

Narrator 1: THE WORRYWARTS

By Pamela Duncan Edwards

Characters: Narrator 1, Narrator 2, Narrator 3, Narrator 4, Narrator 5, Narrator 6, Wombat, Weasel, Woodchuck, Woodpecker, Wasp, Wolf, Rabbit Warren, Wagtail, Owl

Narrator 2: One warm Wednesday morning, the sun winked through Wombat's window and woke her up. She thought,

Wombat: "What a wonderful day to wander the world."

Narrator 3: Wombat went to ask Weasel and Woodchuck whether they would go with her. Weasel asked,

Weasel: "Where *is* the world?"

Woodchuck: "Past the wishing well, down the pathway, and through the woods,"

Narrator 4: answered Woodchuck, who was very well-read. So they set to work, wondering what to take with them.

Narrator 5: Wombat wanted watercress-on-whole-wheat-bread sandwiches, walnut wafers, waffles with whipped cream, wedges of watermelon, and her walking stick.

Narrator 6: Weasel wanted wieners and liverwurst, and his water pistol.

Narrator 1: Woodchuck wanted the "W" volume of the *Webster's Book of Words*, in case they needed to look up information about "The World." But then Wombat began to worry and wailed,

Wombat: "WAIT! WHAT IF.....we're walking past the wallflowers and a swarm of wasps is waiting? What if they swirl around us and we've nothing to swat them with? What if we're running away and we're not watching where we're going and suddenly we're wading up to our waists in water? What if a wave whooshes over us and a wallowing walrus swims up and swallows us? WHAT THEN?"

Weasel: "If we're going swimming, I'll want to wear my water wings!"

Narrator 2: said Weasel. Wombat cried,

Wombat: "You're so wise! We won't be worrywarts!"

Narrator 3: But then Weasel began to worry. He wailed,

Weasel: "WAIT! WHAT IF.....we're waltzing down the pathway when a wicked wolf comes winding his way toward us? What if we wave to him but he won't wag his tail? What if we're running away when the weather worsens? What if a whirlwind blows in from the west and sweeps us away into the wilderness? WHAT THEN?"

Woodchuck: "It's going to be windy. I'll want to wear my woolly underwear!"

Narrator 4: said Woodchuck. Weasel cried,

Weasel: "You're so wise! We don't have to be worrywarts!"

Narrator 5: But then Woodchuck began to worry. He wailed,

Woodchuck: "WAIT! WHAT IF.....we're whistling while we walk through the woods and we wake up an owl? What if he gets worked up and swoops down with a swish of his wings and whisks us away? What if the weight's too much for him and he begins to wobble? What if he drops us into a swamp and warthog comes waddling along and wallops us? WHAT THEN?"

Wombat: "If we're going flying, I'll want to wear my wind helmet!"

Narrator 6: said Wombat. Woodchuck cried,

Woodchuck: "You're so wise! We won't be worrywarts!"

Narrator 1: Then without wasting any more time, they wrapped the watercress-on-whole-wheat-bread sandwiches, the waffles with whipped cream, the walnut wafers, the wedges of watermelon, and the wieners and liverwurst in waxed paper.

Narrator 2: **Woodchuck put the “W” volume of Webster’s Book of Words into his wheelbarrow, and away they went to wander the world. After a while, Wombat said,**

Wombat: “I was wondering whether we should eat our sandwiches?”

Narrator 3: **So they sat on a wall. They played with a wiggly worm and watched a spider weaving a web on the wisteria. But suddenly,**

Woodpecker: “WATCH OUT!”

Narrator 4: **warned a woodpecker from a weeping willow tree.**

Narrator 5: **Something whooshed around Wombat’s watercress-on-whole-wheat-bread sandwiches.**

Wombat: “A wasp!”

Narrator 6: **she cried. Swiftly, Wombat whacked the air with her walking stick and whizzed a wedge of watermelon into some weeds. The wasp whooped,**

Wasp: “Wow! Watermelon! Mouthwatering!”

Narrator 1: **And the wasp went winging away. Weasel and Woodchuck cried,**

Weasel: "Well done, Wombat!"

Woodchuck: "You were wonderful!"

Wombat: "You're welcome,"

Narrator 2: said Wombat, and they set off again to wander the world. But suddenly,

Rabbit Warren: "WATCH OUT!"

Narrator 3: came a whisper from a rabbit warren. Someone came swaggering down the pathway toward them. Weasel cried,

Weasel: "Whoops! A wicked wolf!"

Narrator 4: Swiftly, Weasel twirled his wieners and liverwurst into some wildflowers and swooshed his water pistol at the wolf. Wiping his wet whiskers, the wolf cried,

Wolf: "Wieners and liverwurst! I'm wild about wieners and liverwurst!"

Narrator 5: Away he went with his tail wagging. Wombat and Woodchuck cried,

Wombat: "Way to go!"

Woodchuck: "You were very wily, Weasel!"

Weasel: "We weren't wimps,"

Narrator 6: agreed Weasel, and they set off again to wander the world. But suddenly,

Wagtail: "WATCH OUT!"

Narrator 1: warbled a wagtail. Woodchuck saw an eye twinkling behind a twig.

Woodchuck: "An owl!"

Narrator 2: he cried. Swiftly, Woodchuck whirled his "W" volume of *Webster's Book of Words* at the owl. WHANG! The owl cried,

Owl: "Whoopee! Just what I wanted to help me win my word game!"

Weasel: "You're so wise, Woodchuck!"

Narrator 3: said Wombat and Weasel. Wombat said,

Wombat: "We've walked a long way."

Weasel: "I'm weak and weary."

Woodchuck: "I'm worn out."

Narrator 4: said Weasel and Woodchuck. So they went back along the pathway. Wombat wondered,

Wombat: "When will we wander the world again?"

Weasel: "I wish we could go again next week,"

Narrator 5: said Weasel. Woodchuck said,

Woodchuck: "Why not? BUT.....WHAT IF.....?"