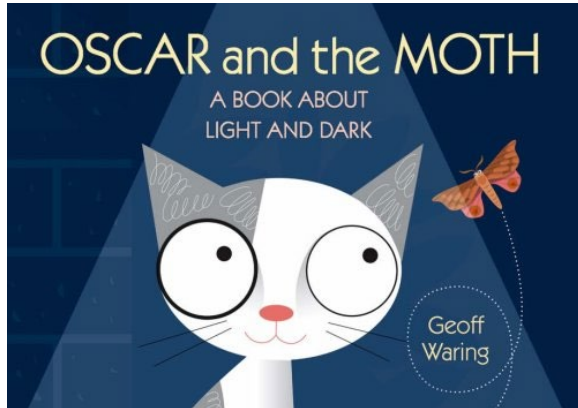




OSCAR AND THE MOTH

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

Every child is different, and these are only suggested adaptations and activities. Do what works best for encouraging your child's exploration during this literacy activity. Consult your pediatrician, physical therapist (PT), and/or occupational therapist (OT) first.



Did you know reading books is a great opportunity to support STEM learning?

Oscar and the Moth is a book written by Geoff Waring.

This book is about **light and dark**, and how our world is dark at night and light in the day because of rotation away from and towards the sun. A funny moth helps Oscar learn more about why and when we have light and darkness.

- If you do not have a paper copy of this book, watch a YouTube video of someone reading the book. If you prefer to read it to your child yourself, just mute the audio.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dliCeF1dlak>

- Check your local library to see if it allows you to borrow a digital version of this book to read on a laptop, tablet, or phone.



OSCAR AND THE MOTH

BOOKMARK

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- Print this page and cut around the edges.
- Do not forget to **PEER!** Use **additional Prompts** if needed, **Evaluate** and **Expand** your child's answers, and **Repeat** the prompts.
- Look at STEMIE's tips for making adaptations to the storybook reading process and on the following pages:
<https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/guide-book-adaptations>
- If you print this page, you can download or view online by scanning the QR code below.



Expanding | Science

Oscar and the Moth

By Geoff Waring

C

Complete a sentence

"When our side of the Earth turns toward the sun, it gets _____ (light)."

R

Recall

"Why is it colder at night?"
(The sun's warmth is gone.)

O

Open-ended questions

"How are shadows made?"

W

WH questions

"Why do some sea creatures make their own light?"

D

Distancing questions

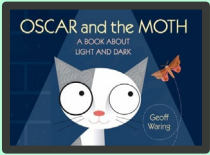
"Do you like day or night better? Why?"

STEM Words & Ideas to Explore

- Light/Dark
- Shadow
- Living Things
- Weather



stemie.fpg.unc.edu



OSCAR AND THE MOTH

ADAPTATIONS

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SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT/DEAF-BLINDNESS/MULTIPLE DISABILITIES:

STORYBOX

Select corresponding items and place them in a container/box. Items may include:

- Flashlight
- Toy cat
- Paper moth



Image credit: Adobe Stock

This adaptation can also...

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children with sensory challenges



Follow your child's lead and interests. Enthusiastically ask your child questions about what they are doing and what they like.



Answer your child's questions. If you do not know the answer, work together with your child to discover the answer.



Encourage your child to participate in the activity as much as possible. Praise your child's efforts and successes.



OSCAR AND THE MOTH ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

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SUPPORT ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF COMMUNICATION:

PICTURES, SYMBOLS, SIGNS, AND/OR ICONS

- Select pictures that correspond to items/objects/animals in the book
- Add signs and icons to the story
- Use pictures along with a communication board to support STEM learning

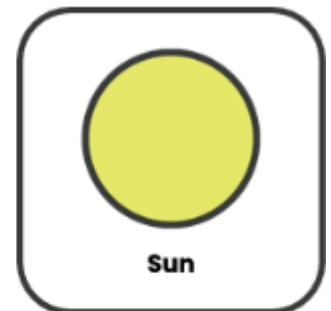


Image Credit: STEMIE

This adaptation can also...

