

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE



STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK

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ABOUT THE BOOK

Maurice Sendak's Caldecott Medal-winning picture book has become one of the most highly acclaimed and best-loved children's books of all time. A must for every child's bookshelf.

STORYTIME ACTIVITIES

- **WHERE THE WILD ARE:** Encourage children to create their own interpretation of the title, replacing the wild "things" with a different wild creature. Have them sketch their new characters and create a book jacket of their own.
- **KING OF ALL WILD THINGS:** Max is the king of all wild things, and every ruler needs a crown. Have each child take a piece of construction paper and, holding it lengthwise, wrap it around their head so that the ends overlap slightly. You might have to tape multiple pages together so that it is long enough. Once each child has measured out how long the paper needs to be, have each of them cut out zigzag points along the top edge of the strip; the bottom edge should remain straight. When each child has cut out points along the entire top edge, have each of them rewrap the crown around their head and tape the seam where the edges meet. Now each child has a crown fit for the king or queen of all wild things!
- **THROW A WILD RUMPUS!** Everyone loves to let loose. Just as Max's "walls became the world all around," create a vine-covered world to host a wild rumpus! Have kids put on their crowns and roll their terrible eyes and gnash their terrible teeth. Don't forget to include a big moon so everyone can roar terrible roars!
- **A PRIVATE BOAT FOR MAX:** In *Where the Wild Things Are*, Max sails off through night and day in a private boat. Have kids create their own toy boats so they can sail to where the wild things are! Try using Popsicle sticks or another biodegradable material or create boats out of origami. Once everyone has their boat, find a suitable location to launch them—a pond, a lake, or even a rain gutter after a storm.



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DRAW YOUR OWN WILD THING

Before *Where the Wild Things Are* became the classic book we love, it was originally called *Where the Wild Horses Are* until Maurice Sendak realized he couldn't draw horses. He decided to draw wild THINGS instead. Draw your own version of a wild "thing" in the box below.

MY WILD THING



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LET THE WILD RUMPUS START

Everyone loves to let loose. What kind of things would you do at a wild rumpus? We included some ideas from *Where the Wild Things Are* to get you started.

THROW A WILD RUMPUS

1. Roar terrible roars

2. Gnash terrible teeth

3. Show terrible claws

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.



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JOIN MAX ON HIS VOYAGE

Max is sailing over the ocean to where the wild things are.
Color this picture and draw a picture of yourself in the boat with him.

