

Have you liked us on Facebook? Have you followed us on Instagram?

Our social media sites are a great place to see new ideas, hear encouraging stories, read articles about helping your child become a strong reader, watch videos about parenting and interact with us! Below are just a few sneak peaks of some of our posts. Look like fun? Check them out!



We want to hear from YOU!

Do you have a cute photo or story about your child and Ferst Readers books? Our donors, who make all this possible for your child, LOVE to see photos and hear stories about how Ferst Readers has impacted your child's life. You can message us on Facebook or email your photos and stories to info@ferstreaders.org.



Pictured: Volunteers at the check-in table

We couldn't do it without you!

On March 3rd, Ferst Readers of Muscogee County had our very own Literacy Luncheon. There were books, fun decorations, guest speakers, entertainment, food - What more could you ask for? To call this event successful would be an understatement! Keep reading for more details.

United States[®] Census 2020

Have you completed the 2020 Census?
It's not too late!

It's safe and secure and only takes a few moments to complete. Census results will help determine community funding, congressional representation, and more - think new roads, school funding, and emergency services! You can respond online, by phone, or by mail. Visit 2020census.gov to learn more.

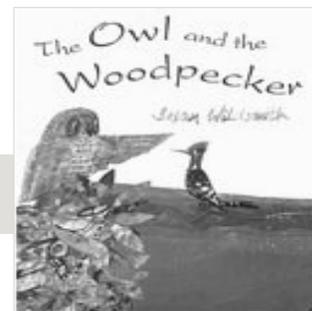
**Call to complete
the 2020 Census by phone**

English: 844-330-2020

Spanish: 844-468-2020

The Owl and the Woodpecker

Author/Illustrator: Brian Wildsmith
Our Rainbow Press



R Repeat the Book: Repeating gives more chances to learn the vocabulary.

First Read (events): Look at the cover, read the title, and say, “*I wonder what the owl and the woodpecker are doing? Let’s read and find out.*”

This is a story about two animals who can’t get along because one sleeps at night and the other one sleeps during the day. As you read the story, talk with your child about how the two animals could solve their problem. Ask the first read question in the Ask Questions section.

Second Read (emotions): Look at the cover and say, “*Remember the story about the owl and the woodpecker? I wonder why they were both being so stubborn? Let’s read and find out.*” As you read, discuss how owl and woodpecker feel about each other - mad, frustrated, angry. Talk about their new feelings at the end of the story and why they become friends. Ask the second read question.

Third Read (retell): Look at the cover and say, “*Remember the story about the owl and the woodpecker? It’s your turn to tell the story to me.*” Give the book to your child and let him/her tell the story. Repeat what your child tells you. Ask the third read question.

Vocabulary

Use these words when you talk with your child this month.

swooped - fly down quickly as in an attack

snapped - make a sudden cracking noise

grumpy - in a bad mood

gnawed - to chew

fierce - very mean

sway - move back and forth

E Engage and Enjoy: Using these activities keeps your child’s interest in the story.

Use your voice to emphasize the different emotions in the story, from the loud arguing between owl and woodpecker to the urgent meeting with the animals. Make the story seem as if it is really happening as you read to your child.

A Ask Questions: After talking about the book, ask questions to promote deeper thinking.

After the first read, ask, “*Why do the owl and the woodpecker not get along?*”

After the second read, ask, “*Why are the other animals upset?*”

After the third read, ask, “*How do owl and woodpecker become friends?*”

D Do More: Use other activities to help your child connect vocabulary to their world outside of the story.

On the next page, there are some additional activities which you can do with your child.

Things to Do

Playing with Sounds

Playing with sounds prepares your child with skills to be ready to read, so make it fun!

Word Segmentation: Count the words in simple sentences. Have your child think of a short sentence to describe a recent event. (“I went to the beach yesterday.”) Clap the words and count them. Make the sentence longer and count again. (“I went to the beach yesterday and it was really windy.”)

Rhyme Recognition and Production: Play rhyming “I Spy.” You say “I spy with my little eye something that rhymes with ... [top].” Your child looks around and sees a “mop.” It’s great to do this to pass the time in a new place, like a restaurant, a waiting room, etc.

Syllable Blending and Segmentation: Count syllables in words. As you’re unloading groceries, clap the syllables in the items. “How many times did we clap?” You could vary this by choosing a category of things (animals, cars) your child is interested in.

Syllable Deletion: Using compound words, ask what’s left when you take away a word. “If you start out with a [starfish] and you take away the [star], what’s left?” Work on first and last parts of the words.

Tongue Twisters: Try saying these four times FAST - then try them very slowly.

She sells seashells by the seashore.

I scream, you scream, we all scream, for ice cream!

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck, if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Ferst Readers has adopted and adapted the READ guide format courtesy of:



See the
R.E.A.D.
video here

Rollins Center
for Language & Literacy

A Program of the Atlanta Speech School

Read Right

From the Start

Read with your child every day.

Ferst Readers of Muscogee County's First Literacy Luncheon!



Pictured: Table decorated by CSU drama department

The Ferst Readers of Muscogee County's first Literacy Luncheon was beyond a success! Surpassing hopes and expectations, this event gave Ferst Readers the boost it needed to continue serving our local community.

This event would not have been possible without the help of our wonderful sponsors, and of course, the dedication of its Community Action Team.

The monetary outcome of this luncheon enabled Ferst to support over 100 children per month! Sponsors and participants showcased their creativity by decorating a table based on their favorite children's book.

Special appearances by Rick McKnight and Ferst parent, Brandy Tolbert, provided the luncheon with heartwarming expressions of gratitude while the magnificent Rainey McCullars School of the Arts contributed entertaining performances.

Each element came together to emphasize Ferst's heart behind the books and support the belief that a child's path to a brighter future is paved with books!

Contact muscogeecounty@ferstreaders.org for questions or more information.

Community Partner



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