

2017-2018 Season

CATCO IS
KIDS!

PLAYGUIDE

The Throne of Oz

based on L. Frank Baum's
The Marvelous Land of Oz
adapted by Chris Leyva

May 4-13, 2018
Van Fleet Theatre, CPAC

Presenting sponsor **Mary Yerina & Bob Redfield**

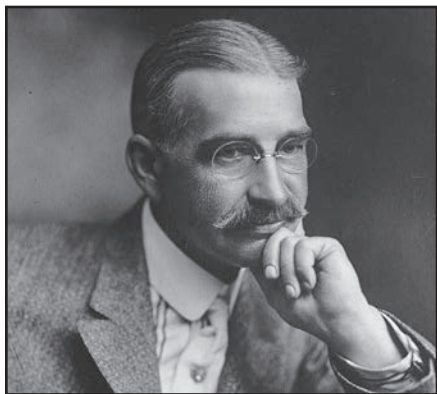


The Story

Few fantasy lands have captured our hearts and imaginations as has the marvelous land of Oz! Join a young boy named Tippetarius (or Tip) as he travels throughout the land of Oz and meets our old friends the Scarecrow and Tin Woodman, as well as some new friends like Jack Pumpkinhead, the Wooden Sawhorse, the Highly Magnified Woggle-Bug, and the amazing Gump as they thwart the wicked plans of an evil witch and overcome a rebellion. This exciting play is a world premiere adaptation of L. Frank Baum's *The Marvelous Land of Oz*.



About the Author: L. Frank Baum



Lyman Frank Baum was born in Chittenango, New York on May 15, 1856. He was named after his uncle Lyman; however, Baum did not like his name, so he went by Frank instead. When he was old enough, Baum attended school, but he had to stop attending due to health concerns. He never graduated and spent the early part of his adult life exploring his love of performing and writing for the stage. After working as a journalist and businessman, Baum began to write children's stories. His first published book, *Mother Goose in Prose*, was a collection for young readers. He followed this book with *Father Goose, His Book*, book that became the top-selling children's book in 1899. The year after, Baum introduced everyone to the land of Oz with *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Baum continued to write children's stories under many different names until his death in 1919. Baum wrote fourteen books in the Oz series, and many authors have written many more books in Baum's beloved series.

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ABOUT THE SHOW



About the Playwright: Chris Leyva



Chris Leyva lives in Columbus, Ohio. He's originally from Albuquerque, New Mexico. He received an M.F.A. from the Playwrights Workshop at The University of Iowa and a B.A. in Directing from Coe College. His play *Cowgirls Don't Ride Zebras* premiered in March 2017 as part of CATCO is Kids 2016-2017 season. He was the 2013/2014 recipient of the CATCO is Theatre and Greater Columbus Arts Council Playwright Fellowship with his play *Books & Bridges*, which was also a Semi-Finalist for the 2015 Trustus Playwrights Festival in Columbia, South Carolina. His play *Persephone Uncut* was commissioned and performed by Columbus School for Girls in October 2015. Chris has written numerous plays that have been finalists in drama festivals and competitions. Chris is a husband, father, and cartoon connoisseur. He has a day job and a podcast called "Writers Get Animated." Chris is also the author and illustrator of the children's book *Cowgirls Don't Ride Zebras*.



Curriculum Connections



You can use this Playguide and your visit to CATCO is Kids to help your students meet the curriculum standards required in schools by the Ohio Department of Education and the Common Core State Standards Initiative. Look throughout our Playguide for the icon and you will find academic standards that correspond with the different activities listed.

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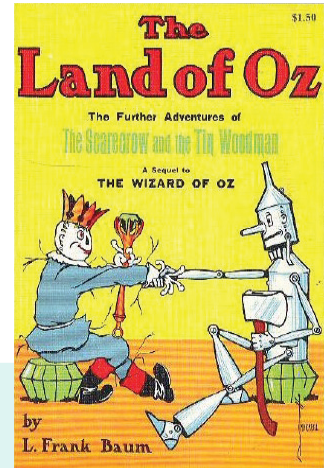
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BEFORE THE SHOW



Activities

1. With a parent or guardian, take a trip to the local library. Find *The Marvelous Land of Oz* in the juvenile section and read it with a family member. Who are the characters in the story? Where does the story take place? Can you list all of the events that happen in the story? What do you think the story is trying to say? Use the answers to these questions to create your own short play based on *The Marvelous Land of Oz*. Do you think your play will be similar to or different than this play?



Curriculum
Connection

Drama/Theatre: Grade 2
Cognitive and Creative
Processes: Creating 1CE

Describe the characters, setting, central ideas and plot in stories or dramatic and theatrical works.

2. In *The Marvelous Land of Oz*, Tip and the other characters travel throughout Oz. They see amazing things and many equally amazing things happen. Pretend that you are Tip and write a journal entry about your favorite setting or event in the book. As Tip, describe your thoughts and feelings about each place and about each event in the story. Be as detailed as possible!



