

# THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ BY L. FRANK BAUM

## Warm Up



This is a map of North America.  
The United States of America is in North America. It  
has many states. The area highlighted in red is the  
state of Kansas in America.



## **Vocabulary**

earnestly: intently, seriously

queer: strange or unusual

tedious: tiring and boring

perched: to be seated on a raised seat or position

pole: a long stick

obliged: feel responsible to do something, or to do something because it is the right thing

stuffed: filled; made of fabric stuffed with a soft filling

confidentially: telling someone a secret that should not be told to anyone else

treaded: stepped on

husky: low or rough voice or harsh

no worse off: a situation in which circumstances remain unchanged, or have not got any worse

How do you do: how are you?

## **THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ**

While Dorothy was looking earnestly into the queer, painted face of the Scarecrow, she was surprised to

see one of the eyes slowly wink at her. She thought she must have been mistaken at first, for none of the scarecrows in Kansas ever wink; but presently the figure nodded its head to her in a friendly way. Then she climbed down from the fence and walked up to it, while Toto ran around the pole and barked.

“Good day,” said the Scarecrow, in a rather husky voice.

“Did you speak?” asked the girl, in wonder.



“Certainly,” answered the Scarecrow. “How do you do?”

“I’m pretty well, thank you,” replied Dorothy politely. “How do you do?”

“I’m not feeling well,” said the Scarecrow, with a smile, “for it is very tedious being perched up here night and day to scare away crows.”

“Can’t you get down?” asked Dorothy.

“No, for this pole is stuck up my back. If you will please take away the pole I shall be greatly obliged to you.”

Dorothy reached up both arms and lifted the figure off the pole, for, being stuffed with straw, it was quite light.

“Thank you very much,” said the Scarecrow when he had been set down on the ground. “I feel like a new man.” Dorothy was puzzled at this, for it sounded queer to hear a stuffed man speak, and to see him bow and walk along beside her.

“Who are you?” asked the Scarecrow when he had stretched himself and yawned. “And where are you going?”

“My name is Dorothy,” said the girl, “and I am going to the Emerald City, to ask the Great Oz to send me back to Kansas.”

“Where is the Emerald City?” he inquired. “And who is Oz?”



The imaginary City of OZ

“Why, don’t you know?” she replied, in surprise.

“No, indeed. I don’t know anything. You see, I am stuffed, so I have no brains at all,” he answered sadly.

“Oh,” said Dorothy, “I’m awfully sorry for you.”

“Do you think,” he asked, “if I go to the Emerald City with you, that Oz would give me some brains?”

“I cannot tell,” she returned, “but you may come with me if you like. If Oz will not give you any brains you will be no worse off than you are now.”

“That is true,” said the Scarecrow. “You see,” he continued confidentially, “I don’t mind my legs and arms and body being stuffed, because I cannot get hurt. If anyone treads on my toes or sticks a pin into me, it doesn’t matter, for I can’t feel it. But I do not want people to call me a fool, and if my head stays stuffed with straw instead of with brains, as yours is, how am I ever to know anything?”

“I understand how you feel,” said the little girl, who was truly sorry for him. “If you will come with me, I’ll ask Oz to do all he can for you.”

“Thank you,” he answered gratefully.

They walked back to the road. Dorothy helped him over the fence, and they started along the path of yellow brick for the Emerald City.

<https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/55/pg55-images.html>

- A. Complete the sentences with words from the story.
1. The scarecrow felt like a new \_\_\_\_\_ when Dorothy set him down on the ground.
  2. If anyone treaded on the scarecrow's toes he would not get \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. The scarecrow did not want to be called a \_\_\_\_\_.
  4. Dorothy did not know whether OZ would give Scarecrow some \_\_\_\_\_.

- B. Choose the most appropriate option to complete the sentences.

1. Dorothy was surprised because
  - a. the scarecrow had a queer face
  - b. the scarecrow had a painted face
  - c. the scarecrow winked at her
  - d. the scarecrow was in Kansas
2. The scarecrow
  - a. was rude to Dorothy
  - b. hated Dorothy
  - c. was clever
  - d. spoke to Dorothy
3. The scarecrow complained that

- a. he was not feeling well
  - b. he did not like winking
  - c. he did not like speaking
  - d. he did not have any brains
4. Dorothy could lift the scarecrow easily because
- a. he was ill
  - b. he was stuffed with straw
  - c. he had a painted face
  - d. he was queer
5. The scarecrow did not know anything because
- a. he had been set on the ground
  - b. he was queer
  - c. he had no brains
  - d. his arms and legs were stuffed

C. Answer the questions.

- 1. Why was Dorothy surprised when she was looking at the scarecrow?
- 2. Who was Toto?
- 3. Why couldn't the scarecrow get down from his perch?
- 4. Why was the scarecrow light?



5. Where was Dorothy going?
6. What did the scarecrow want OZ to give him?

D. Find the opposites of these words in the passage.

1. quickly
2. unfriendly
3. impolitely
4. coming
5. happily

E. Use the words from Vocabulary to fill in the blanks.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ high up on the tree, the nightingale began to sing.
2. The boy looked \_\_\_\_\_ at his mother and asked if she thought he looked good in his new clothes.
3. I told you the real story \_\_\_\_\_; it should not be told to others.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ face of the doll made me love it more than ever.

5. The flag fluttered merrily on the tall

\_\_\_\_\_.

6. The \_\_\_\_\_, long journey tired us.

7. I was \_\_\_\_\_ to answer all my  
teacher's questions truthfully.

F. Make sentences with the words given under  
'Vocabulary'.