

Imagine Ollie's Forest

Lesson Objective

Students will practice using their imagination to visualize a forest setting and the characters in the Ollie stories. They will engage in a guided visualization to strengthen their mental imagery skills, supporting deeper story comprehension and creativity.

Materials Needed:



- Calm Background forest sounds (optional)
- Teacher script for guided visualization (included below)
- Puppets/stuffed animals (Owl, Bear, Hare, Beaver)
- Paper and pencils, crayons and markers

Introduction to the Topic (10 Minutes)

Greeting Outline:

- Welcome the children and have them sit in a circle (if applicable)
- Briefly discuss the concept of visualization.

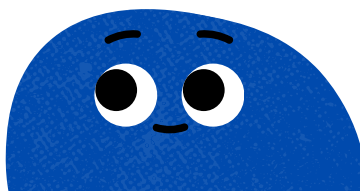
Greeting and Circle Time Teacher Script

1. Warm Welcome and Opening Discussion:

- “Hi friends! Today, we’re going to use our imagination—like a movie in our minds—to visit Ollie the Owl’s forest. Our brains are powerful, and they can help us see even when our eyes are closed. Let’s learn how!”
- (Optional: Let each child hold or see a picture of Ollie.)
- Wait for the children to settle.

2. Guided Visualization

- “Let’s all sit quietly and close our eyes. Take a big breath in... and let it out. Now, picture this in your mind...”
- “You’re standing at the edge of a big, green forest. The trees are tall and swaying in the wind.”
- “You hear birds singing... and maybe even the hoot of an owl.”
- “You take a few steps into the forest. The sunlight shines through the leaves. What colors do you see?”



Greeting and Circle Time Teacher Script

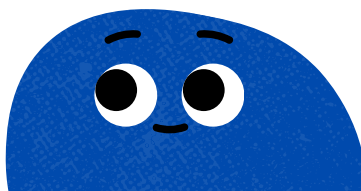
- “Now you hear a flutter—who could it be? It’s Ollie the Owl! He swoops down from the tree to say hello.”
- “Ollie wants to show you his favorite places. He flies beside you as you walk through the forest.”
- “You see a sparkling stream, a mossy log, and a tree with a squirrel peeking out. What animals might live here?”
- “Now Ollie takes you to his special thinking spot—a high tree branch with a view of the whole forest.”
- “Take one last look around... say goodbye to Ollie... and gently open your eyes.”

3. Post-Visualization Questions

Ask the children:

- What did you see in your imagination?
- What colors did you picture in the forest?
- Did you see Ollie? What was he doing?
- What animals or friends might Ollie see every day?

(Use prompts if children are unsure: “Did anyone see a bear? A fox? A stream?”)



Do an Activity (20 Minutes)

Activity 1: Creative Drawing Time (20 Minutes)



Introduce the Activity

- “Now that you’ve seen Ollie’s forest in your mind, let’s draw it! You can draw Ollie, the trees, animals, or anything you imagine!”

Activity Instructions

- Hand out drawing paper, pencils, crayons to each child and encourage them to draw a picture of what they imagined Ollie and his forest to look like.

Wrap Up the Lesson (5 Minutes)



Review and Reflection Overview:

- Review what they learned about using their imaginations
- Ask a few children to share their pictures.

Review and Reflection Teacher Script

- Wrapping it Up
- “Your imaginations are amazing! When we use our imagination, we can make stories even more fun. Ollie is proud of you for using your mind to see his world!”

Extension Ideas

Use forest soundscapes again during story time to reinforce imagery.

Add a "visualization station" to your classroom with forest-themed sensory items. This could include felt trees, leaves, marbles to represent water, and more!

Home Connection Letter

1. Sending Information Home:
2. “Great job using your imagination! Remember, when we read another Ollie the Owl story, we can close our eyes and picture Ollie and his friends and all their adventures. When we use our imagination, we are building our brain power.”
3. Hand out the letters as the children prepare to leave.

Emozi® Parent Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Today in our Mini Emozi lesson, we explored a special new skill: using our imagination!

Your child participated in a calming guided visualization, where they imagined visiting Ollie the Owl's forest. Together, we pictured tall trees, friendly animals, sparkling streams, and, of course, Ollie himself soaring through the sky.

Through this activity, children practiced:

- Creativity – by building vivid pictures in their minds.
- Focus – by concentrating quietly on the story and sensory details.
- Listening Skills – by following along with guided prompts.

After the visualization, students drew what they imagined, bringing their mental pictures to life on paper.

Why This Skill Matters:

Using imagination helps children become stronger readers, better problem-solvers, and more creative thinkers. It also strengthens attention and memory, which are important for success in school and beyond.

Ideas to Extend at Home:

- Ask your child to describe the forest they imagined today.
- Take a walk outside and encourage your child to "see with their imagination" – what magical animals or places could be hiding in a park or backyard?
- Read a story together and pause to ask, "What do you see in your mind right now?"

We are proud of how our young learners are growing their creative minds!



With gratitude,

Focus/Ignoring Distractions Sorting Challenge

Triangles



Stars



Moons



Rainbows



