

# PETER PAN

(CHAPTER 1 2~ THE CHILDREN ARE CARRIED OFF)



Book Unit  
Credited by  
Gay Miller



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I'm excited to announce that each Monday, *Peter Pan Book Unit* will be featured in weekly blog posts.

Book Units Teacher Blog  
<http://bookunitsteacher.com/wp/>

Saving each lesson for a novel study is a great option. Since students are so familiar with this well-loved American classic, most chapters can be stand-alone lessons. Sir James Matthew Barrie first wrote Peter Pan as a play in 1904. The play was turned into the book Peter and Wendy in 1911 (later called Peter Pan), so it is now in public domain. There is no need to purchase a class set of books because the complete text will be added to the unit plans.



The best place to begin is with the introduction found here:

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Peter-Pan-2150899>

## Chapter 12 THE CHILDREN ARE CARRIED OFF

The pirate attack had been a complete surprise: a sure proof that the unscrupulous Hook had conducted it improperly, for to surprise redskins fairly is beyond the wit of the white man.

By all the unwritten laws of savage warfare it is always the redskin who attacks, and with the williness of his race he does it just before the dawn, at which time he knows the courage of the whites to be at its lowest ebb. The white men have in the meantime made a rude stockade on the summit of yonder undulating ground, at the foot of which a stream runs, for it is destruction to be too far from water. There they await the onslaught, the inexperienced ones clutching their revolvers and treading on twigs, but the old hands sleeping tranquilly until just before the dawn. Through the long black night the savage scouts wriggle, snake-like, among the grass without stirring a blade. The brushwood closes behind them, as silently as sand into which a mole has dived. Not a sound is to be heard, save when they give vent to a wonderful imitation of the lonely call of the coyote. The cry is answered by other braves; and some of them do it even better than the coyotes, who are not very good at it. So the chill hours wear on, and the long suspense is horribly trying to the paleface who has to live through it for the first time; but to the trained hand those ghastly calls and still ghastlier silences are but an intimation of how the night is marching.

That this was the usual procedure was so well known to Hook that in disregarding it he cannot be excused on the plea of ignorance.

The Piccaninnies, on their part, trusted implicitly to his honor, and their whole action of the night stands out in marked contrast to his. They left nothing undone that was consistent with the reputation of their tribe. With that alertness of the senses which is at once the marvel and despair of civilized peoples, they knew that the pirates were on the island from the moment one of them trod on a dry stick; and in an incredibly short space of time the coyote cries began. Every foot of ground between the spot where Hook had landed his forces and the home under the trees was stealthily examined by braves wearing their moccasins with the heels in front. They found only one hillock with a stream at its base, so that Hook had no choice; here he must establish himself and wait for just before the dawn. Everything being thus mapped out with almost diabolical cunning, the main body of the redskins folded their blankets around them, and in the phlegmatic manner that is to them, the pearl of manhood squatted above the children's home, awaiting the cold moment when they should deal pale death.

Here dreaming, though wide-awake, of the exquisite tortures to which they were to put him at break of day, those confiding savages were found by the treacherous Hook. From the accounts afterwards supplied by such of the scouts as escaped the carnage, he does not seem even to have paused at the rising ground, though it is certain that in that grey light he must have seen it: no thought of waiting to be attacked appears from first to last to have visited his subtle mind; he would not even hold off till the night was nearly spent; on he pounded with no policy but to fall to [get into combat]. What could the bewildered scouts do, masters as they were of every war-like artifice save this one, but trot helplessly after him, exposing themselves fatally to view, while they gave pathetic utterance to the coyote cry.

Around the brave Tiger Lily were a dozen of her stoutest warriors, and they suddenly saw the perfidious pirates bearing down upon them. Fell from their eyes then the film through which they had looked at victory. No more would they torture at the stake. For them the happy hunting-grounds was now. They knew it; but as their father's sons they acquitted

themselves. Even then they had time to gather in a phalanx [dense formation] that would have been hard to break had they risen quickly, but this they were forbidden to do by the traditions of their race. It is written that the noble savage must never express surprise in the presence of the white. Thus terrible as the sudden appearance of the pirates must have been to them, they remained stationary for a moment, not a muscle moving; as if the foe had come by invitation. Then, indeed, the tradition gallantly upheld, they seized their weapons, and the air was torn with the war-cry; but it was now too late.

It is no part of ours to describe what was a massacre rather than a fight. Thus perished many of the flower of the Piccaninny tribe. Not all unavenged did they die, for with Lean Wolf fell Alf Mason, to disturb the Spanish Main no more, and among others who bit the dust were Geo. Scourie, Chas. Turley, and the Alsatian Foggerty. Turley fell to the tomahawk of the terrible Panther, who ultimately cut a way through the pirates with Tiger Lily and a small remnant of the tribe.

