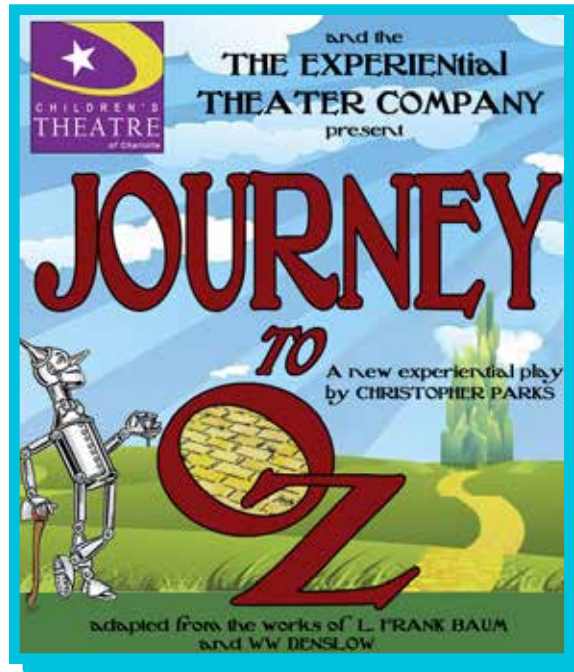


Long Island Children's Museum

Activity Packet



Journey to Oz

Written and Directed by Christopher Parks of Experiential Theater Company

Based on the work of Author L. Frank Baum and Illustrator W. W. Denslow

*Content for this activity packet was created with the help of
The Children's Theater of Charlotte and Florida Repertory Theater.*

Performances:

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 10 a.m. and noon

Friday, May 19, 2017 at 10 a.m. and noon

Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.*

Tuesday, May 23 through Friday, May 26, 2017 at 10 a.m. and noon

Tuesday, May 30 through Friday, June 2, 2017 at 10 a.m. and noon

Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Wednesday, June 7 through Friday, June 9, 2017 at 10 a.m. and noon

Saturday, June 10, 2017 at 2 p.m.*

Sensory Friendly Performance: Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 11:30 a.m.

**Special Theater Package Available*



Know Before You Go

The Theater...

Long Island Children's Museum Theater is the only theater on Long Island presenting performances specifically for family audiences on a year-round basis. It has presented vibrant and engaging performances for families since the Museum opened in 1993 and plays a central role in the range of educational experiences provided to visitors. In 2008, the LICM Theater expanded its role and began producing professional level family theater shows. Scripts are selected that encourage audience interaction and create personal experiences that we hope children will take with them throughout their lives.



Question Quest! Have you ever seen a live theater performance? What do you do when you see something on stage that you like? Do you clap? Cheer? Smile?

Who You Will See...

The Cast

Carrie Heffernan– Player 1 (Glinda and various characters)

Liz Jeffery– Player 2 (The Wicked Witch, Aunt Em, the Emerald City Doorman)

Danny Gleason– Player 3 (The Scarecrow, Uncle Henry, The Flying Monkey Lawyer)

Austin Costello– Player 4 (The Cowardly Lion and various characters)

James Cottone– Player 5 (The Tin Woodman, The Wizard and various characters)



The Production Staff

Christopher T. Parks– Playwright/Director

Kyle Mahoney– Stage Manager

James Packard– Lighting Designer

Samantha Impellizeri– Theater Program Coordinator

Click Further: Learn more about the LICM Theater on our [webpage](#).

Question Quest! What is an actor? What is a director? What is the difference between live theater and a movie?

From the Mind of...

Christopher T. Parks is the playwright for *Journey to Oz*. He is the Artistic Director of The Experiential Theater Company, which brings immersive, interactive theater to young audiences throughout the United States and United Kingdom. He is also the Producing Director at Young Audiences NJ & Eastern Pennsylvania. As a playwright his work has been seen at theaters all over the country including here at the



Long Island Children's Museum. Christopher created the interactive style of theater called Experiential Theater and has been a guest lecturer on the subject at NYU; Rose Bruford College, London; Manhattanville College; and Columbia University. You may have seen Chris's work on the LICM Theater stage in *The Adventures of Perseus*.

