

SESAME STREET



Sesame Street is a tight-knit and longstanding urban neighborhood that is centered upon on a thoroughfare and the businesses and residences located along that avenue.

Bert is Ernie's best friend, he collects paper clips and bottle caps and is fascinated by pigeons and oatmeal. Unlike Ernie, he is tense and easily upset. His catchphrase is "Yes, I do mind!"

Big Bird is a 8-foot-2-inch tall big yellow bird with a slightly quirky and naive outlook on the world and is like a 6-year old child who questions everything.

Bob is the eldest of the *Sesame Street's* residents and is a music teacher.

Cookie Monster appears to be a monster with a one-track mind. He is deeply, emotionally, physically and spiritually attached to cookies".

Count von Count is a number-obsessed vampire who craves counting with a single-focused passion.

Ernie is Orange-colored, oval-headed, and always grinning, Ernie is a "free spirit" and a "trickster". His best friend is Bert where they share a basement apartment at 123 Sesame Street.

Gordon, a science teacher who owned a brownstone with his wife Susan, is the first character introduced in the show's premiere. Davis described him as "a dutiful husband and steady provider, a well-liked and respected figure in the neighborhood

Grover is a valiant, caring blue monster who is "the Muppet we'd all like to be—self-confident, furry, cute, capable, and intelligent. Well, self-confident, furry, and cute, at least"

Kermit is a funny, gentlemanly frog and always is the voice of reason amidst the insanity around him; the calm in the eye of the storm.

Maria co-owns the Fix-It Shop with her husband, Luis.

Mr. Hooper is the Jewish proprietor of Hooper's Store, the neighborhood grocery store. Mr. Hooper is known as "the gruff grocer with the warm heart".

Oscar the Grouch is the ultimate pessimist, but has a soft spot for his worm Slimey. Oscar makes us realize it is ok to feel grouchy—and to demonstrate differing opinions

Rosita speaks both English and Spanish. She is a "good-natured, intelligent turquoise Muppet" and her full name is Rosita, la Monstrua de las Cuevas (translated as "Rosita, the Monster of the Caves").¹

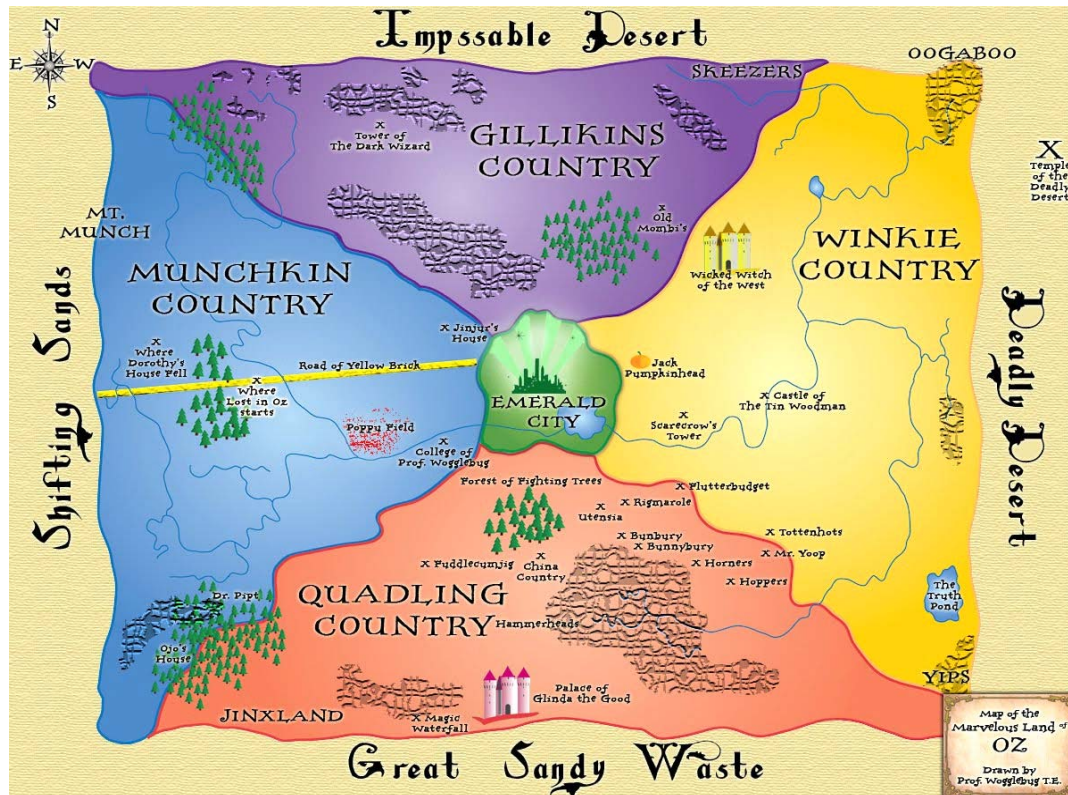
Snuffleupagus (Snuffy), at seven feet tall and twelve feet wide is the largest Muppet on *Sesame Street*.

