

### ***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll**

(age group: 13-14; 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

“‘Curiouser and curiouser’ cried Alice (she was so much surprised, that for the moment she quite forgot how to speak good English); ‘now I’m opening out like the largest telescope that ever was! Goodbye, feet!’ (for when she looked down at her feet, they seemed to be almost out of sight, they were getting so far off). ‘Oh, my poor little feet, I wonder who will put on your shoes and stockings for you now, dears? I’m sure I shan’t be able! I shall be a great deal too far off to *trouble*<sup>1</sup> myself about you: you must *manage*<sup>2</sup> the best way you can – but I must be kind to them,’ thought Alice, ‘or perhaps they won’t walk the way I want to go! Let me see: I’ll give them a new pair of boots every Christmas.’

Just then her head *struck*<sup>3</sup> against the roof of the hall: in fact she was now more than nine *feet*<sup>4</sup> high, and she at once took up the little golden key and hurried off to the garden door.

Poor Alice! It was as much as she could do, *lying*<sup>5</sup> down on one side, to look through into the garden with one eye; but to get through was more hopeless than ever: she sat down and began to cry again.

‘You ought to be ashamed of yourself,’ said Alice, ‘a great girl like you,’ (she might well say this), ‘to go on crying in this way! Stop this moment, I tell you!’ But she went on all the same, *shedding*<sup>6</sup> *gallons*<sup>7</sup> of tears, until there was a large *pool*<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> To trouble (oneself) = a se îngrijora

<sup>2</sup> To manage = a se descurca

<sup>3</sup> To strike (*strike-struck-struck*) = a lovi

<sup>4</sup> Foot (pl. *feet*) = unitate de lungime, egală cu aproximativ 30,5 cm

<sup>5</sup> To lie (*lie-lay-lain*) = a sta culcat, a zăcea

<sup>6</sup> To shed (*shed-shed-shed*) = a vărsa

<sup>7</sup> Gallon (pl. *gallons*) = unitate de capacitate (4,54 l în Anglia sau 3,78 l în SUA)

<sup>8</sup> Pool = baltă

all round her, about four *inches*<sup>9</sup> deep and reaching half down the *hall*<sup>10</sup>.

After a time she heard a little *pattering*<sup>11</sup> of feet in the distance, and she *hastily*<sup>12</sup> dried her eyes to see what was coming. It was the White Rabbit returning, splendidly dressed, with a pair of white kid gloves in one hand and a large *fan*<sup>13</sup> in the other: he came *trotting*<sup>14</sup> along in a great hurry, *muttering*<sup>15</sup> to himself as he came, ‘Oh! The Duchess, the Duchess! Oh! Won’t she be *savage*<sup>16</sup> if I’ve kept her waiting!’ Alice felt so desperate that she was ready to ask help of anyone; so, when the Rabbit came near her, she began, in a low, timid voice, ‘If you please, sir’ – The Rabbit started violently, *dropped*<sup>17</sup> the white kid gloves and the fan, and ran away into the darkness as hard as he could go.”

(*Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll)

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<sup>9</sup> Inch (pl. *inches*) = unitate de măsură egală cu aproximativ 2,54 cm

<sup>10</sup> Hall = sală

<sup>11</sup> Pattering = bătaie (zgomot)

<sup>12</sup> Hastily = în grabă

<sup>13</sup> Fan = evantai

<sup>14</sup> To trot (past *trotted*) = a umbla cu pași mărunți

<sup>15</sup> To mutter (past. *muttered*) = a bolborosi, a bombăni, a murmura

<sup>16</sup> Savage = aici, cu sensul de nervos/nervoasă, scos/scoasă din fire

<sup>17</sup> To drop (something) (past *dropped*) = a scăpa din mână

## FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES

### A. Understanding the story:

1. Read the text.
2. Which of the following statements are true (T) and which are false (F)?
  - a) Alice felt that she was opening out like the largest parachute that ever was. (...)
  - b) Alice thinks about giving her feet a new pair of boots every Easter. (...)
  - c) Alice became shorter and her head struck against the floor. (...)
  - d) Alice took the silver key and hurried off to the bathroom door. (...)
  - e) All of a sudden, Alice started laughing. (...)
  - f) The White Rabbit carried in his hands a pair of white gloves and a large fan. (...)
  - g) The White Rabbit was muttering to himself: 'Oh! The Queen, the Queen!' (...)
3. Arrange the events in the order in which they occurred.
  - a) Alice's head struck against the roof of the hall.
  - b) The White Rabbit appeared.
  - c) Alice talked to her feet.
  - d) Alice hurried off to the garden door.
  - e) When the White Rabbit came near her, Alice asked him to help her.
  - f) Alice heard a little pattering of feet in the distance.