Curriculum
Connection

Drama/Theatre: Grade 3
Cognitive and Creative
Processes: Producing and
Performing 5PR

Express a character's thoughts and feelings in writing.



3. After reading *The Marvelous Land of Oz*, think about the Scarecrow and the Tin Man. Each of these characters appears in the first story, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. Find the first story at the library and read it or watch the movie version, *The Wizard of Oz*. *The Marvelous Land of Oz* takes place after *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, so the Scarecrow and the Tin Man may have grown. Have the characters from the first book changed at all in the second? How are they different than how they were in the previous story? How are they similar? Use the answers to these questions to act out each character as they appear in each story. Be sure to use voice and body to convey thoughts, emotions, differences, and similarities.

Curriculum
Connection

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.3

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

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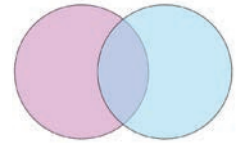
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AFTER THE SHOW



Activities

1. Find *The Marvelous Land of Oz* at the local library and read it with a family member or peer. Compare and contrast the book with the play version. What was the same? What was different? Create a Venn diagram showing the differences and similarities that you thought of. Share that diagram with the same person with whom you read the book.



Curriculum
Connection

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.2.9

Compare and contrast the most important points presented by two texts on the same topic



2. Now that you have seen CATCO's production of *The Throne of Oz*, pick your favorite scene from the play. Write down the characters, setting, and what happens in the scene. Using that list, begin to create your own version of the scene. Be sure to write what you think the characters would say about how they feel. Write down what actions the characters perform in the scene. Once you have written your scene, act it out with family members or friends. Do you like your version of the scene? Do you need to change anything after reading it out loud? Make those changes and perform it again!

Curriculum
Connection

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3b

Use dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings to develop experiences and events or show the response of characters to situations.

3. In the play *The Throne of Oz*, Tip and the others create a creature out of furniture, objects, and the head of a Gump. The creature comes alive with the help of "Doctor Nikidik's Powder of Life." With a guardian's help, find furniture and other objects around your home or classroom that you can put together to create your own creature. What is its head made of? What is its body made of? Pretend that you have used "Doctor Nikidik's Powder of Life" on it, and it has come alive. Who is your character? Where is he or she from? Ask a guardian or peer to interview your creature and pretend that you are that creature. Duck behind the creature and use a voice that you think your creature would use to speak!



Curriculum
Connection

**Drama/Theatre Standards:
Grade 4**

Cognitive and Creative
Processes: Producing and
Performing 5PR

Use vivid, descriptive language to create a script around one or more elements of theatre (e.g., character, action, prop, setting).

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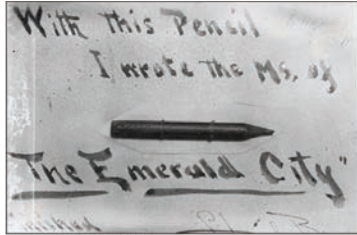
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FUN FACTS



Fun Facts about L. Frank Baum and all things Oz!



- Baum framed the pencil with which he wrote the manuscript of *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*.
- Baum came up with the name Oz from his filing cabinet which had a drawer marked “O-Z.”
- The character Dorothy is based off of one of Baum’s nieces who passed away.
- The slippers that Dorothy receives are silver in the book, not ruby like in the movie.



- Baum’s hometown of Chittenango, New York holds an annual festival called Oz-Stravaganza.

- Oz has appeared on the stage many times. In 1902, a play called *The Wizard of Oz* opened on Broadway. It ran for two years and then toured until 1911. It was very different than the story we recognize.

- There are 40 official Oz books, including *The Marvelous Land of Oz*. Baum wrote 14 of them, and other authors have carried on the series.

- Marvel Comics has a version of *The Marvelous Land of Oz* adapted into a comic book.

- Baum would often answer letters from fans on letterhead that said he was the “Royal Historian of Oz.”

- Baum wrote several other successful books under different names.

- The Oz Film Manufacturing Company was created by Baum to make film versions of the Oz books. It started in 1914 and only lasted a few years, but it did produce several Oz films.



- The beloved film *The Wizard of Oz* had 14 writers!

- In the movie *The Wizard of Oz*, the Tin Man’s oil was actually chocolate syrup.

- Toto was played by a female dog named Terry in the film version of *The Wizard of Oz*.



CRAFT CORNER



Scarecrow Paper Bag Puppet

Scarecrow is one of the most beloved characters from *The Wizard of Oz*, and he appears in *The Throne of Oz* as well! Follow the directions below to create your own Scarecrow Paper Bag Puppet!