Under the direction of Christopher Parks, the Experiential Theater Company is dedicated to creating quality immersive theater productions for young audiences and their families. While at the McCarter Theatre Center, Parks and some associates pioneered the interactive style that has become the namesake. Student and family audiences typically come to the theater expecting to see a play, but what they find out very quickly when they see these productions is that they are there to be in a play. They take on roles as co-creators and collaborators who sing, dance, and act alongside professional performers. It is a safe environment, so whatever the audience's interest in participating, everyone feels just as welcome to watch as those who come up and play. The focus of the company's work comes from collaborations with partner theaters and organizations across the US and United Kingdom. If you're in the room, you're in the show!

Question Quest! What is a playwright? Did you see *The Adventures of Perseus*? Have you seen any other performances on the LICM stage?

Click Further: Learn more about Christopher Parks and **Experiential Theater** and be sure to check out their **Facebook page**.

Activity Time: Playing Playwright

Take a scene from your favorite show or movie and write a script for it!

1. Become familiar with scripts by **practicing** reading them.
2. Create your own using a format similar to **this** to capture the dialogue between characters.
3. For more information on writing a script, watch this **video**.
4. Read your script out loud with friends or family. Is reading a script easier or harder than reading a typical book?



The Show....

Join a troupe of Oz fans as they use their wild imaginations and love of storytelling to bring the stories of L. Frank Baum to life like you've never seen them before. The audience is in the middle of the action in this fun, experiential show as Dorothy and her friends battle the Wicked Witch to find the brains, the heart and the courage they never knew they had. Inspired by L. Frank Baum's original stories, this clever adaptation puts the audience front and center – really! This interactive production allows audience members to become cast members, singing, dancing and acting alongside the actors. Meet the scarecrow, the tin woodsman and the citizens of the Emerald City, and help the Witch of the West with her makeup. Children learn the art of storytelling while creating, analyzing and participating in this performance. In this production the audience is reminded why there is indeed no place like home.



Journey to Oz was commissioned by Florida Repertory Theatre and written by Christopher Parks for their 2014-2015 season. The play was first produced as a staged reading as part of Florida Repertory Theatre's Inaugural PlayLab Festival in May 2014 then the original production premiered in October 2014.

Question Quest! Have you ever acted in a show? Have you ever been on a stage? How would you feel if an actor invited you onto stage?

Click Further: Get an idea of what's to come by watching this [video clip](#) for *Journey to Oz*.

The Book...



The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is an American children's novel written by author L. Frank Baum and illustrated by W. W. Denslow, originally published by the George M. Hill Company in Chicago on May 17, 1900. It has since been reprinted on numerous occasions, most often under the title *The Wizard of Oz*, which is the title of the popular 1902 Broadway musical as well as the iconic 1939 musical film adaptation.

The story chronicles the adventures of a young farm girl named Dorothy in the magical Land of Oz, after she and her pet dog Toto are swept away from their Kansas home by a cyclone. The novel is one of the best-known stories in American literature and has been widely translated. In January 1901, George M. Hill Company completed printing the first edition, a total of 10,000 copies, which quickly sold out.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz sold three million copies by the time it entered the public domain in 1956. The Library of Congress has declared it "America's greatest and best-loved homegrown fairytale." Its groundbreaking success and the success of the Broadway musical adapted from the novel led Baum to write 13 additional Oz books that serve as official sequels to the first story.

Question Quest! Have you read *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*? If so, what did you think about it? Do you like to read? Why? What is your favorite book to read? How does it make you feel?

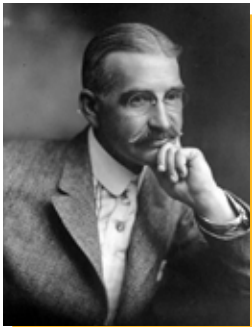
Click Further: Check out this [complete list](#) of books based on the land of Oz and read [versions](#) of them to prepare you for the performance.

