

# Jill Tomlinson - The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark

Plop, the Baby Barn Owl, is like every Barn Owl there ever was, except for one thing - he is afraid of the dark. "Dark is nasty" he says and so he won't go hunting with his parents.

Genre: bravery, adventure, birds

Themes: family, siblings, emotions, adventure, nature

Age: 4+ years old

Activities:

1. Plop is described as fat, fluffy, soft and perfect. Can pupils pick other animals and use different adjectives to describe them? (CC: English)
2. Using the similar idea of an owl being afraid of the dark. Can pupils choose another animal and think of a story that describes them being afraid of something that they normally love? What happens in their story? Can they draw pictures to show how the animal feels and behaves? (CC: English, Art)
3. Can pupils create a scientific poster/profile about owls? What do they eat? Where do they live? What is their body like? Do they have any special adaptations? (CC: Science)
4. Being afraid of something is scary, and it's even harder to try think of ways to overcome a fear. Can pupils think of something they are afraid of, and then discuss ways with the class/friends that they could overcome their fears? (CC: PSHE)
5. Owls are nocturnal, and we are not. Can pupils create a timeline of our days with times, and compare it to a timeline/times of the day for plop the owl? (CC: Maths)

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- **Janette Sebring Lowrey** - The Poky Little Puppy
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