Supplies needed:

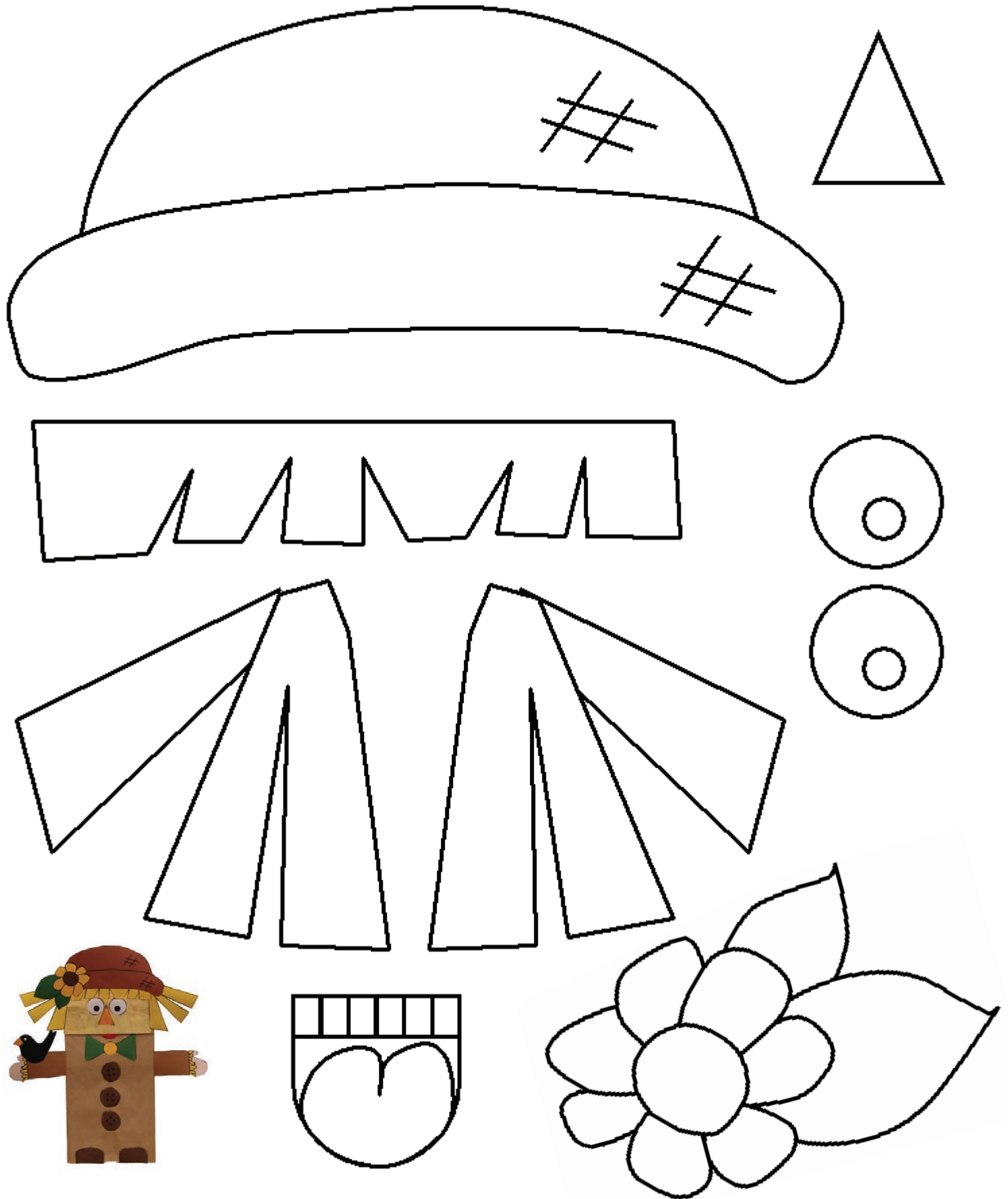
- A paper lunch bag (white or brown)
- A printer to print the templates (see following pages)
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, or other preferred coloring medium
- Scissors
- Glue

Directions:

1. Print out the included templates on the next two pages of this playguide.
2. Color the templates using your preferred coloring medium.
3. Put the bag in front of you so it matches the picture. You should see the flap at the top. This is the head of your puppet.
4. With an adult's help, cut out all the pieces from the first template.
5. Glue all pieces from the first template that go on the head to the flap. You may add the sunflower to the hat if you would like! You could also create a crown instead of a hat since the Scarecrow is the King of Oz.
6. Lift the flap up and glue the mouth under the flap. Leave a little bit sticking out.
7. With an adult's help, cut out all of the pieces from the second template.
8. Glue the buttons and bowtie from the second template to the area below the mouth. This is the body.
9. Glue the arms to the flaps on the sides of the bag or on the back if that is easier. Be sure that they are sticking out like arms do when we stretch them out!
10. Glue the crow to one of the arms or the hat if would like.
11. Put your hand through the bottom and place your fingers in the top flap. Move your fingers up and down and the scarecrow will look like it is talking.
12. Take your scarecrow on exciting adventures!



CRAFT CORNER-TEMPLATE #1



CRAFT CORNER-TEMPLATE #2

