

Ollie the Owl Learns to Ask For Help

Lesson Objective:

Children will learn the importance of asking for help when they need it and understand that it's okay to seek assistance from friends and family.

Materials Needed:



- The story “*Ollie the Owl Learns to Ask for Help*”
- The song “Ollie’s Helping Hand”
- Ollie’s Wise Choices Poster
- Paper and pencils, crayons and markers, stapler/glue stick
- Activity 1- Puppet Role-Play
- Activity 2- We’re Better Together worksheet
- Home Connection Letter

Introduction to the Topic (10 minutes)

Greeting Outline:

- Welcome the children and have them sit in a circle (if applicable)
- Begin with a brief discussion on asking for help

Greeting and Circle Time Teacher Script

- **Warm Welcome and Opening Discussion:**
 - *"Good morning, everyone! Let's all sit in a circle. Today, we're going to talk about something very important—asking for help. "*
 - (Allow children to share their thoughts and gently encourage anyone who may feel hesitant to participate.)
- **Discussion Starter**
 - *"Have you ever needed help with something? Maybe you couldn't reach a toy, or you needed help putting on your shoes. How did it feel to ask for help? How did it feel when someone helped you?"*

Read the Story (15 minutes)

Story Time Outline:



- Read the story, *Ollie the Owl Learns to Ask For Help* aloud to the class
- Engage the children by asking questions during key parts of the story

Story Time Teacher Script:

Prepare the Students for the Story:

- a. *"Asking for help is something everyone needs to do sometimes, and it's a good thing! Today, we're going to hear a story about Ollie the Owl, who learns that it's okay to ask for help when he needs it."*
 - b. (Read the story aloud, pausing at key moments to ask questions and engage the children.)
- **Read the Chapter with Emphasis on Key Moments:**
 - **While reading**, pause during key moments.
 - **Ask Questions:**
 - What do you think Ollie is trying to do at the beginning of the story?
 - How do you think Ollie feels when the twigs keep falling?
 - Who sees Ollie struggling with his nest?
 - What advice does Grandma Owl give to Ollie?
 - Why do you think Ollie hesitated to ask for help at first?
 - Who is the first friend Ollie asks for help?
 - How does Benny the Bear respond when Ollie asks for help?
 - What kind of help does Harriet give Ollie?
 - Why do you think Ollie asks Betty the Beaver for help next?
 - What is Buzz the Bee's reaction when Ollie asks for help?

Ollie the Owl Learns to Ask For Help

In a forest green and bright,
Lived Ollie the Owl, with wings so light.
With feathers soft and eyes so wide,
He loved to play and often glide.

But sometimes Ollie felt quite stuck,
When things were hard or out of luck.
He'd try and try with all his might,
But couldn't always get it right.

One day, while building a nest so high,
Ollie struggled; he wanted to cry.
The twigs kept falling, the leaves did too.
He didn't know what he should do.

Grandma Owl saw his frown,
And gently fluttered, floating down.
"Ollie dear, don't be shy,
Asking for help is worth a try."

"Really, Grandma?" Ollie said,
Lifting up his drooping head.
"It's okay to ask, you see?
Friends and family are here for thee."

Ollie nodded, feeling light,
He flew to find his friend, Benny the Bear,
Who was picking berries with gentle care.
"Benny," Ollie said, "can you help me?
I'm building a nest in the tall oak tree."

Benny smiled and said, "Of course!
Helping friends is no hard force."
They worked together, side by side,
Building Ollie's nest with pride.

Next, Ollie found Harriet the Hare,
Hopping around without a care.
"Harriet," said Ollie, "I need you,
To help with the leaves and twigs so new."
Harriet smiled and hopped with glee,
"Of course, Ollie, leave it to me!"

They gathered leaves, both large and small,
Together, they had a great haul.

Then Ollie saw Betty the Beaver,
Working hard, always a believer.
"Betty," said Ollie, "can you assist?
I need your skills to make it persist."

Betty nodded, "I'm glad to aid,
Together we'll have a nest well-made."
They placed the twigs in a sturdy way,
Building a nest that wouldn't sway.

Finally, Ollie saw Buzz the Bee,
Buzzing happily around the tree.
"Buzz," said Ollie, "can you lend a hand?
I need some help to make this grand."

Buzz buzzed close and said, "Sure thing,
Helping friends makes my heart sing."
They finished the nest with a joyful cheer,
Ollie's heart felt light and clear.

Ollie learned a lesson true.
Asking for help was good to do.
With friends and family by his side,
He built a nest filled with pride.

"Thank you all," Ollie said with a grin,
"For helping me, for chipping in.
I've learned that asking is the way,
To get things done, day by day."

So remember, Ollie, wise and bright,
Who learned to ask with all his might.
When you need help, don't be shy,
Just ask a friend, give it a try.

