



# BEST BEGINNINGS

Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

BOOK TITLE: **Owl Moon**  
AUTHOR: Jane Yolen



**SUMMARY OF BOOK:** In the stillness of a winter's night, a young girl goes 'owling' for the first time with her Pa. Her brothers had been before, and now it is her turn to take the long quiet walk through the snow and look for the Great Horned Owl.

**\*BEFORE READING** (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Talk about what an owl is. Let the child tell you what s/he knows about owls.</li> <li>2. Practice the sound of an owl. Ask what it means to go owling. Listen to your child's ideas.</li> <li>3. Talk about echoes: "What is an echo? How is an echo made?" Echo back and</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>forth with your child using the "who" sound.</li> <li>4. Make predictions about what will happen in the story based on the pictures on the cover. Ask questions like: "Looking at the picture on the cover, what do you think the story is going to be about?"</li> </ol> |
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### DURING READING:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pick out unusual words to teach the child (examples in book: crunched, disappointed, stained, clearing, threading).</li> <li>2. Talk about the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Have your child retell the story. Ask about setting and characters.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Point out and talk about the shadows on the snow in the pictures.</li> <li>4. Try questions like this: What do you think will happen next? Will they find the owl? Where will an owl most likely be?</li> </ol> |
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### AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tip-toe around the yard, making owl noises. Stop and listen, then tell about what you hear.</li> <li>2. Take a walk in the dark (in or around the house) with a flashlight. Look for</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>anything in nature. Talk about what you see in the light.</li> <li>3. Play hide and seek in the dark. Have the child call like an owl for you (or other family members) to find them.</li> </ol> |
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Compliments of:



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