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Activity Guide

800-788-1121

Goodnight Moon

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ABOUT THE STORY

A small bunny experiences the ritual of going to bed as he bids goodnight to the many familiar objects in his bedroom. The book captures the visual effect of bedtime by gradually deepening the hues of its color illustrations.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

That Margaret Wise Brown's books have remained popular over the decades is proof not only of her talent as a writer but of her ability to see and feel the world as a child does. Though she died at an early age, she left behind such classics as *The Runaway Bunny*, also a Live Oak Readalong.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Clement Hurd was a prolific and talented illustrator who illustrated his own books as well as many by other authors including his wife Edith Thacher Hurd, with whom he created many favorite children's books.

INTRODUCING THE STORY

Ask children to describe their own bedtime routines. Then explain that the book they will read is about a small bunny and the way he gets ready to go to sleep.

READING ACTIVITIES

Comprehension/Thinking Skills

- "What are three objects that are in the great green room?"
- "What item do the old lady and the bunny say goodnight to first?"
- "What item do they say goodnight to after the light?"
- "What is the last item they say goodnight to?"
- "What happens after they have finished saying goodnight?"

Vocabulary

Write these columns of words from the story on the chalkboard. Ask volunteers to draw lines between the words that rhyme. Then have children create sentences using each pair of rhyming words.

balloon	hush
brush	kittens
chairs	clocks
socks	bears
mittens	moon

CROSS-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Language Arts: Goodnight to Your Room

Have children make lists of all the items in their own rooms that they could say goodnight to before going to sleep. If they want, they can draw pictures of their rooms, labeling each item they would bid goodnight.

Math: Telling Time

Have children look at the clock in the first picture. They can draw the clock and label the time it shows. Then have them look for the clock in other pictures in the book. Ask them to draw the clock and label the time it shows each time it is pictured. Then have them figure out how much time passes in the story.

Art: Noticing Details

The bunny says goodnight to most of the items in the room, but there are some that he misses. Encourage children to look closely at the pictures in the book and list the items that the bunny misses when he says goodnight.

Science: Phases of the Moon

The moon in the story is full. Point out to children that most newspapers will list the phase the moon is in on the weather page. Have them look in their local newspaper to find out what phase the moon is in. Help them to predict when the next full moon will occur.

INTERNET ACTIVITY

Before you send children to do research using any of the keywords listed below, you may wish to try them yourself to be sure the sites are suitable.

Fiftieth Anniversary

Using the keywords *Goodnight Moon*, children can journey to the publisher's special website commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of *Goodnight Moon*, which occurred in 1997. Encourage children to read all about the story, its author, and its history.