Activity Time: Write On!

Become a part of the series and create your own story based in the Land of Oz!

1. Brainstorm! What is your story about?
 - a. Are you using an event from your life as inspiration?
 - b. Do any of the characters from The Wonderful Wizard of Oz make an appearance?
 - c. Who is the **protagonist**?
 - d. Who is the **antagonist**?
 - e. Think about the 5Ws: Who? What? Where? Why? When?
 - f. All stories need a beginning, middle and an end. What will happen in your story?
 - g. How does your character end up in Oz? What challenges does he or she face there?
2. Organize your story. Use the story map to help you put all your thoughts down.
3. Using your story map, write a first draft of your story. Be sure to include **dialogue** between characters. Also don't forget to use **adjectives** to help describe what the characters see in the story! Use a **thesaurus** if you need help finding the right words!
4. Revise your draft. After you've written your first draft, re-read it and make any changes you need to! Writers often go through many drafts before they finish their story!
5. Share your work with a friend or family member!

The Author...



L. Frank Baum is considered to be one of the most significant American authors who ever lived, largely in part because of his canon of stories about the amazing and fantastical world of Oz.

In addition to the Oz series, Baum wrote a multitude of other fantasy novels, short stories, poems and scripts. Prior to acquiring fame as an author, Baum worked in a wide variety of jobs including salesman, a department store owner, a newspaper editor, the manager of an Opera house and breeder of prize-winning chickens!

Baum's variety of experiences and adventures surely enhanced the sense of imagination and wonder that emerged in his writing. The theatrical production of

Journey to Oz includes hints of several of the Oz stories, but focuses predominantly on the familiar journey of Dorothy and Toto following the yellow brick road to seek the Wizard. Journey to Oz is set within an Oz-inspired library, paying homage to Baum's contribution to the world of literature for young people.

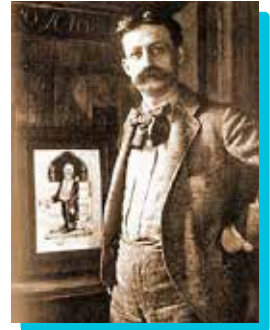
Question Quest! How many of L. Frank Baum's stories are you familiar with? If you had your own literary journal or newspaper, what would you call it?

Click Further: Read **quotes** by L. Frank Baum and see how many of them you can recognize or relate to.

The Illustrator...

Illustrator and caricaturist W.W. Denslow lived from 1856 to 1915. He created the illustrations for *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* book. Several of his illustrations are featured in the stage production of *Journey to Oz*.

Denslow worked with L. Frank Baum on two other books before their professional relationship dissolved following an argument over the royalties for the 1902 stage adaptation of *Oz*. After their collaboration ended, Denslow went on to purchase a small island in Bermuda and crown himself King Denslow I.



Question Quest! What is an illustrator? Have you ever gotten into an argument with someone? How did it make you feel? What did you do to resolve the argument?

Click Further: Check out more of W. W. Denslow's **illustrations**. How would you describe them?

Activity Time: Illustration Station

Pick one of your favorite stories and create illustrations for it.

1. Think about which characters you would like to draw. Compile a list of descriptive words and phrases for each character.
2. Collect art supplies of your choice, such as crayons, markers and pencils.
3. Now bring your characters to life! What facial expression do they have? How does this give your character life?

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From Page to Screen...

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz was a wildly successful book when it was published in 1900. When it became a movie in 1939, movie producers made a few significant changes. Many audiences today are more familiar with the movie than the book. *Journey to Oz* is a more faithful adaption to the book. Here are a few key differences from the movie to the book!



- In the book, the Land of Oz is a real place. In the movie, it is a place that Dorothy only visits in her dreams.
- Dorothy encounters three magical women who help her along the way. They are the unnamed Good Witch of the North, Glinda the Good Witch of the South, and the Queen of the Field Mice. In the movie, Dorothy only meets Glinda, the Good Witch.
- The color of Dorothy's shoes is silver in the book. The movie changed them to ruby slippers to take advantage of the movie being in Technicolor.
- Everything is green in the Emerald City. In the book everyone must wear spectacles so that everyone and everything appears green.

