

Pre-Reading: Building the Scaffold (3–4 mins)



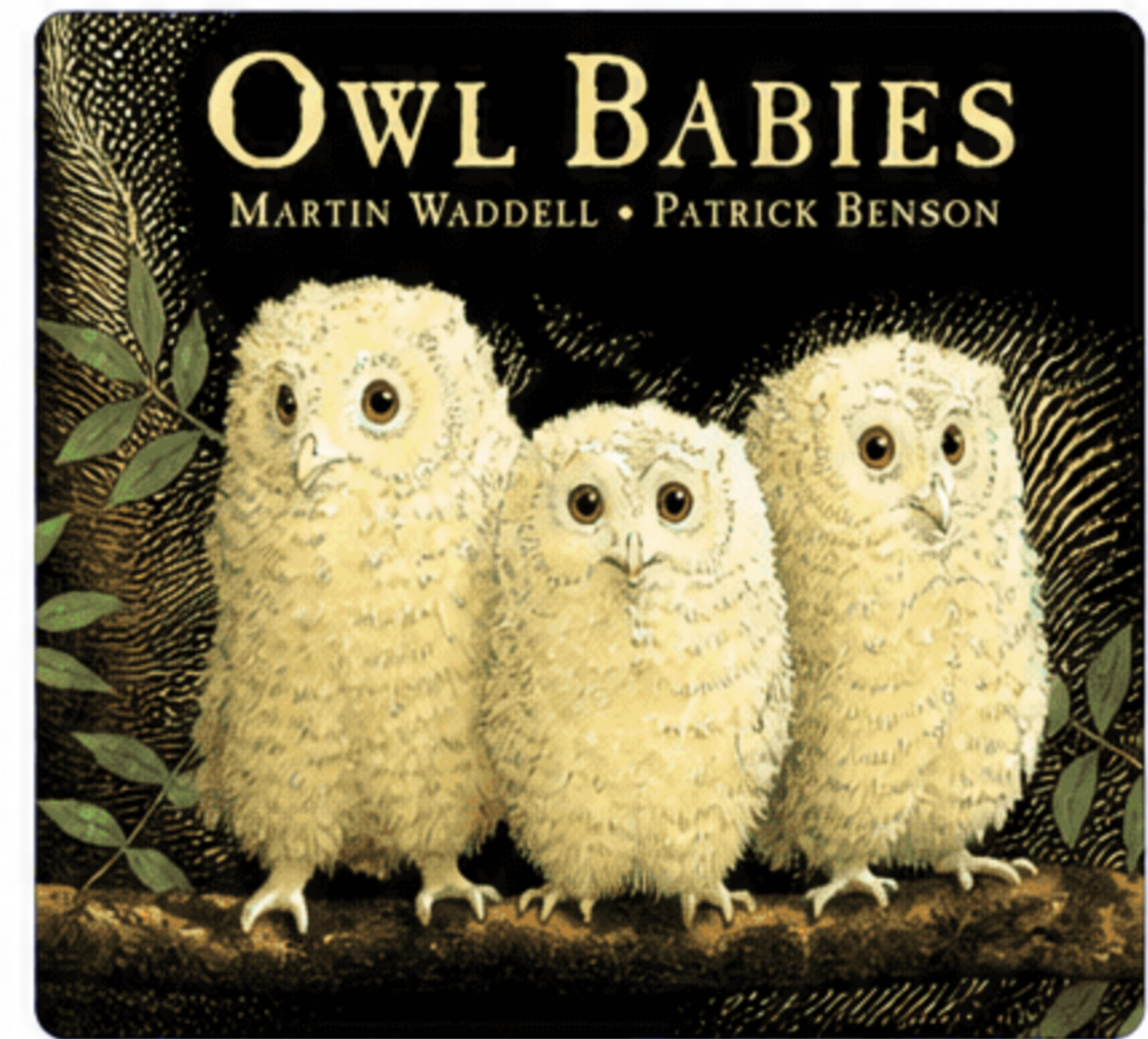
Introduce the Concept: Today we are reading a book called *Owl Babies*. It's about three baby owls whose mama goes away, and they feel worried. Have you ever felt worried when someone you love left?



