

# Noisy animals

Familiar stories provide opportunities for children to understand the natural world. This activity brings alive the story 'Goodnight Owl!' by Pat Hutchins. Children will enjoy a story in the natural environment and become familiar with the concept of nocturnal animals. They will begin to name birds and animals. Their creativity will be stimulated by using sound makers to represent the sounds of animals and birds.

## Resources

- Book 'Goodnight Owl!' by Pat Hutchins (available on request)
- Other bird stories including 'Wow said the Owl' by Tim Hopgood
- Basket of sound makers and soft toys (basket of resources available on request)
- Bird identification books
- Tarpaulin, blankets and cushions (available on request)

## Activity

Take some time as the children walk through the nature reserve to listen to and observe birds.

Include a visit to a bird hide.

Find a suitable spot to sit for a story.

Introduce children to the idea of nocturnal animals.

Read the story 'Goodnight Owl!' using the soft toys and the sound makers.

## Follow up

- Create a bird hide from a large cardboard carton, provide binoculars, note pads etc. Put up a bird box in the outdoor area. Make bird feeders with pinecones, lard and bird feed and hang in the outdoor area.

Visit [CVCg.org.uk](http://CVCg.org.uk) for more activity sheets and information about our nature reserve

