

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Chapter 1 ~ The Cyclone



Created by Gay Miller

I'm excited to announce that each Monday over the next 24 weeks; *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz Book Unit* will be featured in weekly blog posts. Saving each lesson for a novel study is a great option. Since students are so familiar with this well-loved American classic, most chapters can be stand-alone lessons. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* was originally published on May 17, 1900, so it is now in public domain. There is no need to purchase a class set of books because the complete text will be added to the unit plans.

Book Units Teacher Blog

<http://bookunitsteacher.com/wp/>

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz

Genre: Classics and Fantasy

Interest Level ~ Grades 4 – 8

Grade level Equivalent: 6.9

Lexile Measure®: 1000L



Scheduled Blog Posts for Materials Connected with The Wonderful Wizard of Oz Book Unit

Chapter 1 - The Cyclone	May 4, 2015
Chapter 2 - The Council with the Munchkins	May 11, 2015
Chapter 3 - How Dorothy Saved the Scarecrow	May 18, 2015
Chapter 4 - The Road Through the Forest	May 25, 2015
Spoons Game with Root Words	May 28, 2015
Chapter 5 - The Rescue of the Tin Woodman	June 1, 2015
Chapter 6 - The Cowardly Lion	June 8, 2015
Chapter 7 - The Journey to the Great Oz	June 15, 2015
Chapter 8 - The Deadly Poppy Field	June 22, 2015
Chapter 9 - The Queen of the Field Mice	June 29, 2015
Pronoun Task Cards	July 2, 2015
Chapter 10 - The Guardian of the Gate	July 6, 2015
Chapter 11 - The Wonderful City of Oz	July 13, 2015
Chapter 12 - The Search for the Wicked Witch	July 20, 2015
Prefix Activity	July 23, 2015
Chapter 13 - The Rescue	July 27, 2015
Chapter 14 - The Winged Monkeys	August 3, 2015
Chapter 15 - The Discovery of Oz, the Terrible	August 10, 2015
Suffix Activity	August 13, 2015
Chapter 16 - The Magic Art of the Great Humbug	August 17, 2015
Chapter 17 - How the Balloon Was Launched	August 24, 2015
Punctuation Task Cards	August 27, 2015
Chapter 18 - Away to the South	August 31, 2015
Chapter 19 - Attacked by the Fighting Trees	September 7, 2015
Chapter 20 - The Dainty China Country	September 14, 2015
Analogy Activity	September 17, 2015
Chapter 21 - The Lion Becomes the King of Beasts	September 21, 2015
Chapter 22 - The Country of the Quadlings	September 28, 2015
Context Clues Task Cards	October 1, 2015
Chapter 23 - Glinda The Good Witch Grants Dorothy's Wish	October 5, 2015
Chapter 24 - Home Again	October 12, 2015

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz By L Frank Baum Chapter 1 - The Cyclone

Dorothy lived in the midst of the great Kansas prairies, with Uncle Henry, who was a farmer, and Aunt Em, who was the farmer's wife. Their house was small, for the lumber to build it had to be carried by wagon many miles. There were four walls, a floor and a roof, which made one room; and this room contained a rusty looking cookstove, a cupboard for the dishes, a table, three or four chairs, and the beds. Uncle Henry and Aunt Em had a big bed in one corner, and Dorothy a little bed in another corner. There was no garret at all, and no cellar--except a small hole dug in the ground, called a cyclone cellar, where the family could go in case one of those great whirlwinds arose, mighty enough to crush any building in its path. It was reached by a trap door in the middle of the floor, from which a ladder led down into the small, dark hole.

When Dorothy stood in the doorway and looked around, she could see nothing but the great gray prairie on every side. Not a tree nor a house broke the broad sweep of flat country that reached to the edge of the sky in all directions. The sun had baked the plowed land into a gray mass, with little cracks running through it. Even the grass was not green, for the sun had burned the tops of the long blades until they were the same gray color to be seen everywhere. Once the house had been painted, but the sun **blistered** the paint and the rains washed it away, and now the house was as dull and gray as everything else.

When Aunt Em came there to live she was a young, pretty wife. The sun and wind had changed her, too. They had taken the sparkle from her eyes and left them a sober gray; they had taken the red from her cheeks and lips, and they were gray also. She was thin and **gaunt**, and never smiled now. When Dorothy, who was an orphan, first came to her, Aunt Em had been so startled by the child's laughter that she would scream and press her hand upon her heart whenever Dorothy's merry voice reached her ears; and she still looked at the little girl with wonder that she could find anything to laugh at.