Yip-Yips are aliens with a jellyfish-like appearance who speak in simple, declarative phrases that are a mixture of Martian and English. They "valiantly explore our world despite their frequent terrifying encounters with everyday objects like telephones, clocks, and computers.

With the above provided information, discuss among your workgroup members the following questions as it relates to “engaging” this community.

- 1) What are the challenges in working with the various “citizens” in the community? Are there special needs among different citizens or groups? Different comfort levels? Trust Issues? Physical or behavior barriers?
- 2) What opportunities exist in engaging these various citizens? Relationships that can be built upon? Are there helpful community leaders?
- 3) Develop a community engagement strategy built upon these challenges & opportunities?

The Great Land of Oz



Oz is a regional landscape made up of various community and citizen types. The Yellow Brick Road is the main thoroughfare & safest travel way through the countryside. This is not a very cohesive community.

Dorothy Gale is a newcomer to Oz, being a young girl from Kansas and is unsure of the culture and power structure in place in this community. She is faced with either finding her way home or becoming a permanent citizen of Oz. She is quite attached to her ruby red footwear.

Glinda is a powerful sorceress who rules the Southern Kingdom of Oz, travels by way of a bubble and has a bubbly, optimistic personality.

The **Cowardly Lion** is one of Dorothy Gale's first companions in Oz. He unfortunately lacks courage and not easy to encourage in participation in new things.

The **Scarecrow** joins Dorothy to go to the Wizard in search of brains. He has a well-founded fear of fire.

The **Tin Woodman** joins Dorothy's quest to see the Wizard in order to get a heart. He unfortunately has the tendency to rust when exposed to the elements which can create mobility issues.

The **Wicked Witch of the West** is an ill-tempered leader in Oz. Dorothy and company are sent by the Wizard to defeat her, and she imprisons them before Dorothy accidentally melts her with a bucket of water.

The **Munchkins** are a race of little people who wear blue and inhabit the Munchkin Country of Oz. They are shy and have great respect for Glinda.

The **Wizard of Oz** is the “wise” leader located in the Emerald City. Dorothy, the Tin Man, the Scarecrow, and the Cowardly Lion travel to him for assistance with their problems. He is actually not an “all-powerful wizard” after all but in fact a humbug circus performer from Omaha, Nebraska

The **Winged Monkeys** are just what the name implies: intelligent monkeys with wings. The Winged Monkeys were once a free people, living in the forests of Oz. They were carefree, but rather mischievous but are now employed by the Wicked Witch of the West.