- Increase children's attention and engagement
- Support children' learning
- Support children who are deaf/with hearing impairment



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OSCAR AND THE MOTH ADAPTATIONS

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

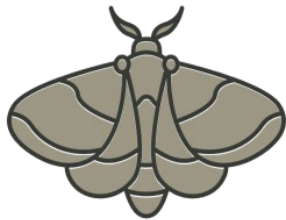
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VISUAL CUES:
USE TO PROMPT

HOW TO:

Step 1: Print and cut out the images. You can also create your own visual cues (empty squares included).

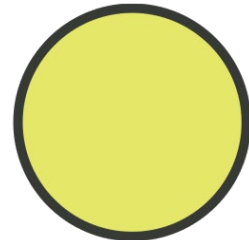
Step 2: As you read, use tape or Velcro to attach the pictures to the corresponding pages in the book.



Moth



Earth



Sun



Turn



Light



Dark



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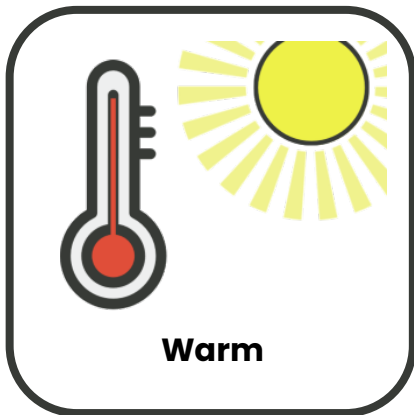
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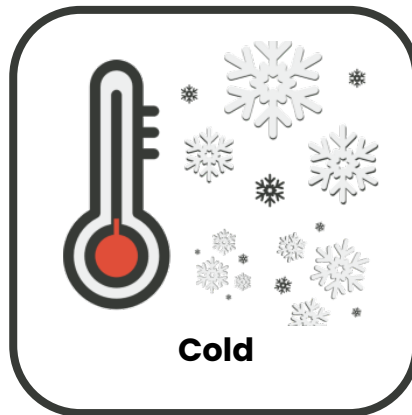
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Warm



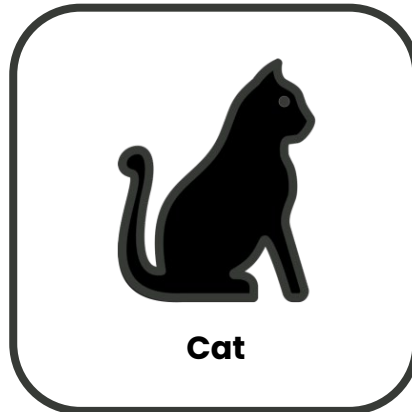
Cold



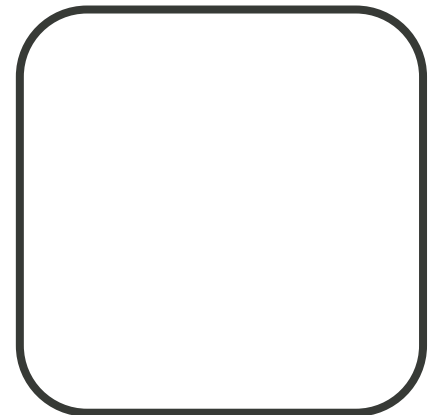
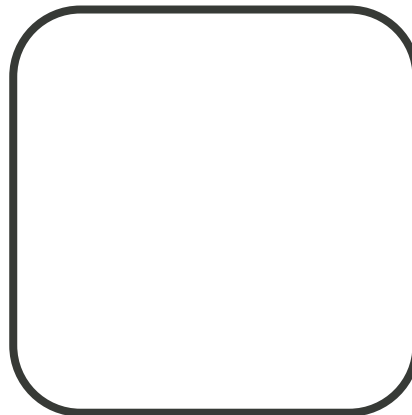
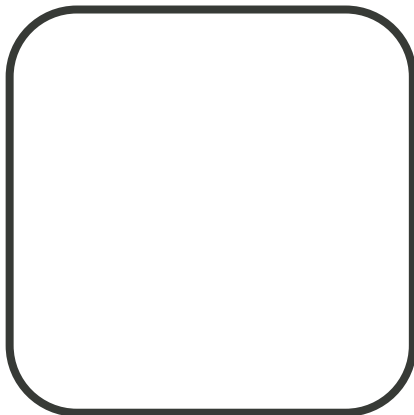
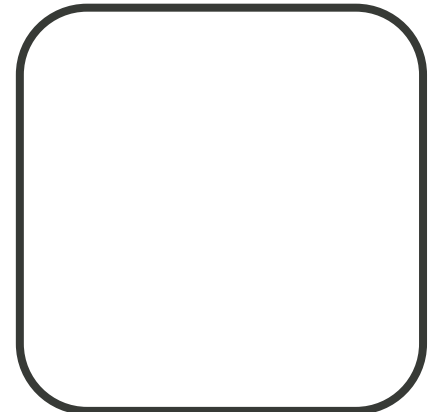
Stars



