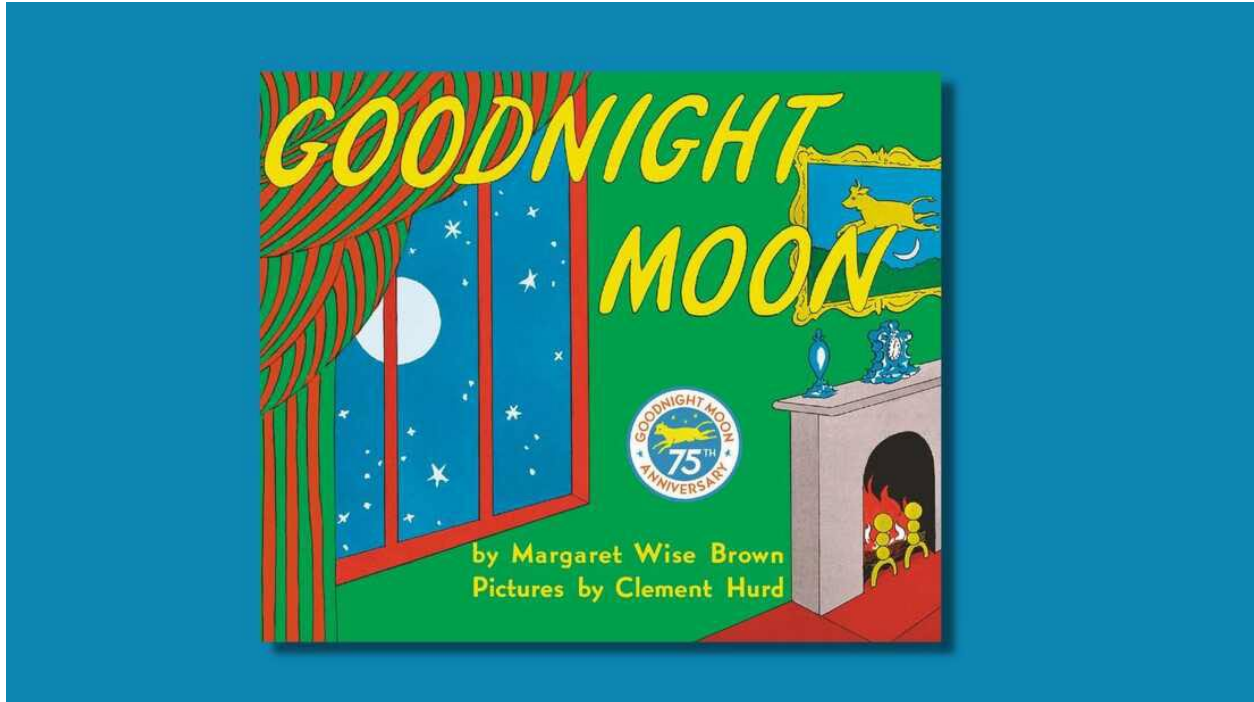


Goodnight Moon Lesson Plans



Written by Margaret Wise Brown, Illustrated by Clement Hurd

“Without mystery, hero, handsome prince or fairy godmother — Goodnight Moon has now lulled millions of children to sleep, in more than two dozen languages, for 75 years. Written by Margaret Wise Brown, with illustrations by Clement Hurd, the picture book, which has sold more than 40 million copies since its publication on Sept. 3, 1947, wins its readers with a soothing series of goodnights to the everyday objects in "the great green room" before bedtime.” - [‘Goodnight Moon’ by Margaret Wise Brown and Clement Hurd is 75 : NPR](#)

Literacy

Vocabulary Cards

Below you will find real photo reference cards for some of the things the little rabbit says goodnight to. These aren’t meant to be flashcards! Rather, they are display photos to place in your room or house in your writing center. Whichever way you use them, hopefully they allow your students to connect further with the story.