### B. Word study:

1. Find three words related to units of measurement, which are present in the text:

X	G	V	E	W	R
G	A	K	W	I	Q
S	L	T	R	N	P
Z	L	Y	I	C	M
F	O	O	T	H	Y
C	N	B	U	A	E

2. Complete the following sentences with words from the text:

- a) When making mistakes, you do not necessarily have to ..... yourself.
- b) A ..... is a very large room.
- c) If it is very hot outside, you can use a ..... to cool down a bit.
- d) When you have to hurry, you move .....
- e) These calculations are so difficult. How do you ..... to solve them without a calculator?
- f) When he saw the police coming, the thief ..... the stolen object.

3. Match the words from column A to the suitable word/s in column B:

A	B
1.Hastily	A.cope with, handle, carry on,
2.Fan	B.laze, lie down, lounge, repose
3.To trot	C.groan, mumble, complain, moan, whisper
4.Savage	D.hit, beat, run into, slap, smack
5.To drop	E.bother, worry, sadden, upset
6.Pattering	F.promptly, quickly, rapidly, suddenly, swiftly
7.To shed	G.ventilator, air conditioner, propeller, blade, leaf
8.To lie	H.go, hurry, jog, pad, run, step lively
9.To strike	I.brutal, cruel, feral, harsh, mad, rough
10.To manage	J.collapse, dump, release, shed, slip, let go of
11.To trouble	K.light walk, pitter-patter, rat-a-tat, rattle, tap
12.To mutter	L.cast, drop, pour forth, scatter, shower sprinkle
	M.basin, millpond, pond, tank, tarn

3+. One group of words remained unmatched. There is a word in the text which corresponds to the remaining group of words. Find it and write it down.

**C. Creative writing**

1. Imagine what could have caused Alice to become taller and taller. Write a possible beginning of the story in about 5 lines.
2. Imagine that the White Rabbit stopped and listened to Alice's call for help. Try to continue the story as if this had happened. Try not to write more than 5 lines.
3. Why do you think the White Rabbit was afraid of the Duchess? Write a brief description of the Duchess in about 4 lines.

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***Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll –  
Teacher's Guide**

(age group: 13-14; 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

“Lewis Carroll (*pseudonym of **Charles Lutwidge Dodgson***) was born on January 27, 1832 in Daresbury, Cheshire, England and he died on January 14, 1898 in Guildford, Surrey.

English logician, mathematician, photographer, and novelist, especially remembered for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865) and its sequel, *Through the Looking-Glass* (1871). His poem *The Hunting of the Snark* (1876) is nonsense literature of the highest order.

*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* was published in 1865. (The first edition was withdrawn because of bad printing, and only about 21 copies survive—one of the rare books of the 19th century—and the reprint was ready for publication by Christmas of the same year, though dated 1866.)

The book was a slow but steadily increasing success, and by the following year Dodgson was already considering a sequel to it. The result was *Through the Looking-Glass and What Alice Found There* (dated 1872; actually published December 1871), a work as good as, or better than, its predecessor.

By the time of Dodgson's death, *Alice* (taking the two volumes as a single artistic triumph) had become the most popular children's book in England: by the time of his

centenary in 1932 it was one of the most popular and perhaps the most famous in the world.

There is no answer to the mystery of *Alice's* success. Many explanations have been suggested, but, like the Mad Hatter's riddle ("The riddle, as originally invented, had no answer at all"), they are no more than afterthoughts. The book is not an allegory; it has no hidden meaning or message, either religious, political, or psychological, as some have tried to prove; and its only undertones are some touches of gentle satire—on education for the children's special benefit and on familiar university types."  
(information provided by *Encyclopedia Britannica 2010*)

## **KEY TO FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES**

### **A. Understanding the story:**

**2. a) (F); b) (F); c) (F); d) (F); e) (F); f) (T); g) (F).**

**3. The chronological order of the events is: c); a); d); f); b); e).**

**B. Word study:**

1. The 3 words related to units of measurement are:

**GALLON, INCH, FOOT.**

2. **a) trouble b) hall c) fan d) hastily e) manage f) dropped.**

3. The correct matches are:

1 – F; 2 – G; 3 – H; 4 – I; 5 – J; 6 – K; 7 – L; 8 – B; 9 – D;

10 -A; 11 – E; 12 – C.

**3+ The group of words from ‘M’ goes with the word “pool”.**



## REFERENCE LIST

Carroll, Lewis. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. București: All Educational, 2001

“Lewis Carroll.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*. 2010. Online: <<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/97087/Lewis-Carroll>>. 30 June 2010

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