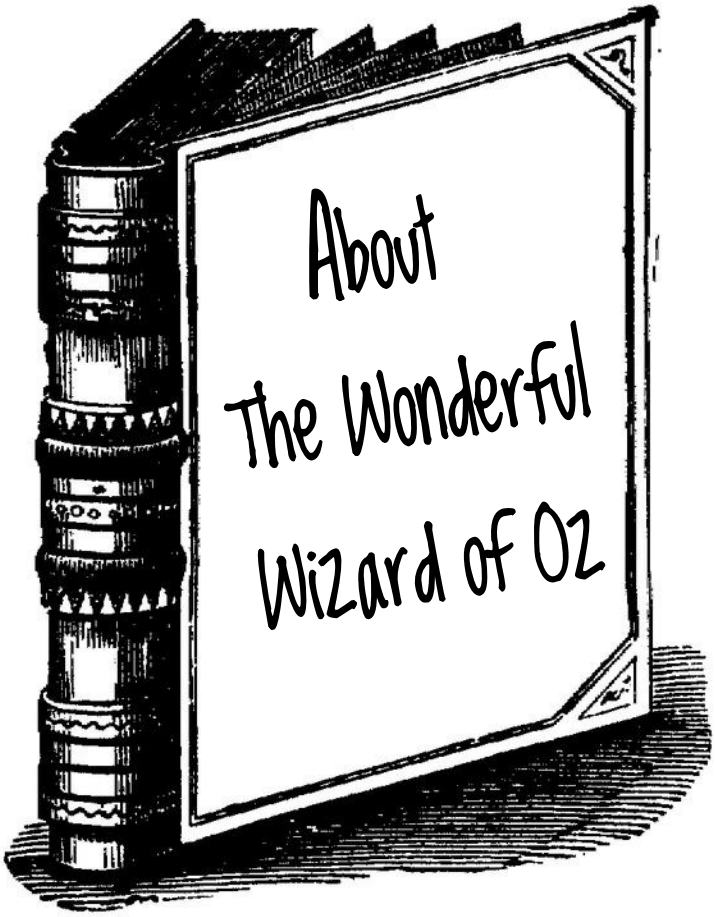
The Wonderful Wizard of Oz almost didn't get published! All the publishers in Chicago refused to print it because:

- color pictures were too expensive
-in 1900 children's books were suppose to teach, but *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* was written to entertain children

L. Frank Baum wrote 14 books about Oz. Through the years, many libraries have censored the books. This means they've refused to buy them, or they have removed them from their shelves. Why? 1. They weren't realistic. 2. Children read them too much...so much that they were worn out and needed replaced. 3. The books contained talking animals and witches.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz was finally published in 1900 by George M. Hill. The book sold for $1.50 and contained more than 100 illustrations. The color of the pictures matched the colors of Oz geography. Chapters set in Munchkin Country were blue, chapters set in the Emerald City were green, and so on. There were 24 full color pictures.

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is over 100 years old has inspired many movies, plays, and books by other authors.



Cut out each book shape.
Stack with cover on top and
staple together.