

Peter Pan

James Matthew Barrie

Name: _____

Class: _____



**1. What might you gain
by never growing up?
What might you miss out
on?**

2. As you read, note one time Peter helps someone and another time he ignores what someone else wants.

When He Helps

When He Ignores Someone's Wishes

Following The Story

3. Put the events in story order. Write their letters in the boxes below.

A Wendy decides to go home with her brothers.

B Peter discovers that Wendy has grown up and has a daughter named Jane.

C Wendy sews Peter's shadow back onto him.

D Wendy and her brothers are reunited with their parents.

E Wendy, John, and Michael fly to Neverland.

F Peter and the children win the fight aboard the pirate ship.

□ → □ → □ → □ → □ → □

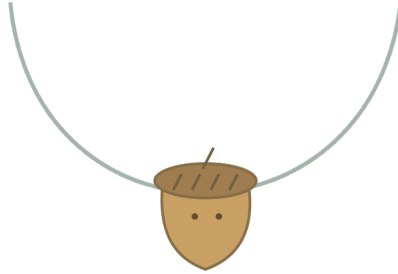
4. Give one reason for Wendy's decision to return home and one consequence of that decision for the Lost Boys.

A Reason For Her Decision

A Consequence For The Lost Boys

The Journey Of A Button

5. Think about these two moments in the novel.



When They First Meet

Peter offers Wendy a kiss and puts an acorn button in her hand. Wendy wears it on the chain around her neck.

In Neverland

Wendy has fallen to the ground. Peter finds that the arrow has struck the button on her necklace. The button has saved her life.

a. In the first scene, what makes the button more than an ordinary object to Wendy?

b. If the first scene were removed, what detail in the second scene would be harder to understand? Explain.

Understanding Without Words

6. Think about “The Never Bird.” The bird and Peter cannot understand each other’s language. At last, she pushes her nest to the rock and flies up, leaving her eggs inside.

a. What does the bird’s action communicate that her words could not?

b. Use a drawing or short notes to show how Peter protects both himself and the eggs. Show what the nest and the hat are used for.

For Peter

For The Eggs

c. If Peter had ignored the eggs, whose needs would this solution have failed to meet?

A Day In Wendy’s Life

7. In the home under the ground, Wendy sews, hangs up laundry, and tells the children stories. Her work sometimes keeps her indoors for days.

a. How does each task help the people who live together?

Wendy’s Task	How It Helps Everyone
Mending clothes	
Hanging up laundry	
Telling stories	

b. Make time for Wendy to play, too. Choose two tasks from the table. Explain who could share them and how.

c. Does never growing up make responsibilities disappear in Neverland? Explain with an example.

Two Sides Of The Window

8. Compare these two moments when Peter reaches the window in London.

At First

Peter reaches the house first. He has the window shut so Wendy will think her mother has rejected her. He hopes she will return with him.

Then

He sees Mrs. Darling's tears and how much she misses Wendy. After struggling with his feelings, he unbolts the window.

a. What does Peter want when he shuts the window? Whose wishes does he begin to consider when he opens it?

When He Shuts It

When He Opens It

b. Which action gives Wendy room to make her own choice? How?

The Land Of Counterpane

Robert Louis Stevenson

When I was sick and lay a-bed,
I had two pillows at my head,
And all my toys beside me lay
To keep me happy all the day.

And sometimes for an hour or so
I watched my leaden soldiers go,
With different uniforms and drills,
Among the bed-clothes, through the hills;

And sometimes sent my ships in fleets
All up and down among the sheets;
Or brought my trees and houses out,
And planted cities all about.

I was the giant great and still
That sits upon the pillow-hill,
And sees before him, dale and plain,
The pleasant land of counterpane.

Counterpane: a bedspread. · Dale: a valley.

9. a. Give two examples of an ordinary object becoming an imagined place in the poem.

b. How does calling himself a giant change the way you picture the child lying in bed?

Growing Up And Imagining

After Wendy grows up, she tells her daughter Jane about Peter. They pull the covers over their heads to make a tent. Jane joins in with questions as Wendy retells the old adventures.

10. Compare the child’s play in the poem with the game Wendy and Jane share.

	The Child In The Poem	Wendy And Jane
What The Covers Become		
Who Creates The Imagined World		
What Inspires The Play		

11. What does Wendy lose as she grows up, and what does she keep? Use details from this scene and the novel’s ending.

Inside The Game



Winslow Homer · Snap the Whip · 1872
The Metropolitan Museum of Art · Public domain / CC0

12. a. Find two visual details that make the children seem part of one shared movement.

b. Compare the child who has broken away on the left with the children still in the chain. Is the game going the same way for everyone? Use details you can see.

Who Gets To Decide?

13. Think about this situation in the novel and the painting on the previous page.

In the home under the ground, the children sometimes eat a real meal and sometimes pretend to eat. Peter decides which it will be. The other children are expected to do what he does.

a. Why might a game Peter enjoys be difficult for another child?

b. If we looked only at the children still in the chain, what possible need of the child on the left might we miss?

14. The children are creating a new game in Neverland. Suggest **one rule** that keeps it exciting and gives everyone a say. Which detail from the novel or painting led you to this rule?

A World Inside One Room

15. Write a new scene of 6–8 sentences in which grown-up Wendy and Jane invent a game. Let an ordinary object become something else. Give each character an idea that changes the game. In the final sentence, use an action to show that the game has ended, without saying so.

My Ordinary Object

What It Becomes

My Title

Sources

Novel

James Matthew Barrie · **Peter Pan**
Original novel: Peter and Wendy (1911).

Original English Text · Project Gutenberg

Painting

Winslow Homer · Snap the Whip (1872).
The Metropolitan Museum of Art.
Gift of Christian A. Zabriskie, 1950.
50.41 · Public domain / CC0.

Museum Collection Record

Poem

Robert Louis Stevenson.
The Land of Counterpane.
The complete original English poem
is in the public domain.

Academy of American Poets

Text And Images

The prompts and brief scene descriptions were written for this booklet. Use the activities alongside the complete novel. Book pages, cover art, and film images are not reproduced. The window and button drawings were created for this booklet. Homer’s painting is reproduced without alteration from the museum’s open-access image.

Resources Consulted For Activity Design

Institute of Education Sciences / What Works Clearinghouse (2022). Providing Reading Interventions for Students in Grades 4-9.

Research-Based Practice Guide

Project Zero, Harvard Graduate School of Education. Imagine If... No worksheet or sequence of prompts has been reproduced.

Institutional Practice Example