



OLIVIA

By: Ian Falconer

"This is Olivia. She is good at lots of things." And she is. Good at wearing people out, scaring her brother, combing her ears, getting dressed, building sand castles, painting...everything but napping!

**Activity:** "O" for "Olivia: Cut an "O" shape out of sandpaper, felt, or another textured paper of your choice. Glue the "O" on to a piece of construction paper. Help the child brainstorm words that start with "O." Let the child draw pictures of the items (or look for them in magazines) on small squares of paper and glue the pictures onto the "O" page. Try a new letter each week, and add them to an "Alphabet Notebook" for your child.

**Extension:** Literacy can be encouraged by reading different books that include the same characters. These can include books like *Olivia*, by Ian Falconer or *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* and *Knuffle Bunny* both by Mo Willems. There are also many more that can be checked out at your local library! Each of these characters have two or more books they star in. Children can find characters that they enjoy and are able to relate to in a GREAT book!

**Read Aloud:** Pre-read the story. Show the children the front cover. Say "This is **Olivia**. What type of animal is Olivia?" "What color is Olivia's dress?" After the children have had a chance to respond, show the children the pages in the book. "What colors are the pictures in this book?" Explain that the man who wrote the words in the book also drew all of the pictures. The pictures are called **illustrations** and the man who draws them is called an **illustrator**.