Shadow



Cat



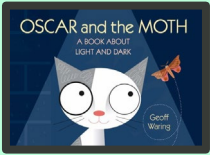
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OSCAR AND THE MOTH

EXPLORATION I

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

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Shadower

Description: Help your child to understand the difference between what is light and what is a shadow.

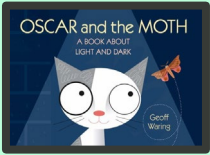
A flashlight and a white wall or sheet are all you need for this fun activity **about light and shadow!**

What My Child Is Learning!

Children are naturally curious about their environment. Introduce STEM words, ask questions, and encourage them to recognize the differences between **light and shadow**. Help your child make a connection between words and real-life experiences and develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

- Gather up a variety of toys with different shapes (e.g., balls, trucks, baby dolls, Magnatiles)
- Set the flashlight on a surface about 2-4 feet away from the sheet or wall.
- Let your child explore the different shadows each shape makes. Ask, "How are they the same? Or different?"
- Encourage your child to "guess" whether an object will make a shadow or not and test it out. You can talk about what happened.





OSCAR AND THE MOTH

EXPLORATION II

STORYBOOK CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR YOUNG CHILD

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Light Seeker

Description: Help your child to understand the differences between **daytime** and **nighttime**.

What My Child Is Learning!

Children are naturally curious about their environment. Introduce STEM words, ask questions, and encourage them to recognize the difference between **light** and **dark**. Help your child make a connection between words and real-life experiences and develop fundamental critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Going on a morning walk will facilitate your child's creativity and provide them with an easy way to learn more about **daytime**. Discuss why and how the **sun is a source of light**. Examples of questions you might incorporate include:

- "How do you feel when the sun comes out?"
- "Why do we need sun?"
- "Why do you think we can't see stars in the daytime?"

At bedtime, discuss how **nighttime is different from daytime**. Examples of questions you might incorporate include:

- "How do you feel when the sun goes down/sets?"
- "Why are the stars so bright?"



OSCAR AND THE MOTH



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY IDEAS

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- Check out some of the amazing deep sea-fish that make their own light by visiting: <https://ocean.si.edu/ocean-life/fish/bioluminescence> You can ask, "How many fish do you know by name?" "Do you know the names of any fish?" "Why do you think those fish need light?"
- Find a butterfly picture and a moth picture in a book or online. Compare the differences in their physical appearances and times when they are most active.
- Play a game with light and shadow during different times of the day on a sunny day. Have your child "record" what their shadow looks like in the morning, around noon, and in the evening. Explore how and why the shadows might look different.
- Help you child notice things that make light when it is dark (light bulbs, candles, etc.)
- Help your child make a book about their favorite daytime and nighttime activities.
- Check out our Discovery Play Activity for What Makes a Shadow?

