Who? Who Loves You? JESUS!

Getting Started
Complete one owl craft project (Item #WLY3AK) as a sample.
Arrange to have your listeners to sit near you until it’s time to make their own owl craft. At that time, it would be best if the children can stand or sit near a table.

Introduction
God made so many wonderful things when he created our world, didn’t he? He made plants, animals, mountains, and rivers. God also created many, many different kinds birds. What birds can you name?

Do you know the name of the bird that seems to say, “Who? Who?” It’s an owl, of course! The owl’s call is like a question: “Who? Who? Who?”
The owl’s call reminds me of a very important question: Who? Who loves you? How would you answer? (Listen to answers such as Mom, Dad, sister, brother, Grandma.) Yes, all of these people love you very much, and there is someone who loves you even more! Who? Listen!

“We know what real love is because Jesus gave up his life for us” (1 John 3:16). Who? Who loves you? Jesus does! The Bible tells us that Jesus loved you even before you were born. He will love you forever and ever! He will never stop loving you!

How much did Jesus love you? (Stretch out your arms sideways.) He loved us so much that he died on the cross for you. Now God forgives all of the wrong things we do.

But Jesus didn’t stay in the tomb. (Raise your hands above your head.) Jesus came alive again for us, too! Jesus lives! (Lower hands.) And because Jesus lives, he continues to love (hands over your heart), to forgive, and to care (hands out, palms up) for us.

Jesus also helps us love and serve other people. As we work on our owl project today, we will answer another important question: Who? Who will Jesus help us serve?

Taking It Home

(Invite the children to move to tables or prepared craft area. Help the children think about the power of Jesus’ love as they add each feature to the owl body. For example:)

*Most owls have large eyes. They can see small things very far away. As you put the eyes on your owl, think of the big and small things you can do for other people. Ask yourself, “How can I use my eyes to love and serve others?”

Here’s a fun way to answer: “Owl (I’ll) watch for ways to help Mom in the kitchen—and then do them!” Or “Owl (I’ll) see a classmate standing alone on the playground, and ask her to play.”

*As you attach the beak, remember that the owl is the only bird that makes the “Who? Who?” sound. In this way, owls are different from all the other birds in the world. As children of God, we are unique and special, too.

We can use our voices to share Jesus’ love. How? Maybe, “Owl (I’ll) tell my dad not to worry because Jesus is stronger than any problem.” How else could you use your voice?

*The owl uses its wings and feet to move. How do you move? How can you use your feet and legs to serve others in love? (“Owl (I’ll) walk to my neighbor’s house and help her plant flowers.” Or “Owl (I’ll) run to help when a friend gets hurt.”)

(Show the children how to affix the circles to the middle of the owl. Explain that they may remove this piece later, replacing it with a picture of themselves. It will remind them that Jesus is the One who always loves them, no matter what!)

Show the group how to attach the owl to its branch. Read the words on the branch aloud. Then invite them to repeat the words with you.)