

The WILDEST THING

by Emily Winfield Martin



The *WILDEST* THING

Activities



*Eleanor loved wild things.
Every wing and wild sprout.*

*There was something
wild inside of her,
waiting to come out . . .*

About the Book

With gorgeous illustrations, this book is the ideal addition to any bedtime reading routine or storytime. *The Wildest Thing* beautifully expresses a timeless message about little ones unleashing their inner “wild,” while encouraging their budding imagination and unique individuality.



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Discussion Questions for Before and After Reading *The WILDEST THING*



Before Starting the Story

What do you think it means to be wild? What other words could you use to describe being wild?

After the Story



Eleanor unleashes her inner “wild” and lets her true self shine. What does being yourself mean to you?



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The Things of Fur and Fin



Pretend play with props is a great way to allow your imagination to run wild. Following the instructions below create different animal masks using paper plates and act out a scene with friends. You can use the same method to create as many different types of animal masks as you'd like.

Supplies Needed

- Paper Plates
- Paint
- Paint Brushes
- Foam Sheets
- Feathers
- Pipe Cleaners
- Toilet Paper Tube
- Paper Straws
- Hot-Glue Gun
- Kid-Friendly Glue
- Scissors



Instructions

1. With the help of an adult, cut your paper plate. You will want the mask area to be a little larger than half the plate.
2. Draw two round eyes and carefully cut them out.
3. Think about the animal you're creating. What shape are their ears? Are they long and oval shaped like a rabbit? Are they small and round like a bear? Or are they pointy like a fox? Using the discarded part of the paper plate, cut out two ears that fit your selected animal. Glue them to the top of your mask.
4. Think about what color your animal is and if they have any identifying marks that should be included on the mask, and then paint your plate to match.
5. Using the foam sheet, cut out a nose for your animal and add it to your plate.
6. Does your animal have whiskers? If so, cut a pipe cleaner in half. Then fold the two pieces of pipe cleaner in half and glue on the right and left side of the nose.
7. Glue a straw to the back of the mask to form a handle.
8. Repeat as many times as you'd like using your imagination to create different animals.



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Your Inner Wild Thing



Eleanor loved wild things because she was one of them. Use the space below to draw your inner wild thing. Imagine yourself as a deer, or bear, or bird, or use your imagination to become something totally unique!



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