- Kalidahs are an imaginary half tiger, half bear animal that appear in the book but not in the movie.
- Even though the book contains the winged monkeys, they are not the Wicked Witch's army. They are only called at the command of a magical cap which the Wicked Witch has control over, she can only call the monkey's three times with the magical cap. It is like a genie offering three wishes only.
- In the book, when the Lion falls into a deadly sleep in the field of poppies, a group of field mice rescue him by pulling him out of the field with bits of string.
- The book contains the countries of Quadlings and China. In the land of China, all things are breakable.
- The Witch plays a relatively small role in the book, only meeting her in the second half of the story. In the film, however, the witch practically drives the entire plot.

Question Quest! Is the show more like the book or the movie? In what ways?

Click Further: For a more in-depth comparison between the book and film, read this **blog post**.

Elements of Fairy Tales and Folktales...

The *Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum has been called the first American Fairy Tale; in *Journey to Oz* the story is considered "the greatest American Folktale." Review the following elements of fairy tales and folktales.

Fairy Tales are stories about magical and imaginary beings and lands which typically include the following:

1. Special beginning/ending words (such as "Once Upon a Time...")
2. The main character has to solve a problem
3. Good prevails over evil
4. The story contains a component of royalty
5. The story contains a component of poverty
6. Magic elements or enchantments
7. Recurring patterns or numbers (often 3's and 7's)
8. Offers a lesson or universal truth



Folktales are stories forming part of an oral tradition, which typically include the following:

1. Passed down from generation to generation
2. Used to help explain the world around us
3. Hero or heroine is usually young
4. Hero or heroine is usually caring, honorable and courageous
5. Main character has to rely on brains to solve a problem rather than relying on magic
6. The action of the story follows a pattern
7. Author is often unknown
8. Tells of universal truths, lessons and values

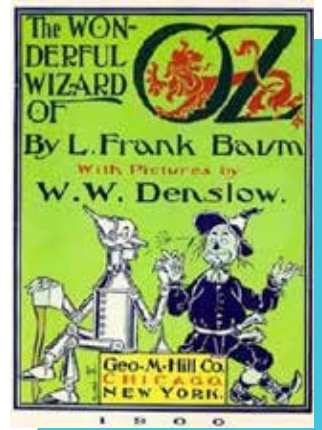
Question Quest! What is your favorite fairy tale? Does the *Wonderful Wizard of Oz* teach a lesson? If so, what lesson does it teach?

Click Further: Watch a [short video](#) on the differences between fairy tales and folktales.

Activity Time: Folk or Fairy?

Decide if the story leans more toward the genre of fairy tale or folktale, or if it's a combination of both!

1. Grab a grown up and read (or reread) your favorite Oz tale.
2. Record when the story follows any of the fairy tale and folktale elements listed above.
3. Organize your data into a T Chart.
4. Count how many fairy tale and how many folktale elements the story has. Which is it more like? Does it have elements of both? Do you notice any patterns?



Leading Ladies...

L. Frank Baum supported equal rights for women. He was the secretary for the South Dakota suffrage organization. The women's suffrage movement brought about change to many basic rights that were made possible by inspiring women and men of that time. He was also surrounded by influential women who are thought to have inspired his world of Oz and the leading female characters that inhabit it. L. Frank Baum's mother-in-law Matilda Joslyn Gage played an integral part in the women's movement, often working alongside Susan B. Anthony to gain a woman's right to vote. Gage was also a big supporter of Baum's work and the stories he would tell. She encouraged him, in her own way, exclaiming "You're a fool if you don't publish them."

Question Quest! L. Frank Baum portrayed strong, intelligent, leading female characters such as Dorothy, Glinda the Good Witch and the Wicked Witch. Who is your favorite female character? What do you like about her?