Uncle Henry never laughed. He worked hard from morning till night and did not know what joy was. He was gray also, from his long beard to his rough boots, and he looked stern and solemn, and rarely spoke.

It was Toto that made Dorothy laugh, and saved her from growing as gray as her other surroundings. Toto was not gray; he was a little black dog, with long silky hair and small black eyes that twinkled merrily on either side of his funny, wee nose. Toto played all day long, and Dorothy played with him, and loved him dearly.

Today, however, they were not playing. Uncle Henry sat upon the doorstep and looked anxiously at the sky, which was even grayer than usual. Dorothy stood in the door with Toto in her arms, and looked at the sky too. Aunt Em was washing the dishes.

From the far north they heard a low wail of the wind, and Uncle Henry and Dorothy could see where the long grass bowed in waves before the coming storm. There now came a sharp whistling in the air from the south, and as they turned their eyes that way they saw ripples in the grass coming from that direction also.

Suddenly Uncle Henry stood up.

"There's a cyclone coming, Em," he called to his wife. "I'll go look after the stock." Then he ran toward the sheds where the cows and horses were kept.

Aunt Em dropped her work and came to the door. One glance told her of the danger close at hand.

"Quick, Dorothy!" she screamed. "Run for the cellar!"

Toto jumped out of Dorothy's arms and hid under the bed, and the girl started to get him. Aunt Em, badly frightened, threw open the trap door in the floor and climbed down the ladder into the small, dark hole. Dorothy caught Toto at last and started to follow her aunt. When she was halfway across the room there came a great shriek from the wind, and the house shook so hard that she lost her footing and sat down suddenly upon the floor.

Then a strange thing happened.

The house whirled around two or three times and rose slowly through the air. Dorothy felt as if she were going up in a balloon.

The north and south winds met where the house stood, and made it the exact center of the cyclone. In the middle of a cyclone the air is generally still, but the great pressure of the wind on every side of the house raised it up higher and higher, until it was at the very top of the cyclone; and there it remained and was carried miles and miles away as easily as you could carry a feather.

It was very dark, and the wind howled horribly around her, but Dorothy found she was riding quite easily. After the first few whirls around, and one other time when the house tipped badly, she felt as if she were being rocked gently, like a baby in a cradle.

Toto did not like it. He ran about the room, now here, now there, barking loudly; but Dorothy sat quite still on the floor and waited to see what would happen.

Once Toto got too near the open trap door, and fell in; and at first the little girl thought she had lost him. But soon she saw one of his ears sticking up through the hole, for the strong pressure of the air was keeping him up so that he could not fall. She crept to the hole, caught Toto by the ear, and dragged him into the room again, afterward closing the trap door so that no more accidents could happen.

Hour after hour passed away, and slowly Dorothy got over her fright; but she felt quite lonely, and the wind shrieked so loudly all about her that she nearly became deaf. At first she had wondered if she would be dashed to pieces when the house fell again; but as the hours passed and nothing terrible happened, she stopped worrying and resolved to wait calmly and see what the future would bring. At last she crawled over the swaying floor to her bed, and lay down upon it; and Toto followed and lay down beside her.

In spite of the swaying of the house and the wailing of the wind, Dorothy soon closed her eyes and fell fast asleep.



