

# Night Lights



Ready to Read Phonics Plus

#### Whānau Notes

Your child can read the story to you.

Help them with any words they don't know.

After reading, talk about the story, characters, and pictures.

Published 2023 by the Ministry of Education, PO Box 1666, Wellington 6140, New Zealand. www.education.govt.nz

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Development and publishing services: University of Canterbury, Smartwork Creative, Massey University, CORE Education | Tātai Aho Rau, and Lift Education E Tū.

ISBN 978 1 77690 233 0 (print) ISBN 978 1 77690 234 7 (online PDF)

Replacement copies may be ordered from Ministry of Education Customer Services, online at www.thechair.co.nz by email: orders@thechair.minedu.govt.nz or freephone 0800 660 662.

Please quote item number 90233.

# **Night Lights**



by Samantha Montgomerie illustrated by Giselle Clarkson

Ministry of Education



It is night, and the sky is dark.

Ruru glides high in the sky, by the light of the moon.



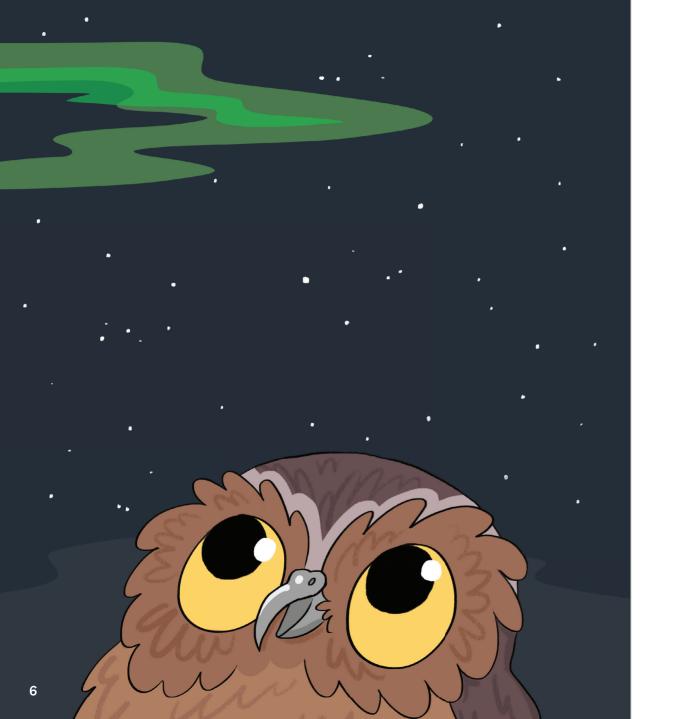
"What a dark, still night," sighs Ruru.

Ruru likes a dark, still night.

His feet cling tight to

the tree.

He sits and looks.



A light flickers and flashes in the sky.

"What is that?" asks Ruru as he looks up at the night sky.



Ruru hears a splash.

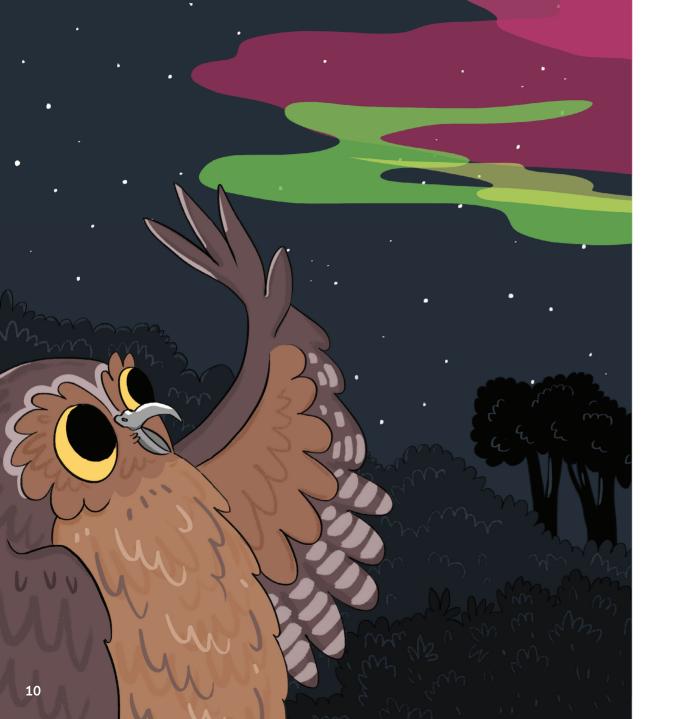
Frog is by the stream.

