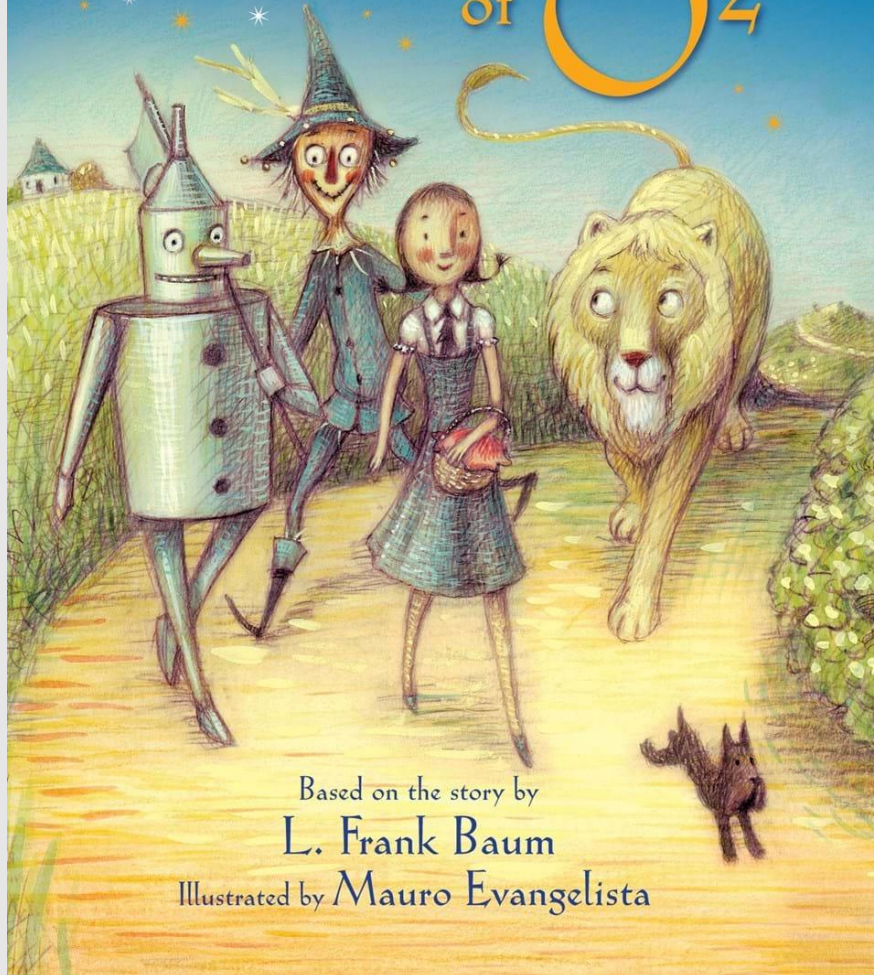


USBORNE YOUNG READING



# The Wizard of Oz



Based on the story by  
**L. Frank Baum**  
Illustrated by **Mauro Evangelista**

The little girl gave a cry of amazement and looked about her, her eyes growing bigger and bigger at the wonderful sights she saw.

The cyclone had set the house down very gently-for a cyclone-in the midst of a country of marvellous beauty. There were lovely patches of greensward all about, with stately trees bearing rich and luscious fruits. Banks of gorgeous flowers were on every hand, and birds with rare and brilliant plumage sang and fluttered in the trees and bushes. A little way off was a small brook, rushing and sparkling along between green banks, and murmuring in a voice very grateful to a little girl who had lived so long on the dry, grey prairies.

Find and copy two phrases which show us that the girl was shocked by what she saw.

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Find and copy a phrase which tells us that the place where the house was dropped was a very nice looking place.

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How do we know that there were a lot of flowers?

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How is this place different to the place where the little girl lives?



While she stood looking eagerly at the strange and beautiful sights, she noticed coming toward her a group of the queerest people she had ever seen. They were not as big as the grown folk she had always been used to; but neither were they very small. In fact, they seemed about as tall as Dorothy, who was a well-grown child for her age, although they were, so far as looks go, many years older.

Three were men and one a woman, and all were oddly dressed. They wore round hats that rose to a small point a foot above their heads, with little bells around the brims that tinkled sweetly as they moved. The hats of the men were blue; the little woman's hat was white, and she wore a white gown that hung in pleats from her shoulders. Over it were sprinkled little stars that glistened in the sun like diamonds. The men were dressed in blue, of the same shade as their hats, and wore well-polished boots with a deep roll of blue at the tops. The men, Dorothy thought, were about as old as Uncle Henry, for two of them had beards. But the little woman was doubtless much older. Her face was covered with wrinkles, her hair was nearly white, and she walked rather stiffly.

Look at the first paragraph. Find and copy the adverb that tells us the girl was very interested in the sights around her.

CHALLENGE - Can you think of a synonym alternative?

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Write one way the people were the same as Dorothy.  
Write one way the people were different to Dorothy.  
Use evidence from the text to support each answer.

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**Draw the whole scene with as much detail as possible.**