



**Little
Novel·Ties**



Where the Wild Things Are

Maurice Sendak

A Study Guide
Written by Garrett Christopher



TABLE OF CONTENTS

For the Teacher	1
Suggestions For Using Activities	1 - 2
Synopsis	3
Author Information	3
Pre-Reading Activities	4
Word Study	5
Understanding the Story	6 - 7
Understanding Pictures	8
Story Frame	9
Extension Activity	10 - 13
Follow-Up Activities	14
Suggestions For Further Reading	15
Answer Key	16
Notes	17

Little Novel-Ties® are printed on recycled paper.

The purchase of this study guide entitles an individual teacher to reproduce pages for use in a classroom. Reproduction for use in an entire school or school system or for commercial use is prohibited. Beyond the classroom use by an individual teacher, reproduction, transmittal or retrieval of this work is prohibited without written permission from the publisher.

For the Teacher

This reproducible **Little Novel-Ties** study guide consists of activities to use in conjunction with the book *Where the Wild Things Are*. The picture book and its corresponding guide can become an important element in your whole language reading program. The guide contains a synopsis; background information on the author and illustrator; suggested pre-reading activities; exercises that focus on vocabulary; visual literacy, story comprehension, and critical thinking skills; and extension activities that link the story to other curriculum areas.

Suggestions For Using Activities

Pre-Reading Activities – Before You Read

These activities are designed to activate children’s prior knowledge and build concepts or background information. They will motivate children to read and help them to understand the story better. Children can discuss answers to the questions with a partner, in a small cooperative learning group, or with the entire class.

Word Study – Time Out

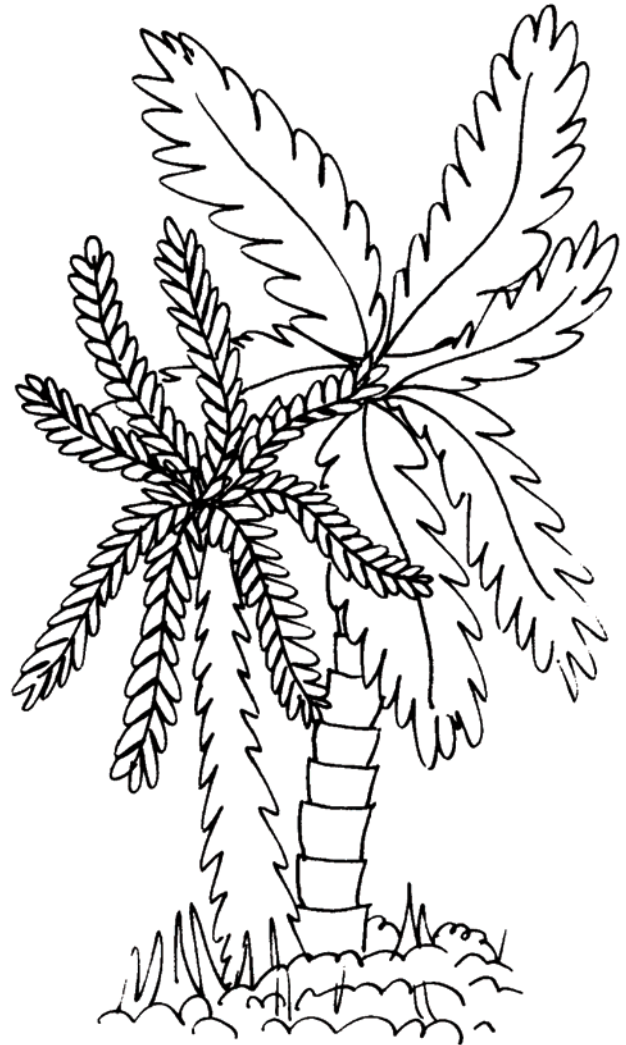
This page focuses on words that describe units of time, many of which are mentioned in the story. After reading a sentence from the story containing units of time, children supply the missing time words to complete five sentences about the major story character. The children then write an original sentence and draw a picture illustrating another unit of time.

Understanding the Story – Story Questions, Picture Questions

The story questions include a number of literal, inferential, and evaluative questions that help children focus on major story elements. The picture questions help children draw inferences from the illustrations.

BEFORE YOU READ

1. Read the book title. Then look at the picture on the cover. What words would you use to describe this wild thing?
2. In what kind of place does this wild thing live? Is it a real place or a make-believe place? What makes you think so?
3. What is this wild thing doing? What else do you think wild things can do?
4. In this story, a boy named Max is told by his mother that he is a wild thing. Draw a picture. Show a child acting like a wild thing.



STORY QUESTIONS



1. Why did Max's mother punish him? Do you think Max deserved to be punished? Explain your answer.
2. How did Max's room begin to change? Could this happen in real life?
3. Where did Max go in his boat? How long did the trip take?
4. What did the wild things do when they first saw Max? What did Max do when he saw the wild things? How did he do it?
5. How do you think the wild things felt about Max? What makes you think this?
6. Why did Max decide to give up being king?
7. What did Max discover when he finally reached home?
8. Has Max really been gone for over a year? What clues can you find that suggest Max may have dreamed about his trip to where the wild things are?
9. Pretend you are Max. What would you tell your mother about your trip? What do you think your mother would answer?