

Vilge the Wolf Pup

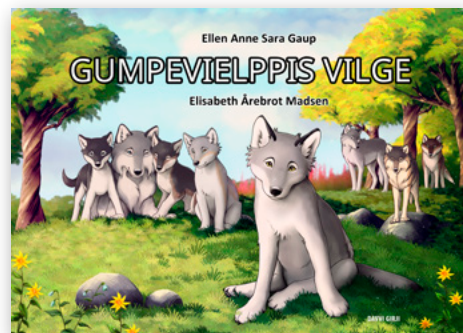
Ellen Anne Sara Gaup – Elisabeth Årebrot Madsen (ill.)

Why do wolves howl? Why do wolves live in packs, and why do they sometimes roam on their own? Are wolves dangerous? You'll find answers to these questions and more in this informational book for children, where you'll get to know the wolf pup, Vilge.

The wolf has historically been an animal that most people dislike, particularly members of primary industries, such as farmers and reindeer herders. Wolves kill and eat other animals, and their packs consist of many wolves that can kill sheep and reindeer. The goal of this book is to teach children about how wolves live in the wild, as well as how they hunt in packs and individually. The wolf is also an animal that plays an essential role in the natural ecosystem. They can be helpful, for example, by keeping the wild reindeer population in check.

Vilge is a wolf pup who lives with his pack. As he gets bigger, he can start hunting for food. First, he learns how to catch mice and other small animals. Then, he's able to join the wolf pack when they go hunting for larger animals, such as reindeer and elk. The wolf pack travels through various places during different times of the year, which is how Vilge also gets to know his hunting grounds. Given the way wolves live, Vilge eventually has to leave his mother and father once he's gotten big enough to manage on his own. He heads off to roam on his own, which brings new challenges. Vilge quickly learns that he needs to be wary of most things. On his solo journey, he gets to know a she-wolf he hunts with and eventually makes his own wolf pack with.

The book is written as a story, allowing us to get to know wolves in a completely different way than if we were to simply read a list of facts. The author has personified the wolves, making it easier to understand why the wolf can be humans' greatest enemy – and why humans can also be the greatest enemy of the wolf.



Gumpevielppis Vilge

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• 56 pages • Fairytale • 3–9 years

Ellen Anne Sara Gaup is from Máze, in Kautokeino municipality. She was born and married into a reindeer herding family. A licensed educator and teacher, she believes in the importance of children engaging with stories that offer valuable lessons. In this way, she carries on the Sámi storytelling tradition through her children's books, the first of which was published in 2007. Her first non-fiction book for children – *Miesážiis rávis boazun* (From Little to Big: The Life Cycle of the Reindeer) – was published in 2021.