Click Further: Rock out to [this](#) School House Rock tune about the women's suffrage movement.



During Your Visit

Show Time!

Before the Show:

- Please do not bring food or beverages into the Theater (bottled water is permitted).
- Please turn off or silence cell phones when entering the Theater. This makes the experience more enjoyable for everyone.

During the Show:

- LICM Theater is a place that encourages audience interaction in most of our shows. However, we ask that the audience remain seated until prompted by the actors to enter the stage area or respond to questions.
- Keep the aisles clear as per fire safety regulations and in case of emergency.
- We know that young children are curious and will want to ask you questions during the performance—feel free to talk quietly with your children.
- The use of recording and/or photographic equipment is strictly prohibited. You will have an opportunity to take photos of our performers and chat with them at the end of every show.

After the Show:

- Stay and meet the performers!

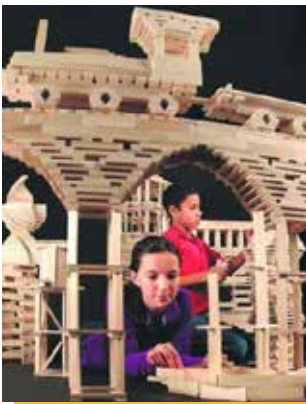


Question Quest! What was the funniest part of the show? How did the show make you feel? What do you think the performers did to prepare for the show? What question would you like to ask our performers?

Click Further: Read about [research](#) that proved the importance of live theater for students.

Making Connections...

When you come to see the show, be sure to stick around afterwards and check out all of the galleries in the museum. These are some specific ways you and your child can use the galleries to expand upon your trip to see Journey to Oz.



Activity Time: Building Boom with KEVA Planks

Make your own Emerald City using KEVA Planks!

Question Quest! What types of buildings are in your Emerald City? Why did you choose these buildings? Who lives there? How many KEVA Blocks tall is your tallest building?

Click Further: Build a [virtual Emerald City](#) at home!

Activity Time: Pattern Wizardry

**Please note that this exhibit opens June 6, 2017.*

Become the Wizard of Patterns and create your own yellow brick road for Dorothy to follow using tessellation tiles, pattern stamps, or any of the other stations in this magical gallery.

Question Quest! What is a pattern? How many patterns do you see during your daily routine?

Click Further: Play more with patterns in this free [online game!](#)

Activity Time: Museum Hunt

Take pictures with the cutouts of your favorite Oz characters in the style of Illustrator, W. W. Denslow. Be sure to post them with the hashtag #LICMJourneytoOz!

Question Quest! Who is your favorite Wizard of Oz character from the book? Movie? Journey to Oz show? Is your favorite character the same in each? Why or why not?

