

Author's Point of View

Who is telling the story?

1st Person



"I", "Me", "We", "Us"

3rd Person



"He", "She", "They"

First Person Point of View

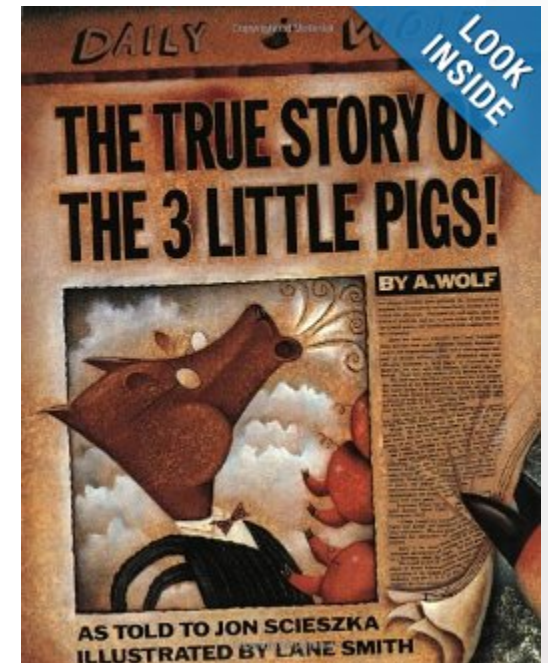
- A character in the story is the narrator who tells the story. The narrator uses the pronouns **I**, **me** and **we**.
- In first-person point of view, readers learn about events as the narrator learns about them.
- *When **I** got up this morning **I** brushed **my** teeth. Then **I** got dressed and ate **my** breakfast.*

Third Person Point of View

- The story is being told by an outside observer (someone who is not in the story). The author uses the pronouns **he**, **she**, and **they**.
- In third-person point of view, the author can tell about the thoughts, actions, and feelings of the other characters.
- *The princess was locked in the tower. **She** had no way to escape. **She** hoped that a prince would rescue **her**. **Her** wish came true. **He** came and took **her** to **his** castle.*

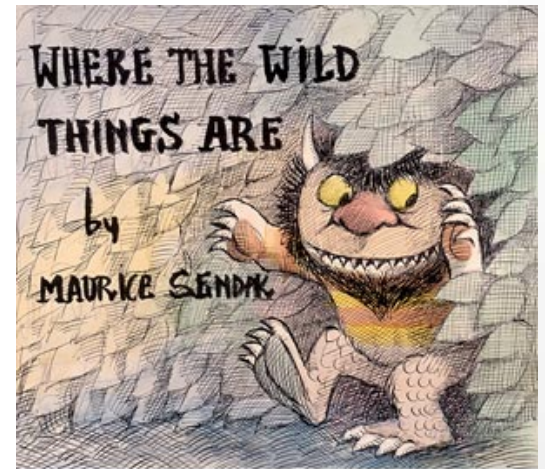
Teaching Point of View

- *The True Story of the Three Pigs* by Jon Scieszka - told from the point of view of the big bad wolf.
- After reading, have students determine who is telling the truth and write a paragraph supporting why they believe them.
- Then, have students participate in a debate between the wolf and the three pigs.



Examining Point of View with *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak

- Before Reading: Look at the title, pictures, and skim the words. What do you think the story might be about?
- During Reading: How does Max get the Wild Things to be still?
- After Reading: What point of view is the story being told from?



Point of View Questions

- Who told the story? Was the narrator a character in the story? How did the narrator affect your reading of the story?
- How would the text have changed if a different character told the story?
- Why do you think the author chose the narrator he/she did to tell the story?

Your Turn!

Now ask yourself:

- What is point of view?
- What is the difference between first person and third person?



Check for Understanding

- What is point of view?
 - Who is telling the story.
- What is the difference between first person and third person?
 - First person: A character tells the story.
 - Third person: The story is told by an outside observer.