Ollie the Owl, with a heart so light,
Asked for help, both day and night.
With friends and family, kind and true,
There's nothing that you cannot do.

- **Post-Chapter Teacher Script**
- **Teacher:** “Ollie learns that asking for help is a good thing, and that’s what friends and family do - they help each other.”

4. Post-Chapter Questions

Ask these questions to help students reflect on the chapter and connect it to their own experiences:

- What lesson did Ollie learn in the story?
- Why is it important to ask for help when we need it?
- How did Ollie’s friends feel when he asked them for help?
- Can you think of a time when you asked someone for help? What happened?
- What might have happened if Ollie had never asked anyone for help?
- Did Ollie’s friends say “no” when he asked for help? Why or why not?
- How did asking for help make Ollie feel at the end of the story?
- What are some reasons people don’t want to ask for help?
- What can we say when we want to ask a friend or adult for help?
- What are some things you might need help with, either at school or at home?

Sing the Song (10 minutes)



- Teach the children the “*Ollie’s Helping Hand*” song
- Sing the song together a few times, encouraging the children to join the actions.

"Let's learn a fun song about Ollie the Owl and how he asks for help. We'll sing it together, and I'll show you some hand actions to go with it!"

"Ollie's Helping Hand"

Hand Movements

[Verse]

Ollie the owl flies so high
In the night sky, so blue
But when he stumbles and falls down
He wonders what to do

Flap arms like wings

Crouch down
Hold hands up and shrug shoulders

[Verse 2]

Ollie feels all alone at night
Wings are tired, he needs rest
He sees his family all around
Knows that they are the best

Hug yourself

Cup hands around eyes
Hand over heart

[Chorus]

Ollie asks for help, it's true
Family friends they come through
With a hoot and a smile so bright
Everything will be alright

Shake hands with a neighbor

Thumbs up

[Verse 3]

Ollie the owl learns to ask
For a helping wing or two
No more worries in the dark
Love will see him through

Shake finger
Hand on heart

[Verse 4]

Wise old owl in the tree
Shows Ollie what to do
Sharing strength is a way to be
Brings us closer me and you

Point upward

Flex arm
Link arms with neighbors

[Chorus]

Ollie asks for help, it's true
Family, friends, they come through
With a hoot and a smile so bright
Everything will be alright

Shake hands with neighbors

Thumbs up

Song Wrap-up

"Ollie's Helping Hand" song will help us to remember to ask for help when we need it."

Do an Activity (20 minutes)

- Students will practice asking for help.

Please choose from the following 2 activities:



Activity 1: Puppet Role-Play (15 minutes)

Introduce Activity

- *"Now, let's act out some of the situations from our story with Ollie and his friends. We're going to practice asking for help with our puppets and see how it makes everyone feel."*
- *"Let's take turns using the puppets to practice asking for help."* Guide each child in using the puppets and encourage them to ask for help in respectful ways.

Activity Instructions

- Choose 2 students to come up and participate in the role-play. You can let them decide which character they would like to be.
- Provide the role-play scenario and let them act out the scene
- Use the owl, bear, hare, bee, squirrel, and beaver puppets to act out simple scenes where Ollie makes a mistake and says sorry.

Scenario 1: "The Missing Crayon"

Characters: Ollie the Owl and Betty the Beaver

Setup: Ollie is working on a drawing but can't find the blue crayon he needs.

Prompt: Ollie realizes he doesn't have the color he wants and asks Betty for help finding or sharing one.

Practice Line: *"Betty, can you help me find a blue crayon? I really need it for the sky."*

Scenario 2: "Too Many Books!"

Characters: Ollie the Owl and Buzz the Bee

Setup: Ollie is trying to carry a big stack of books to the reading corner and is struggling.

Prompt: Ollie drops a few books and feels frustrated. Buzz notices and offers to help, but Ollie needs to ask.

Practice Line: *"Buzz, would you please help me carry these books?"*

Scenario 3: "Confusing Instructions"

Characters: Ollie the Owl and Sammy the Squirrel

Setup: The teacher gave directions for a craft project, but Ollie didn't quite understand.

Prompt: Ollie turns to Sammy and asks for help figuring out what to do next.

Practice Line: *"Sammy, can you help me remember what the teacher said to do with the glue?"*

Scenario 4: "Learning a New Game"

Characters: Ollie the Owl and Harriet the Hare

Setup: Harriet is playing a new recess game. Ollie wants to join but doesn't know the rules.

Prompt: Ollie asks Harriet to explain how to play.

Practice Line: *"Harriet, this looks fun! Can you help me learn the rules so I can play too?"*

Scenario 5: "Spilled Snack"

Characters: Ollie the Owl and Benny the Bear

Setup: Ollie accidentally spills his snack all over the ground. He's upset and doesn't know what to do.