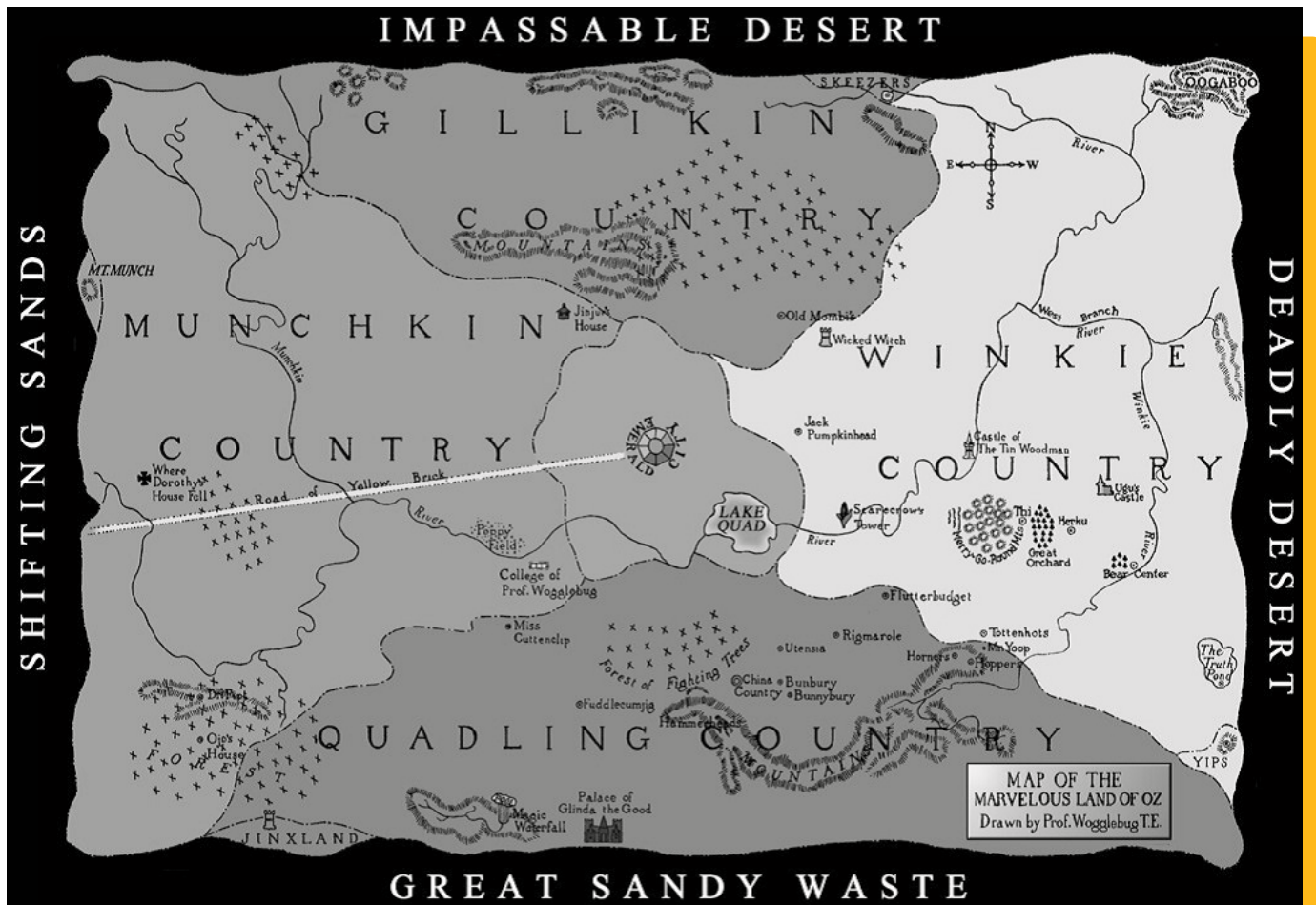
Click Further: Check out the other visitors' pictures on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and feel free to share #LICMJourneytoOz pictures of your own!



After Your Visit

Mapping Oz...

The Map of the Marvelous Land of Oz was drawn by (the fictional) Professor H. M. Wogglebug, T.E., in 1914. The most curious aspect of this map is the little known fact that east and west are reversed in Oz. You will notice that Munchkin Country is in the east, but is also on the left hand side of the map--while the western Winkie Country is on the right hand side. In 1980, the map was recreated by James Haff and Dick Martin, with Munchkin Country on the right side of the map and Winkie Country on the left side of the map so that Oz would have familiar east/west orientation. For purposes of this activity, we will refer to the original map which is pictured below. Note the compass rose which indicates east to the left and west to the right.



Question Quest! What is the name of the lake located within the boundaries of the Emerald City? Name the desert located to the north of Gillikin Country. In which country is Jinxland located? Within which country lies the Truth Pond? Directly south of Emerald City lies a Forest. What is the name of this Forest?

Click Further: Take a look at [other maps](#) with varying interpretations of Oz.

Activity Time: Map It Out!

Create your own map of Oz! Either drew it out using crayons and pencils or create a collage by printing out pictures and pasting them together. Be sure to include a **key** and a **compass rose**! What did you choose to include in your map of Oz? Why?

Disastrous Deliveries...