The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ~ Chapter 1

1. What part of speech is **blistered** in the following sentence?

The sun blistered the paint. part of speech _____

~~~~~

Read the two definitions of **blister**.

- a. a swollen area of skin that is filled with liquid. A blister is caused by a burn or other injury.
- b. a raised bubble in paint or a similar coating

Determine which definition is used in each of the sentences below. Write a or b in the blank to show your answer.

- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Her skin blistered from the sunburn.
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ After touching the hot pan, Matthew's finger blistered.
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ The paint on the bench will blister if you leave the bench out in the sun and rain without a protective varnish coat to seal the paint.



5. She was thin and **gaunt**, and never smiled now.

What part of speech is **gaunt** in this sentence? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Circle six words in the box that are synonyms or closely related to the word **gaunt**.

|        |          |         |       |
|--------|----------|---------|-------|
| bony   | skinny   | scrawny | alert |
| chubby | fatigued | thin    | plump |
| lean   | active   | spry    | lanky |

7. Write a sentence using the word gaunt.

\_\_\_\_\_

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What part of speech is **gaunt** in this sentence? adjective

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bony	skinny	scrawny	alert
chubby	fatigued	thin	plump
lean	active	spry	lanky

7. Write a sentence using the word gaunt.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ~ Chapter 1

- Which of the following questions can the reader answer after reading Chapter 1?
 - What did Aunt Em and Uncle Henry do for a living?
 - Chapter 1 is set in which month?
 - What did Toto do to make Dorothy laugh?
 - What happened to cause Dorothy to go live with Aunt Em and Uncle Henry?
- Which of the following events took place first?
 - Toto nearly fell through the trap door.
 - The house was lifted up by the cyclone.
 - Uncle Henry went to check on the animals.
 - Dorothy fell asleep.
- The effect of Toto hiding under the bed was _____.
 - Aunt Em dropped the dishes
 - Uncle Henry yelled, "Run for the cellar!"
 - Dorothy didn't get to the storm cellar before the cyclone hit the house.
 - Aunt Em became mad.
- Name two things in Kansas the book said were not gray.

- List some of the words used to describe the wind.

- Name the type of figurative language that is used in each of the following passages, and then tell the meaning of each.

The sun and wind had changed her, too.

From the far north they heard a low wail of the wind.

Dorothy felt as if she were going up in a balloon.

She felt as if she were being rocked gently, like a baby in a cradle.

The wind shrieked so loudly all about her that she nearly became deaf.

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Toto and Dorothy
- List some of the words used to describe the wind.

scream, wail, shriek, howl
- Name the type of figurative language that is used in each of the following passages, and then tell the meaning of each.

The sun and wind had changed her, too.

- Personification
- Aunt Em had grown older looking by working out in the sun and wind.

