



A Hole Is to Dig

By Ruth Krauss

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What would you say about eye-brows? Miss Krauss and the many children who made suggestions, re-visions, additions (and subtractions) to this book say, "Eyebrows are to go over eyes." A face? "A face is something to have on the front of your head." Also, "a face is so you can make faces." Hands? Well, hands are to hold. And also "a hand is to hold up when you want your turn." "A party is to say how-do-you-do and shake hands" and also "a party is to make little children happy." Of course, a brother is to help you, a package is to look inside, arms are to hug with, and a book is to look at.

And children will take this book of words and pictures to their hearts.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

First published in 1952, this hilarious classic is now available in paperback to a new generation. Krauss's definitions--from "toes are to wiggle" to "a hat is to wear on a train"--tell what's what--and Sendak's inimitable early illustrations show how. All ages.

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Review

"A unique book . . . with drawings bouncing with action and good humor." -- --*NYT*

About the Author

Ruth Krauss (1901-1993) is the author of over thirty books for children, including the classics *The Carrot Seed*, illustrated by her husband, Crockett Johnson, and *A Hole Is to Dig*, illustrated by Maurice Sendak. "Ruth Krauss's intuitive ability as a writer to capture the free-spirited thought processes and laughter of young children ensures her books' widespread acceptance and timeless appeal." So concludes her entry in children's *Books and Their Creators* (1995).

In addition to *Where the Wild Things Are*, Maurice Sendak's books include *Kenny's Window*, *Very Far Away*, *The Sign on Rosie's Door*, *Nutshell Library* (consisting of *Chicken Soup with Rice*, *Alligators All Around*, *One Was Johnny*, and *Pierre*), *Higglety Pigglety Pop! or There Must Be More to Life*, *In the Night Kitchen*, *Outside Over There*, *We Are All in the Dumps with Jack and Guy*, and *Bumble-Ardy*.

He received the 1964 Caldecott Medal for *Where the Wild Things Are*; the 1970 Hans Christian Andersen Award for Illustration; the 1983 Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, given by the American Library Association in recognition of his entire body of work; and a 1996 National Medal of Arts in recognition of his contribution to the arts in America. In 2003, he received the first Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, an international prize for children's literature established by the Swedish government.

Users Review

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Mary Davis:

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