

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE
INTRODUCTION
By Tracy Hanson

“Where the Wild Things Are” was written and illustrated by [Maurice Sendak](#) in 1968. What an imagination the main character, Max, has. Do you have a childhood story about something in your bedroom that you imagined at night? Mine was the crocodile that lived under my bed. I had to make sure my hands didn’t dangle over the side. Before bed, I laid a path of books and chairs from the bed to the bathroom, just so I wouldn’t get eaten!

For [blankonblank.org](#), Maurice Sendak created this [wonderful animation](#) entitled, “How do you prevent being eaten or mauled by a monster? I still worry about it.” It’s about what it’s like to be a kid. He says, “I still think the same way I thought as a child. I still worry. I’m still frightened... Nothing changes.”

Do you have an imaginary “Wild Thing”? Would you like to draw your “Wild Thing”? In this video you can learn the [basics](#). And this [site](#) provides step by step instructions with pictures. Let your imagination go crazy. When you finish your drawing, give it a name. What’s your “Wild Thing’s” family like, what games does it like to play? Does it ever have any adventures?

Share your pictures and stories with your facilitator and they may share it with us!



WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

By Maurice Sendak
Redesigned for GMRT by Tracy Hanson

NARRATOR	CHILD 1	CHILD 2
CHILD 3	CHILD 4	MAX

NARRATOR: That night Max wore his wolf suit,

CHILD 1: And made mischief.

CHILD 2: Of one kind,

CHILD 3: And another.

NARRATOR: His mother called him

CHILD 4: “Wild Thing!”

NARRATOR: And Max said:

MAX: “I’ll eat you up!”

CHILD 1: So he was sent to bed.

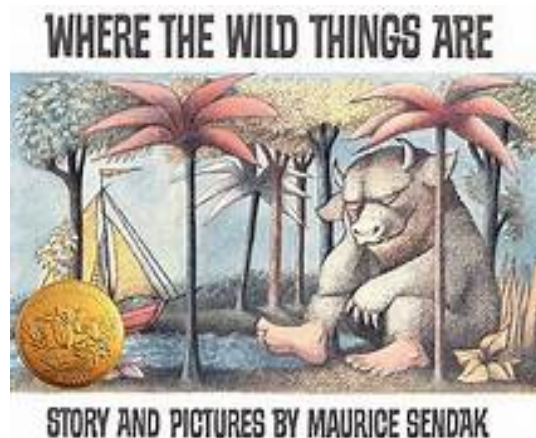
CHILD 2: Without eating anything.

NARRATOR: That very night in Max’s room,

MAX: A forest grew, **and grew**, AND GREW, UNTIL THE CEILING HUNG WITH VINE!

CHILD 3: And the walls became the world all around,

CHILD 4: And an ocean tumbled by.



MAX: "WITH A PRIVATE BOAT!"

NARRATOR: And he sailed off through night and day.

CHILD 1: And in and out of weeks.

CHILD 2: And almost over a year.

MAX: TO WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE!

NARRATOR: And when he came to the place where the wild things are!

CHILD 3: They roared their terrible roars!

(ALL ROAR)

CHILD 4: And gnash their terrible teeth!

(ALL GNASH TEETH)

CHILD 1: And rolled their terrible eyes!

(ALL ROLL EYES)



CHILD 2: And showed their terrible claws!

(ALL SHOW CLAWS)

NARRATOR: Till MAX said:

MAX: "BE STILL!"

CHILD 3: And tamed with a magic trick.

MAX: Of staring into all their yellow eyes!

CHILD 1: WITHOUT BLINKING ONCE!

NARRATOR: And they were frightened and called him.

ALL: THE MOST WILD THING OF ALL!!

NARRATOR: And made him king of all wild things.

MAX: "AND NOW, LET THE WILD RUMPUS START!!"

(PAUSE)

"NOW, STOP!"

CHILD 3: And sent the wild things off to bed.

CHILD 4: Without their supper...and Max

CHILD 1: The king of all wild things, said:

MAX: "I'M LONELY!"

NARRATOR: And wanted to be where someone loved him best of all.

CHILD 2: Than, all around, from far away, across the world,

NARRATOR: He smelled good things to eat!! So he said:

MAX: "I'LL GIVE UP BEING KING OF WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE."

CHILD 3: But the wild things cried,

CHILD 4: Oh, please don't go!

CHILD 1: We'll eat you up.

CHILD 2: We love you so.

NARRATOR: And Max said:



MAX: "NO!"

CHILD 1: The wild things roared their terrible roars! (ALL ROAR)

CHILD 2: And gnashed their terrible teeth! (ALL SHOW TEETH)

CHILD 3: And rolled their terrible eyes! (ALL ROLL EYES)

CHILD 4: And showed their terrible claws! (ALL SHOW CLAWS)

NARRATOR: But Max stepped into his private boat

CHILD 1: And waved good-bye

CHILD 2: And sailed back almost over a year,

CHILD 3: And in and out of weeks and through a day

MAX: And into the night of my own room!

CHILD 4: Where he found his supper waiting for him,

MAX: "And it was still hot!"



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