From the far north they heard a low wail of the wind.

- Alliteration
- The alliteration with the "W" sounds like the wind blowing.

Dorothy felt as if she were going up in a balloon.

- Simile
- Dorothy traveling in the house is being compared to riding in a hot air balloon. The house was lifting up.

She felt as if she were being rocked gently, like a baby in a cradle.

- Simile
- Because Dorothy is in the eye of the storm, she is having a peaceful ride just like a baby in a cradle.

The wind shrieked so loudly all about her that she nearly became deaf.

- Hyperbole
- The author wants the reader to feel the violence of the storm.

Chapter 1~ Constructive Response - Setting

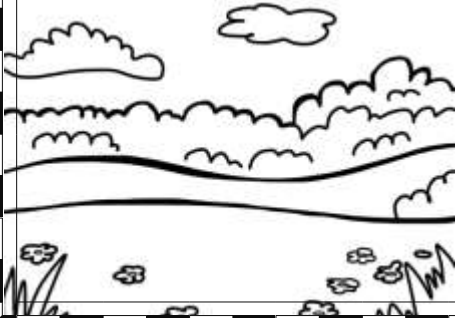
Place Where the Story Takes Place

Time the Story Takes Place

Setting

Importance of the Setting

Mood - Atmosphere of the Setting



[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3](#) Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.3](#) Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.3](#) Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot).

Chapter 1~ Constructive Response - Setting

Place Where the Story Takes Place

Dorothy lives on the Kanasa prairie. The landscape is dull and gray. Dorothy lives in a one room house that has been turned gray as well by the harsh weather.

Time the Story Takes Place

Since the book was published in 1900, the reader can assume the setting is around the turn of the century.

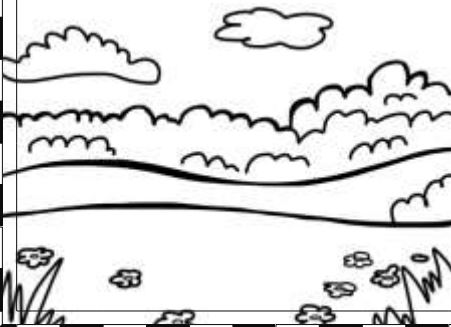
Setting

Importance of the Setting

The Kansas setting is extremely dreary. This will make the contrast when Dorothy gets to Oz more extreme.

Mood - Atmosphere of the Setting

Aunt Em and Uncle Henry have been worn down by their difficult prairie life. They are solemn people who have spent their lives working hard. Dorothy is a happy child. She laughs often. She especially loves to play with her dog Toto.



[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.3](#) Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

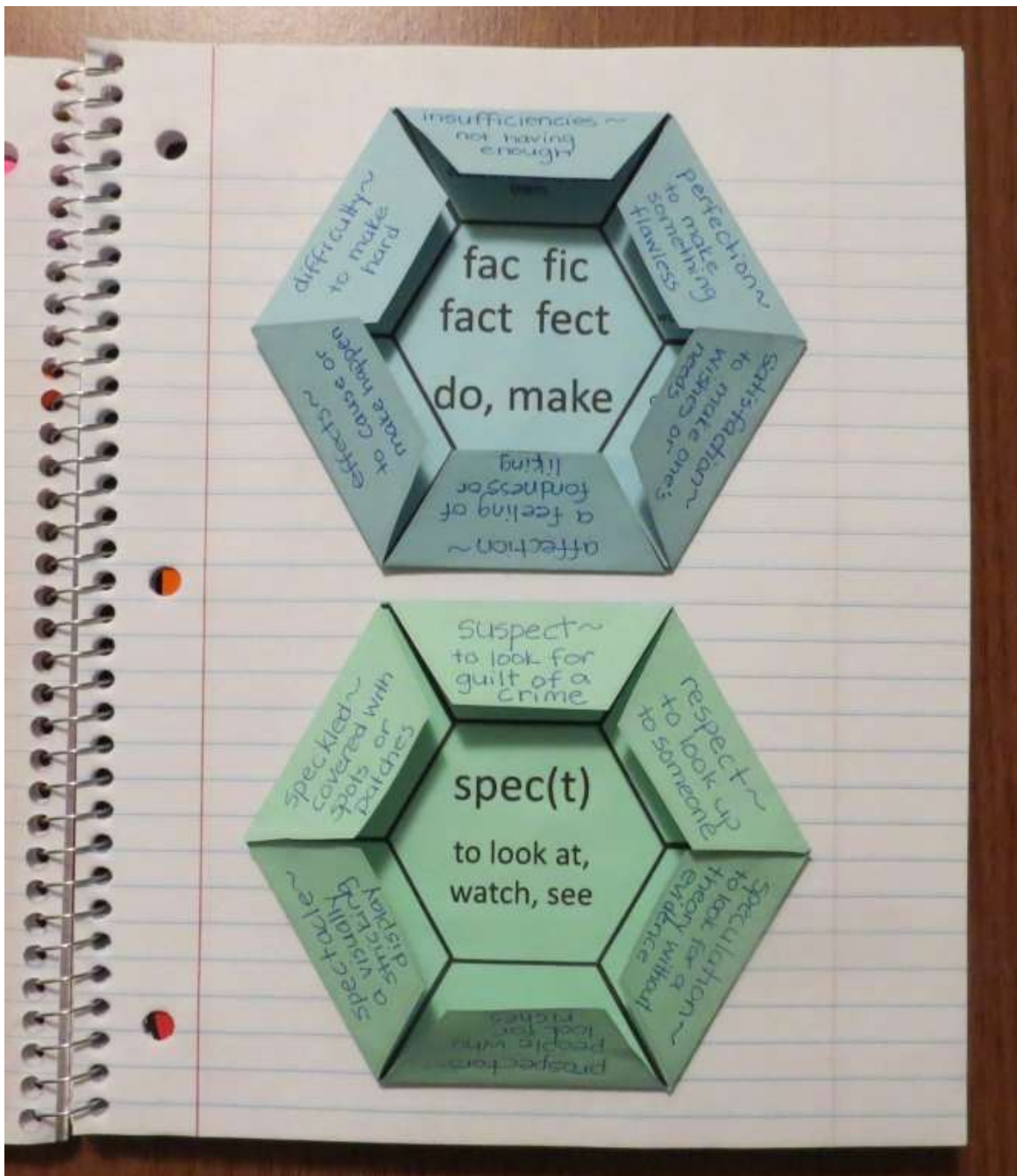
[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.3](#) Describe how a particular story's or drama's plot unfolds in a series of episodes as well as how the characters respond or change as the plot moves toward a resolution.

[CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.3](#) Analyze how particular elements of a story or drama interact (e.g., how setting shapes the characters or plot).

Root Words Organizer ~ Hexagon Fold

Instructions

- Print organizer onto colored paper.
- Have students cut the organizer out on the lines indicated.
- After filling in the missing information, students will fold each hexagon in half.
- Students may label the outside of each flap with the word and its definition.
- Students will write a sentence with the word on the inside of each hexagon.



Root Word

When Dorothy, who was an orphan, first came to her, Aunt Em had been so startled by the child's laughter that she would scream and press her hand upon her heart whenever Dorothy's merry **voice** reached her ears; and she still looked at the little girl with wonder that she could find anything to laugh at.

Latin Root
VOC
vok
to call or
summon

Word List

vocal
vocabulary
vocation
vocational
voice
revoke
invoke
equivocal
provoke

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