To what extent Hook is to blame for his tactics on this occasion is for the historian to decide. Had he waited on the rising ground till the proper hour he and his men would probably have been butchered; and in judging him it is only fair to take this into account. What he should perhaps have done was to acquaint his opponents that he proposed to follow a new method. On the other hand, this, as destroying the element of surprise, would have made his strategy of no avail, so that the whole question is beset with difficulties. One cannot at least withhold a reluctant admiration for the wit that had conceived so bold a scheme, and the fell [deadly] genius with which it was carried out.

What were his own feelings about himself at that triumphant moment? Fain [gladly] would his dogs have known, as breathing heavily and wiping their cutlasses, they gathered at a discreet distance from his hook, and squinted through their ferret eyes at this extraordinary man. Elation must have been in his heart, but his face did not reflect it: ever a dark and solitary enigma, he stood aloof from his followers in spirit as in substance.

The night's work was not yet over, for it was not the redskins he had come out to destroy; they were but the bees to be smoked, so that he should get at the honey. It was Pan he wanted, Pan and Wendy and their band, but chiefly Pan.

Peter was such a small boy that one tends to wonder at the man's hatred of him. True he had flung Hook's arm to the crocodile, but even this and the increased insecurity of life to which it led, owing to the crocodile's pertinacity [persistence], hardly account for vindictiveness so relentless and malignant. The truth is that there was a something about Peter which **goaded** the pirate captain to frenzy. It was not his courage, it was not his engaging appearance, it was not—. There is no beating about the bush, for we know quite well what it was, and have got to tell. It was Peter's cockiness.

This had got on Hook's nerves; it made his iron claw twitch, and at night it disturbed him like an insect. While Peter lived, the tortured man felt that he was a lion in a cage into which a sparrow had come.

The question now was how to get down the trees, or how to get his dogs down? He ran his greedy eyes over them, searching for the thinnest ones. They wriggled uncomfortably, for they knew he would not scruple [hesitate] to ram them down with poles.

In the meantime, what of the boys? We have seen them at the first clang of the weapons, turned as it were into stone figures, open-mouthed, all appealing with outstretched arms to Peter; and we return to them as their mouths close, and their arms fall to their sides. The

pandemonium above has ceased almost as suddenly as it arose, passed like a fierce gust of wind; but they know that in the passing it has determined their fate.

Which side had won?

The pirates, listening avidly at the mouths of the trees, heard the question put by every boy, and alas, they also heard Peter's answer.

"If the redskins have won," he said, "they will beat the tom-tom; it is always their sign of victory."

Now Smee had found the tom-tom, and was at that moment sitting on it. "You will never hear the tom-tom again," he muttered, but inaudibly of course, for strict silence had been enjoined [urged]. To his amazement Hook signed him to beat the tom-tom, and slowly there came to Smee an understanding of the dreadful wickedness of the order. Never, probably, had this simple man admired Hook so much.

Twice Smee beat upon the instrument, and then stopped to listen gleefully.

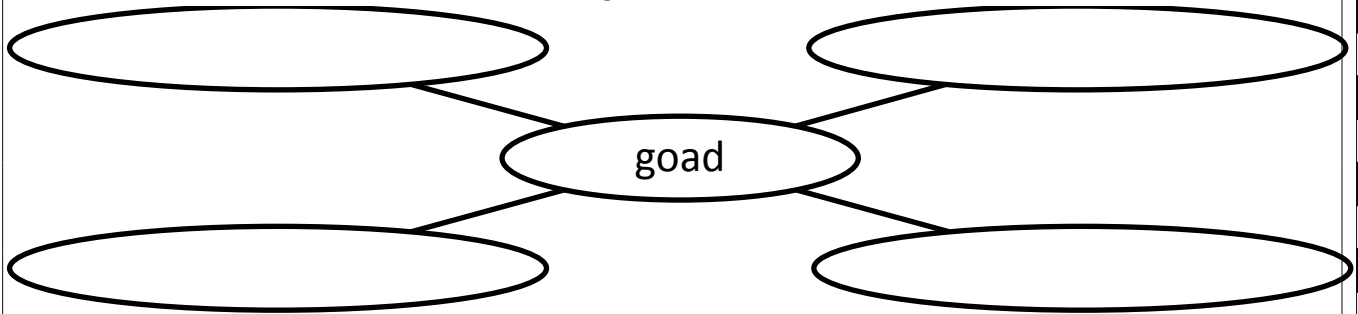
"The tom-tom," the miscreants heard Peter cry; "an Indian victory!"

