

Take-Home Activities Inspired by Maurice Sendak

Activity #1: Create a Wild Thing!

Imagine you are standing in a deep forest. How big are the trees? Are they prickly or soft? Is there sunshine all around or are you shaded by all the leaves? What else do you see, smell, feel, and hear?

Imagine what kind of **Wild Things** live here. Are they large or small? Do they have fur, scales, or some other kind of covering? What do their hands, mouths, and eyes look like? Do they live in the trees, under the ground, or in the water?

You will need...	Fun to have...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Lunch size paper bags▪ Paper (construction, wrapping, news, etc.)▪ Markers, colored pencils, or crayons▪ Recycled material (bottle caps, junk mail, cereal boxes, etc.)▪ Scissors▪ Glue	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Natural materials (leaves, sticks, etc.)▪ Felt▪ Tissue paper▪ Pipe cleaners▪ Buttons



How to get started:

- Cover the bag, this is your Wild Thing's body. Does it have fur, feathers or hair?
- How many eyes will your monster have? Does your Wild Thing have horns or wings?
- Experiment with arms, legs, tentacles, fins, scales, or anything else you can imagine!

Now that you have your Wild Thing, imagine...

- What kind of mischief will your Wild Thing get into? What games might it play?
- What will people need to do to tame your Wild Thing?
- What does your Wild Thing's home look like? What are their favorite things?

These activities are presented in partnership with the Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus Metropolitan Library and Thurber House. Wild Things Are Happening: The Art of Maurice Sendak is on view at the Columbus Museum of Art through March 5, 2023. Check out a Culture Pass from any Columbus Metropolitan Library branch for free general admission to the Museum. To learn more about the exhibition, visit columbusmuseum.org

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Activity #2: Wild Writing Challenges

Maurice Sendak is best known for, *Where the Wild Things Are*, but he also wrote and illustrated 14 more books of his own, as well as illustrated more than 100 books written by other authors throughout his lifetime*. It takes a lot of hard work and a big imagination to write and illustrate that many books. Now, we are challenging YOU to stretch your imagination as far as Maurice Sendak!

Challenge 1

Pick a scene from one of your favorite books (any kind of book or story) and sketch what you imagine the scene to look like. All you need is paper and pencil but you can get as wild as you want and break out any art supplies or found materials you like! If you chose a book that is already illustrated, try to reimagine what you think it should look like.

Challenge 2

Pair up with someone and together imagine a short story or scene. Now, one of you writes and the other one illustrates the story. The illustrator cannot read the story, the author cannot see the illustration, and you cannot talk to each other! Afterward, share and discuss what you both were thinking as you were reading/drawing. Why did you choose that art style or those words? What did you each think the character or setting looked like? If you have time, SWITCH! Have the author now be the illustrator and the illustrator now be the author.

You will need...

- Something to draw or write with
- Something to draw or write on
- Any art supplies or found objects that you want beside paper and pencil (colored pencils, markers, construction paper, magazines, yarn, etc.)
- A partner for Challenge 2 (this can be a friend, sibling, adult, anyone you want!)

Things to think about:

- How does your art help make the story more complete? What can you show that you didn't read on the page?
- As the writer, what do you want to include in the details of your story so the reader/illustrator can picture what the scene looks like?
- Would you change something you wrote to better match the illustration, or would you change any of your illustrations to better match the story?

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