

Name: _____

Date: _____

Reading Comprehension Worksheets

THE OWL

Activity 1: KWL Chart. Complete the exercise below. You may have some research to do as well.

KWL-worksheet [Download](#)

Activity 2: Word list. Read and write the word list in your notebooks.

while, bones, scarcely, mouser, mice, rolled, surprised, swallows, winking, comical, ducklings, capture, oak, dusk, fight, squeak, ruffled, bag, Fred, whoo, awake, creeping

Activity 3: Worksheet -Word Wall [Download](#)



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Activity 4: Independent Reading. Now read the following passage aloud.

THE OWL

“Where did you get that owl, **Harry**?”

“**Fred** and I **found** him in the old, hollow oak.”

“How did you know he was **there**?”

“I’ll tell **you**. Fred and I were **playing** ‘hide and seek’ **round** the old barn, one night just at **dusk**. I was just **creeping** round the **corner**, when I heard a loud **squeak**, and a big bird **flew** up with something in his claws. I called Fred, and we **watched** him as he flew to the woods. Fred thought the **bird** was an **owl**, and that he had a **nest** in the old oak. The next day we went to look for him, **and**, sure **enough**, he was there.”

“But how did you **catch** him? I should think he could fight like a good fellow with that sharp **bill**.”

“He can when he is wide **awake**; but owls can’t see very well in the **daytime**, and he was **taking** a nap. He opened his great eyes, and **ruffled** up his feathers, and said, ‘Whoo! Whoo!’ ‘**Never** mind who,’ Fred said, and **slipped** him into a bag.”

“What are you **going** to do with him, **Harry**?”

“Let him **go**. He doesn’t like this **cage** half so well as his old **oak** tree. A young owl can be tamed easily, but this one is **too** old to tame.”

“But won’t he catch all your **ducklings** and little **chickens**?”

“No, not while there are any **rats** or mice around. **Father** says an owl is a good **mouser**, and can catch more mice than half a **dozen** cats.”

“I’m glad I had a **look** at him before you let him go. What **soft** feathers he has!”

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“Yes, he can fly so softly that you can **scarcely** hear him, and for this **reason** he can easily surprise and **capture** his prey.”

“How **comical** he looks, winking his big eyes slowly, and **turning** his head from side to side!”

“**Yes**; he is watching your dog. **Be still**. Bounce! We have just found out a funny thing about his way of eating. He breaks the bones of a **mouse**, and then swallows it **whole**. After an hour or two, he throws up the **bones** and fur rolled up in a little **ball**.”

DISCUSSION AND COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Would you prefer an owl or a dog as a pet? Why? Discuss.
2. Draw a picture of an owl and write words from the passage that describes owls.

3. What makes an owl a dangerous predator?

4. What were the boys doing when they first saw the owl?

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5. Why would a farmer want an owl around his farm?

6. Why was it easy for the boys to catch the owl?

7. Who found the owl?

What was the boy going to do with the owl? Why?