The doomed children answered with a cheer that was music to the black hearts above, and almost immediately they repeated their good-byes to Peter. This puzzled the pirates, but all their other feelings were swallowed by a base delight that the enemy were about to come up the trees. They smirked at each other and rubbed their hands. Rapidly and silently Hook gave his orders: one man to each tree, and the others to arrange themselves in a line two yards apart.



# Peter Pan ~ Chapter 12 [goaded & pandemonium]

1. Make a word web for the word goad.



Read these definitions of **goad**.

- a. to stimulate or spur (someone) to act, esp. by annoying or irritating
- b. a rod with a pointed or electric tip, used to urge cattle or other animals to move
- c. to prick, prod, or direct with

Determine which definition is used in each of the sentences below. Write a, b, or c in the blank to show your answer.

- 2. \_\_\_\_ On the ranch, dogs are used to **goad** the sheep into going in the right direction.
- 3. \_\_\_\_ The rancher used a **goad** to herd the cattle into the correct pens.
- 4. \_\_\_\_ I was **goaded** into action by the large reward that was offered.
- 5. \_\_\_\_ The bank robber used a picture of the bank president's daughter to **goad** the president into turning over the bank's money.

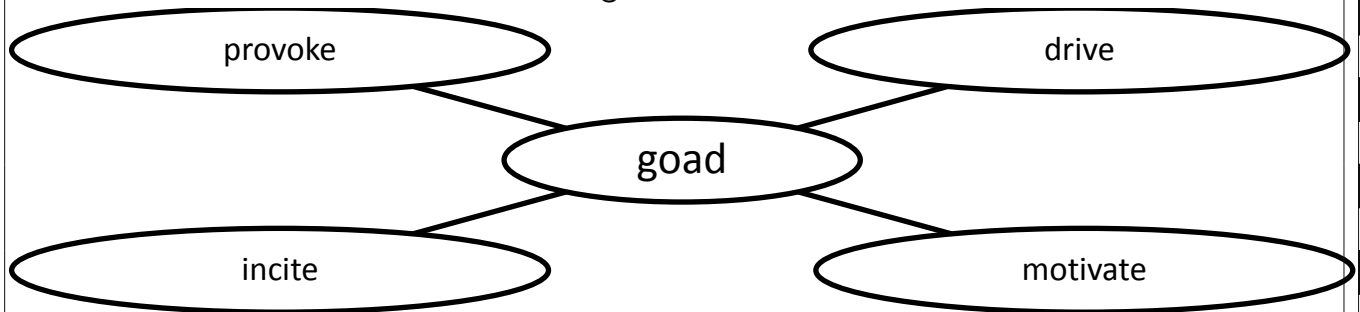


- 6. Circle six words in the box that are synonyms or closely related to the word **pandemonium**.

peace	silence	racket	bedlam
calm	chaos	tranquility	clamor
harmony	mayhem	uproar	stillness

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- a. Tiger Lily gets away.
  - b. Captain Hook hates Peter Pan.
  - c. The pirates attack the natives and win.
  - d. Wendy, John, and Michael decide to leave Neverland.

3. How does the boys' sense of fairness make them vulnerable?

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2. Chapter 12 reveals that Captain Hook's motives for wanting to kill Peter Pan are more than just the loss of his arm. Explain what Hook's motives are.

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4. Read this line from Chapter 12.

The doomed children answered with a cheer that was music to the black hearts above.

What types of figurative language can be found in the passage? \_\_\_\_\_

What does the passage mean? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. During the time that J.M. Barrie wrote Peter Pan in 1904, children often played games pretending to be Native Americans or pirates. The topic wasn't controversial as it is today. If Barrie had written Peter Pan today, how might these characters be different?

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3. How does the boys' sense of fairness make them vulnerable?

The boys are listening to see who won the battle. They know that they hear the tom-toms; then the natives have won. When they hear the drums they are confident in the victory. They never imagine the pirates would trick them by playing the drums.

5. During the time that J.M. Barrie wrote Peter Pan in 1904, children often played games pretending to be Native Americans or pirates. The topic wasn't controversial as it is today. If Barrie had written Peter Pan today, how might these characters be different?

Answers will vary.

2. Chapter 12 reveals that Captain Hook's motives for wanting to kill Peter Pan are more than just the loss of his arm. Explain what Hook's motives are.

It was Peter's cockiness.

This had gotten on Hook's nerves; it made his iron claw twitch, and at night it disturbed him like an insect. While Peter lived, the tortured man felt that he was a lion in a cage into which a sparrow had come.