In *Journey To Oz*, the players explore the idea that “there is no other way for people to travel to this mystical land of Oz except through some violent and dangerous means. The start of an adventure is an adventure in and of itself.” Examples of natural disasters that propelled characters into the Land of Oz include:

Book 4 – The earth split into a great crack... (an Earthquake)

Book 8 – They fell through a volcano...

Book 10 – Swept away by a tidal wave...

Book 13 – Spied a cave after the dust had cleared from the harrowing avalanche...

Activity Time: *Brainstorm Storm*

What other natural disasters brought characters to the Land of Oz? Why do you think L. Frank Baum used this convention in many of his stories? Brainstorm other events that could transport characters to a fantasy world.

Question Quest! What is your favorite type of weather? Do you like it when it is hot or cold outside? Why?

Click Further: Learn more about [natural disasters](#) and how to prepare for them.

Books to Life...

Journey to Oz uses books as a visual expression of the Oz stories coming to life. Books are used as props and set pieces and the actors cut and fold pages of books to create costume pieces and puppets. Books are not only the center of the story, but an integral part of how the actors tell the story!

Activity Time: *Between the Folds*

Fold your own pages to create your own **Toto**! If available, get your grownup’s permission to use pages from old books to repurpose them into a textual Toto.

Mind Your Manners...

Journey to Oz models good manners throughout the performance. The players express the importance of giving compliments, proper greetings and numerous other common courtesies.

Activity Time: *Manners Mission*

A compliment is when you say something nice to someone about himself or herself, such as a polite expression of praise or adoration. Make it your mission to give as many compliments as you can! How does it feel when someone pays you a compliment? How does it feel when you pay someone else a compliment?

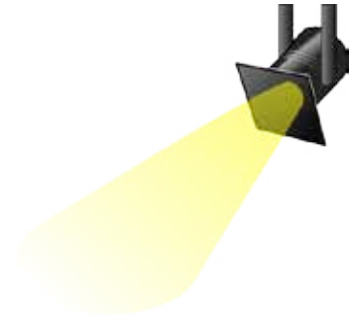
Question Quest: What compliments did Dorothy give the Wicked Witch of the West? How do you curtsy? What do you say when you meet someone for the first time? Why should you say “thank you?”

Click Further: Check out [this article](#) for grownups to learn more about teaching manners or give these [manner-teaching games](#) a try!

Spotlight on Vocabulary...

The following are words used to describe aspects of theater:

1. **Role**– the character(s) played by an actor.
2. **Props**– items held by actors such as the bag of wind or oars of a boat.
3. **Script**– the written words of a play the actors memorize their lines from.
4. **Climax**– the height and “changing point” of the story.
5. **Blocking**– the physical movement of the actors, where they stand and when they move.
6. **Costumes**– what the actors wear, including accessories such as a crown.
7. **Playwright**– the author of the play.
8. **Improvisation**– acting without scripted lines. Similar to ad-libbing, making something up on the spot.
9. **Fourth Wall**– the imaginary division between the audience and the actors. When actors speak directly to the audience, it is called “breaking the fourth wall”.
10. **Dialogue**– the words spoken between two or more characters. A conversation.
11. **Monologue**– a series of lines spoken by one actor only. They may be speaking to another on-stage character, or they may be alone on stage.
12. **Review**– an article explaining what you do and do not like about a performance.



Activity Time: Ready for Review

Write your own review of the performance. What did you like? What did you not like? Why? Would you tell your friends to go see it? Try to incorporate theater vocabulary into your review.

Question Quest! Name three props that you remember seeing. How did they help tell the story? Which special effect did you find most interesting or fascinating? How do you think that effect was achieved? If you could design a costume for an Oz character, what would it look like and how would you create it? Was improvisation used in this production? When? How was this production different from other plays you have seen?

Click Further: Use this [worksheet](#) to help organize and complete your review.

Tell Us What You Thought!

We would love to hear from you. Share your feedback regarding your experience at the LICM Theater by emailing us at theater@licm.org.

We appreciate the support of the following:



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the Arts

NORDSTROM

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