

Why do owls hoot?



It's a dark fall night. You're snuggled up in bed, and from the trees outside you hear: hoo, hoo-hoo! Who is that? It's an owl! But why do owls hoot?



Why?

1. Hoot number one: this is my home!

An owl's home is a patch of trees where it lives and finds its food. A hoot tells other owls that this place is taken. A hoot is like a fence made of sound. Instead of fighting, owls just hoot back and forth.

2. Hoot number two: talking to family.

A mom owl and a dad owl hoot to each other, back and forth, like a song for two. It helps them stay together in the dark.

3. Low hoots travel far.

Low hoots travel far through the quiet night air, between the trees. Another owl can hear a hoot from far, far away.

Color Hoo too!



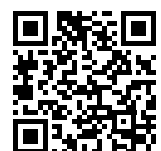
Try it! Listen for owls

You need: a quiet evening and a grown-up

1. Go outside on a quiet evening with a grown-up.
2. Stand very still, and listen. Do you hear an owl?
3. Can you hoot back, nice and low? Hoo, hoo-hoo!

What happened? Low hoots travel far through the quiet night air.

Video + more questions:
whywhywhykids.com/owls



scan with a grown-up