Bedtime Books

If you decide to have a pajama day (see below) to celebrate *Goodnight Moon*, be sure to check out some other books to help your students drift quietly off to sleep. Click this link: [Bedtime Books](#) or type “Bedtime Books” into the search bar on the NPL website.

Circle time/Family Engagement

Goodnight Things I Love

(Prep time: ~5 minutes)

Send a message to the families in your classroom a few days before this activity, asking them to send an item from their child’s bedroom to school for a day. Once everything is assembled, ask the children to introduce the item to the other students and talk about why it’s special to them (for younger children, ask the parents to email you the description.) If you have a bigger class, space this activity out over the course of the week so there aren’t an overwhelming number of things and descriptions happening in a single day.

Dramatic play

Pajama Day

An obvious activity to pair with *Goodnight Moon* is pajama day! Pajama days create a sense of excitement and coziness that’s also unique and fun. You can dim the lights, bring extra pillows and blankets, even a few loovies. Hype up the day and send plenty of reminders to families.

Goodnight Dramatic Play

Place specific items from *Goodnight Moon* into your dramatic play area. Things that are typically easy to gather: mittens, comb, brush, socks, etc. You can even make it a game: ask the children to pair the items together that rhyme.

STEAM

Goodnight Light

The lamp in *Goodnight Moon* throws shadows on the wall that deepen as the story goes on. Talk with your students to gauge what they know about shadows. Write down their

responses. Set up a lamp or a couple of flashlights that allows them to play with toys and shadows (this is especially fun on a rainy day when the natural light is low). After they have had a chance to play, ask them what they learned about shadows and write it down on a different page. Display both for families to see learning in progress!



(Photos from my own classroom)

Music

Choral *Goodnight Moon*

Eric Whitacre is an American composer and conductor who has created a choral arrangement of *Goodnight Moon*. Below are two versions. The first is a full choir performance while the second is a single soprano voice. Play both for your students and see how they respond. Do they hear the story? Can they recognize the words? How does the music make them feel?

- [Goodnight Moon | SATB Choir | by Eric Whitacre](#)
- [Eric Whitacre: Goodnight Moon | MSU Wind Symphony | 3.24.23](#)

Art

Goodnight Nursery Rhyme

The little bunny notices and says goodnight to two different paintings on the walls: the cow jumping over the moon and three bears sitting on chairs. Each of these paintings alludes to well-known nursery rhymes and fairy tales.

Work with your students to paint/draw/collage something to say goodnight to on the wall. A simple internet search of “nursery rhyme crafts for preschoolers” will deliver a whole host of ideas. For example: [Puffy Paint Moon Craft - No Time For Flash Cards](#) is an easy and sensory rich way to create a moon. Simply mix ½ cup of glue and 1 ½ cups of shaving cream. Make sure that the children play with it on cardstock or cardboard. Once it’s dry, cut out the moon shape!

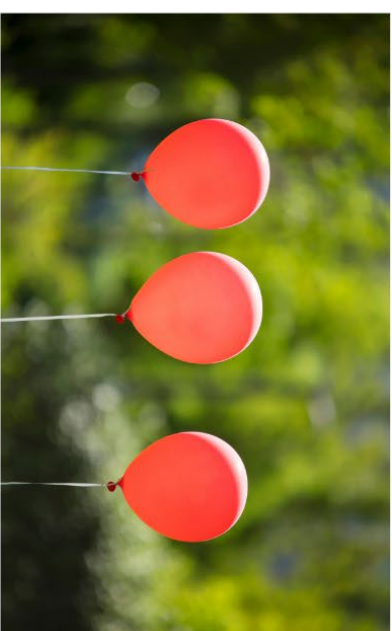




Telephone



Kittens



Red Balloon



Mittens



Toy House



Comb & Brush



Mouse



Bowl of Mush



Moon



Socks

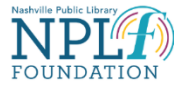


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