4. Read this line from Chapter 12.

The doomed children answered with a cheer that was music to the black hearts above.

What types of figurative language can be found in the passage?

Cheer compared to music without the use of like or as is a metaphor.

Black hearts is an idiom.

What does the passage mean?

The pirates are referred to as black hearts. A black heart is a person who is a scoundrel; someone who is considered evil. The pirates are happy that the boys (and Wendy) feel they are safe. The pirates know by the cheering that the boys think the natives have won the fight.

## Chapter 12 ~ Constructive Response - Setting [Neverland]

Place Where the Story Takes Place

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Time the Story Takes Place

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# Setting

Importance of the Setting

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Mood - Atmosphere of the Setting

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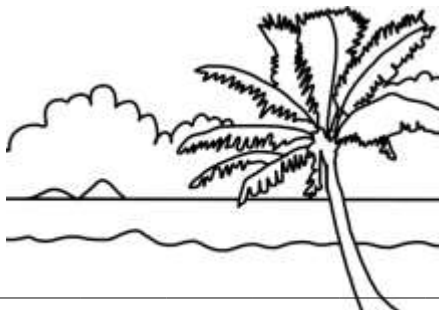
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[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3](#) Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).  
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.3](#) Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.  
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.3](#) Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot).

## Chapter 12 ~ Constructive Response - Setting [Neverland]

### Place Where the Story Takes Place

Neverland is a fictional location that Barrie says can be found in the minds of children.

Neverland is a small island that is home to mermaids, Native Americans, fairies, and pirates.

The story takes place mostly in the Neverwoods where the lost boys build a home in a cave. They also swim in the Mermaid's Lagoon.

### Time the Story Takes Place

Since the setting is completely fictional, the story could take place at any time. The book was published in 1904 with the Darling children living in London. In most depictions of the story, turn of the century London is usually depicted.

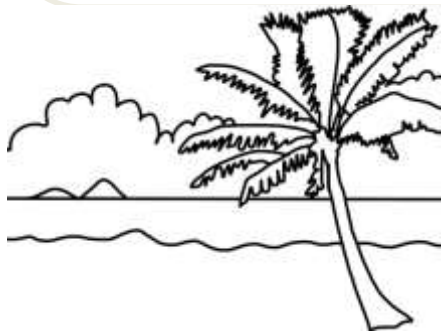
## Setting

### Importance of the Setting

The focus of the story is that Peter never wants to grow up. By living in Neverland this is possible due to the lack of authority figures in Neverland.

### Mood - Atmosphere of the Setting

The book is a fantasy. It contains many magical elements including fairies and mermaids.



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## Quotes about Neverland from the Book

Location ~~ Second to the right,' said Peter, 'and then straight on till morning.'"

Of course the Neverlands vary a good deal. John's, for instance, had a lagoon with flamingoes flying over it at which John was shooting, while Michael, who was very small, had a flamingo with lagoons flying over it. John lived in a boat turned upside down on the sands, Michael in a wigwam, Wendy in a house of leaves deftly sewn together. John had no friends, Michael had friends at night, Wendy had a pet wolf forsaken by its parents, but on the whole the Neverlands have a family resemblance, and if they stood still in a row you could say of them that they have each other's nose, and so forth. On these magic shores children at play are forever beaching their coracles [simple boat]. We too have been there; we can still hear the sound of the surf, though we shall land no more.

Of all delectable islands the Neverland is the snuggest and most compact, not large and sprawly, you know, with tedious distances between one adventure and another, but nicely crammed. When you play at it by day with the chairs and table-cloth, it is not in the least alarming, but in the two minutes before you go to sleep it becomes very real. That is why there are night-lights.

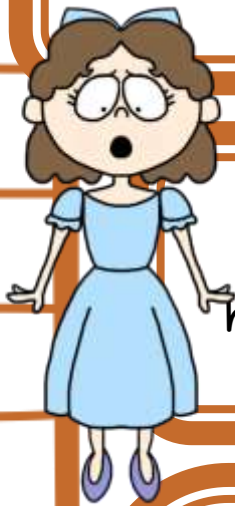
If you shut your eyes and are a lucky one, you may see at times a shapeless pool of lovely pale colours suspended in the darkness; then if you squeeze your eyes tighter, the pool begins to take shape, and the colours become so vivid that with another squeeze they must go on fire. But just before they go on fire you see the lagoon. This is the nearest you ever get to in on the mainland, just one heavenly moment; if there could be two moments you might see the surf and hear the mermaid's singing.

"Feeling that Peter was on his way back, the Neverland had again woke into life. We ought to use the pluperfect and say wakened, but woke is better and was always used by Peter."

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