirdsathome.com/birding/behav/behavpages/ - Describes the differences between the three main owls living in North America—the Great Horned Owl, the Barred Owl, and the Screech Owl.
http://www.owlpages.com/sounds.php—This page has one of the largest selections of owl calls from owls around the world, organized alphabetically by the type of owl.

You can find a myriad of early learning information at our website:
http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/
(in the parents/caregivers section of the Kids/Teens menu)