

Name _____



Trials of Oz

Throughout *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, Dorothy and her friends face many challenges that reflect real-world struggles. Their journey through Oz is filled with obstacles, but each challenge teaches them valuable lessons—just like in real life.

When Dorothy arrives in Oz, she immediately faces a problem: she is far from home and does not know how to get back. This reflects real-life challenges when people feel lost or uncertain about the

future. She learns that finding a solution takes patience, courage, and asking for help.

As Dorothy travels, she meets three companions—the Scarecrow, Tin Woodman, and Cowardly Lion. Each of them struggles with self-doubt. The Scarecrow believes he is not smart because he does not have a brain, the Tin Woodman thinks he cannot love because he has no heart, and the Cowardly Lion believes he is weak because he feels fear. These struggles mirror real-world self-doubt, where people sometimes do not recognize their own strengths. However, through their journey, each of them proves that they already have what they are looking for.

Another major challenge comes from the Wicked Witch of the West, who tries to stop them at every turn. She represents obstacles in life—difficult people, unfair situations, and moments that test our strength. Dorothy and her friends do not give up, showing that determination can help people overcome their problems.

Perhaps the biggest lesson Dorothy learns is that the answers to her problems were inside her all along. She believes the Wizard of Oz will send her home, but he turns out to be an ordinary man. In the end, she discovers that her silver shoes had the power to take her home the whole time. This teaches an important real-world lesson: sometimes, we already have what we need to succeed—we just have to believe in ourselves.

Through these challenges, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* reminds readers that struggles are a part of life. Whether facing fear, self-doubt, or obstacles, the story teaches that perseverance, courage, and confidence can help overcome any challenge.