Vocabulary Preview: Introduce the words **worried**, **night**, and **swoop**. "Worried means you feel uneasy about something. Night is the time when it gets dark. Swoop means to fly down quickly."



First-Look Prediction: Show the cover picture. "Look closely at the cover. What do you see? How do the owls look? What do you think might happen in this story?"



During Reading: Deepening the Concepts (8–10 mins)

Goal: Avoid just reading the text. Pause strategically—choose one or two opportunities per session to encourage analysis, reasoning, and language extension.

★ **Note:** Do not attempt all four opportunities in a single reading; select one or two per session.



Opportunity 1

When the owls realize their mama is gone.

- **Concept Development (Analysis):**
"The owls look around and realize Mama Owl is not there. Why do you think they start to worry?"
- **Language Modeling (Open-Ended):**
"How do you think the owls feel right now?"

- **Quality of Feedback (Scaffolding):**
Teacher: "Why do you think the owls are worried?"
Child: "Because Mama Owl left."
Teacher (Expanding): "Yes, they don't know when she will come back."

- **Concept Development (Real-world Connection):**
"Have you ever been worried when a parent or caregiver left? What helped you feel better?"



Opportunity 2

When the owls see the branch moving.

- **Concept Development (Reasoning):**
"The branch moves in the tree. What do you think might be happening?"
- **Language Modeling (Open-Ended):**
"What do you think it could be?"

- **Quality of Feedback (Scaffolding):**
Teacher: "What clues did the owls notice?"
Child: "They saw the leaves moving."
Teacher (Expanding): "Yes, and that helped them know someone was coming."

- **Concept Development (Real-world Connection):**
"How do you know when someone you love is coming home?"



Opportunity 3

When Mama Owl swoops in.

- **Concept Development (Analysis):**
"Mama Owl swoops down to her babies. How do the babies feel now?"
- **Language Modeling (Open-Ended):**
"What does Mama Owl say to them?"

- **Quality of Feedback (Scaffolding):**
Teacher: "Wow did the owls show they were happy?"
Child: "They hugged her."
Teacher (Expanding): "Yes, they were relieved and felt safe again."

- **Concept Development (Real-world Connection):**
"What makes you feel better when you're worried?"



Opportunity 4

At the end, as the owls fall asleep.

- **Concept Development (Evaluation):**
"The owls go to sleep feeling safe. Why is it important to feel safe before sleeping?"
- **Language Modeling (Open-Ended):**
"What helps you feel safe at night?"

- **Quality of Feedback (Scaffolding):**
Teacher: "What helps the owls feel safe?"
Child: "Mama Owl is with them."
Teacher (Expanding): "Yes, love and knowing someone is there helps them feel safe."

- **Concept Development (Real-world Connection):**
"What bedtime routines help you feel safe and ready to sleep?"

Post-Reading: Connecting & Creating (3–4 mins)

Brainstorming: "Let's think together: What are some ways we can show love to someone who feels worried?"

Prompting Thought Processes: "Why do you think the owls were worried? What helped them feel better?"

Wrap-up Language Modeling: Use the word **relieved**. "At the end, the owl babies were **relieved** — that means they felt so much better when their mama came back. Let's say that word together: **relieved**." When do you feel **relieved**?"

★ Classroom Tips for CLASS Success



5-Second Rule

After asking a question, wait at least five seconds before calling on a child or rephrasing. This gives children time to think and form a response, especially for open-ended questions.



Repeat and Extend

When a child gives a short answer, repeat it and add one more piece of information or a new word. For example:
Child says: "They were scared."
Teacher says: "Yes, they were scared — they missed their mama."