Ruru swoops across

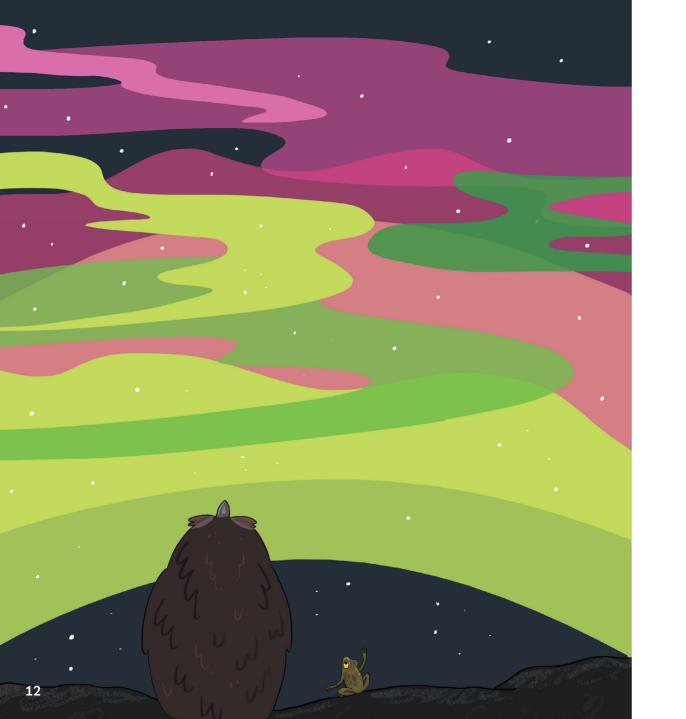
to Frog.

"Do you see the light?"

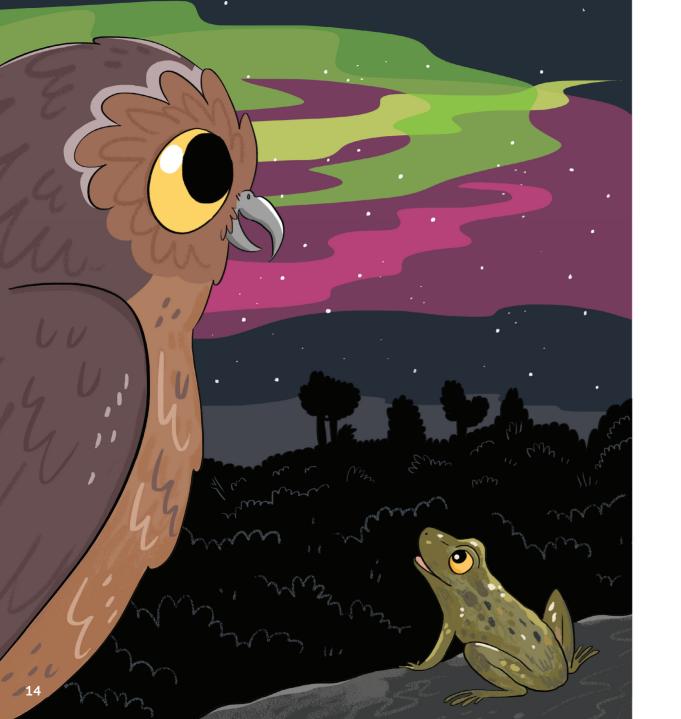
asks Ruru.



"Look to the right!" says Ruru. Lights flash in the sky. The lights are bright. The pink and green lights flicker.



The night sky lights up.
The lights are glowing
right across the sky.



The night lights glow.

"What a sight," sighs Frog.

"I like a still, dark night,"

says Ruru. "But the night

lights are just right!"

# **Teaching Notes**

### **Focus points**

- This book introduces the trigraph igh where three letters make one sound.
- It includes "words to tell" help children look for the sounds they already know in these words.

# Before reading

This book provides children with the opportunity to practise reading the letters and sounds they are learning in meaningful connected text.

#### Say each sound quickly



#### Blend the sounds together to read a word



#### **High-frequency words**



#### **Spelling**

Use previously learned letters and sounds to help children spell and read words. If this word spells **sigh**, can you spell **sight**? Change **sight** to **light**.

- sigh → sight → light → flight → fight
- night → tight → right → bright → fright

#### Vocabulary

Tell the children the meaning of any new vocabulary:

- **still:** not moving or making a sound; the quiet time of the night when most animals and people are asleep
- cling: hold onto something; hold on tightly
- flickers: make small, quick movements
- flashes: sudden bursts of light, flame, or heat

#### Morphology

Show children how the word **light** can change (light, lights, lighting). Notice the part of the word that is the same and the part that is different. Use different forms of the word **light** to orally create sentences.

## **During reading**

- Show the book to the children and read the title together. Make a connection between the title and the picture.
- The children read each page together using their decoding skills. Once the page is read, guide them to connect the meaning of the text with the illustration.
- If a child gets stuck while reading, help them blend the sounds together to read the word.

#### Words to tell



Remind children to sound out the letters they already know.

# After reading

#### **Discussion questions**

- What did the animals see in the sky?
- Who did Ruru hear splashing in the stream?
- · What colours are the night lights?

#### **Story discussion**

Talk about the lights the animals see in the night. Encourage the children to talk about what the lights might be. Discuss the Aurora Australis (the Southern Lights), which are a natural display of light that appears when tiny particles from the sun hit Earth's atmosphere. They are most visible on dark, clear nights.

#### Fluency and story retell

Reread the story to build accuracy and fluency; share the story with a buddy.



**Rākau** Tree



**Māhuri** Sapling Focus sounds

igh



**Tupu** Seedling



**Kākano** Seed