Prompt: Benny is nearby. Ollie asks for help cleaning up or getting a new snack.

Practice Line: *"Benny, I dropped my snack. Can you help me clean it up?"*



Activity 2: Team Challenge Worksheet (15 minutes)

Introduce Activity

"Hi, everyone! Remember the story we read about Ollie the Owl and how he needed help to build his nest? Ollie learned that it's okay to ask for help and that working together with his friends made the job easier and more fun. Today, we're going to do something just like that! We're going to practice completing a challenge on teams. The best part is, we get to help each other, just like Ollie and his friends!"

Activity Instructions

1. Dividing into Groups

Teacher Script:

"First, I'm going to divide you into small groups. Each group will work together on a challenge worksheet. It might seem a little tricky at first, but that's okay! The goal is to work as a team and ask for help when you need it, just like Ollie the Owl."

(Divide students into small, mixed-ability groups of 3–5.)

2. Providing Materials

Teacher Script:

"Now that you're in your groups, I'm giving each group a special 'Team Challenge Worksheet.' It has a few different types of problems—some are riddles, some are patterns, and some are puzzles. The only way to finish them all is to talk to each other and help each other out. And remember, if something feels confusing, you can ask your teammates or even ask me for help!"

(Distribute one worksheet per group. See sample worksheet below.)

3. Encouraging Teamwork

Teacher Script:

"While you're working, think about what it feels like to ask for help. Are there parts where you're unsure? Try saying something like, 'Can you help me with this one?' And if someone asks for your help, how can you kindly support them? Helping each other makes us stronger learners."

(Walk around, observe group interactions, and model how to ask/offer help when needed.)

4. Discussing the Experience

Teacher Script:

"Wow! I saw a lot of great teamwork and helping today. Let's talk about it. What was something that felt tricky on the worksheet? Did anyone in your group help you understand something? How did it feel to ask for help? How did it feel to give help?"

(Gather students in a circle. Invite discussion with a few of the following questions:)

- What part of the worksheet did you need help with?

- How did someone in your group help you?
- Did you help someone else? How did it feel?
- Why is asking for help a good thing?

"See how much fun we had working together? Just like Ollie and his friends, when we ask for help and help each other, we can do amazing things! It's not just about getting the job done; it's also about having fun and feeling good because we're all helping one another. Remember, you can always ask for help, and you can always offer help to your friends!"

Wrapping it Up

Wrap Up the Lesson (5 minutes)

1. Review and Reflection Overview:

- After students complete their reflections, invite volunteers to share what they learned from their reflections.
- Encourage students to continue using the strategy in their daily lives

Review and Reflection Teacher Script



1. Gather in a Circle for Reflection:

- "Let's all come back together in a circle."

2. Closing

- *"Let's all gather back in a circle. Today, we learned about asking for help and how important it is. How did you feel when you thought about asking for help? (Pause for responses.) How did you feel when you thought about helping someone else? (Pause for responses.)"*
- *"Remember, asking for help makes us strong, not weak. It's something that everyone needs to do sometimes, and it's okay to ask a friend, a teacher, or a family member when you need help. And when someone asks you for help, it feels good to help them too!"*

Home Connection Letter

1. Sending Information Home:

- “Before you go, I have a letter for you to take home that explains what we learned today in class.”
- Hand out the letters as the children prepare to leave.

Parent Letter

Sending Information Home:

- Provide each child with a letter to take home to their parents explaining the lesson.

Dear Families,

Today in class, we learned about the importance of asking for help through the story "Ollie the Owl Learns to Ask for Help." This story teaches children that it's okay to seek assistance when needed and that friends and family are always there to help.

Here's what we learned:

- Understanding Asking for Help: Recognizing situations when it's appropriate to ask for help and understanding that it's a sign of strength, not weakness.
- Collaborating with Others: Learning that working together and helping each other can make tasks easier and more enjoyable.
- Expressing Needs: Practicing how to express their need for help in a polite and clear manner.

We practiced these concepts through a puppet role-play and/or participating in a group activity where they worked in small groups on a worksheet challenge.

You can help reinforce this at home by encouraging your child to ask for help when they need it and praising them for their bravery in doing so.

With gratitude,





We're Better Together



Riddle Time!

I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with wind. What am I?

→ Answer: _____

Finish the Pattern:

■, ●, ■, ●, ____, ____ → What comes next?

Team Drawing Challenge:

As a group, draw a house that includes 3 things that each of you like. Work together and take turns.

Find the Mistake:

$$2 + 2 = 5$$

$$3 + 3 = 6$$

What is wrong in these number sentences?

Silly Sentence Builder:

As a team, write one silly sentence using ALL of these words: owl, sandwich, jumping, rainbow.

→ Our sentence: _____

Ask for Help Box:

Write (or draw) one thing you needed help with and who helped you.

→ I needed help with:

→ Who helped me: _____