

How the Owl Became Honest

By Ruby Jenkins (Year 5)



Down in the deep, dark woods, in a big nest in a willow tree, lived a family of owls: three young owls and their owl parents. Ollie the owl was the youngest in the family and they just couldn't decide on a nickname for him. Everyone else had one – Funny Owl, Energetic Owl, Caring Owl and Smart Owl – but Ollie just didn't seem to have any special talents.

One day, Ollie was feeling upset and left out, so he thought he would go for a little fly around to cheer him up. As Ollie was flying, he felt like he had been punched with a sudden feeling of hunger, so he decided to look for some food. Suddenly, he saw a big wide nest with fish dangling from the side. He flew in to get a closer look and he saw a ginormous pile of berries, fish, mice and seeds. When Ollie saw this his face lit up and he couldn't help but take a berry, but then ten minutes later the whole nest, which had been full of food, was demolished. Ollie felt much better, and he flew back to his own nest.

When Ollie had got home and settled down, he started to feel rather sick. He had eaten too much and now he also felt guilty for doing it, so he thought he had better own up to the tangled mess he had made.

"Mum," he said, taking a deep breath. "I ate a big nest full of food in the woods, it belonged to someone else, and now there's not even a tincy bit left."

"Oh Ollie," sighed his mum. "That was very wrong of you, but well done for confessing."

Suddenly there was a knock at the door of the nest.

"Excuse me, do you know anything about my missing nest of food?" said an unfamiliar and rather cross looking owl.

"Ah yes, actually I do!" stated mother owl.

"Aha, I've found the culprit!" the big owl shouted.

"No, no, it wasn't my mum, it was me!" cried Ollie, blushing bright pink.

"So young lad, why have you been eating my food?" asked the big owl, with a frown.

“I was hungry and cross, but I shouldn’t have done it and I’m really sorry. Here, I have a basket of food for you to make up for it and replace what I took,” said Ollie with a small smile.

“Why thank you. That’s a lovely replacement meal and I appreciate you telling me the truth,” said the big owl. “Ta ta for now – I’ll be seeing you around.”

After their visitor had gone, Mother Owl said, “I think we all have a name for you now Ollie and all four of them shouted “Honest Owl!” Then Ollie replied,

“Honesty is always the best policy.”

So that’s how Ollie became known as “Honest Owl”.