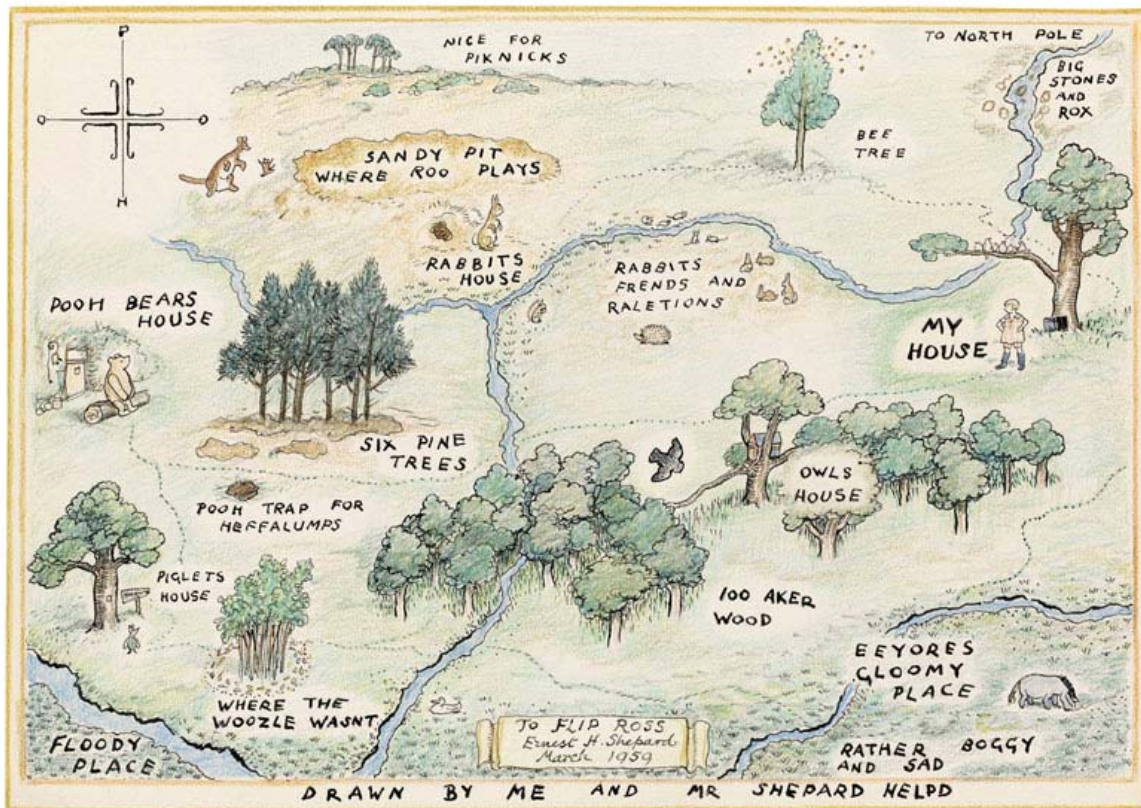
The **Emerald City** is located in the center of Oz at the end of the Yellow Brick Road which starts in Munchkin Country. All of the buildings are green in the Emerald City and everyone is encouraged to wear green-tinted eyeglasses to protect their eyes from the brightness and glory of their city. The citizens are extremely respectful of their most famous citizen and community leader, the Wizard.

The **Winkies** are residents of the Winkie Country in Oz. They prefer the color yellow in their clothing and landscaping. The **Winkies** have been enslaved for many years by the Wicked Witch of the West who makes them work hard and has treated them cruelly. When she ordered some to kill Dorothy and her friends they were not of a brave people and were scared off by the lion's roar.

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The Hundred Acre Wood



Hundred Acre Wood is a sparsely populated, but close-knit rural community. The area is well-protected with the exception of incursions of heffalumps and woozles.

Winnie-the-Pooh, or Pooh for short, is a "silly, old bear". Despite being naïve and slow-witted, he is a friendly, thoughtful and sometimes insightful character who is always willing to help his friends and try his best. His good intentions sometimes make things worse and other times solve a problem. What drives Pooh the most is his love for honey, which sometimes leads to trouble. His catchphrases are "Oh, Bother!" and "Think, think, think".

Christopher Robin is pleasant, cheerful and compassionate. He is someone that Pooh and the others look up to. Despite being a child, he is much wiser and more mature than many of the other characters. Pooh considers both Christopher Robin and Piglet to be his best friends.

Piglet is Pooh's best friend. He is a kind, gentle and small animal who is ordinarily quite shy, but with Pooh by his side, he often overcomes his fears. Actually, Piglet is very brave and often faces danger to help his friends. His catchphrase is "Oh, D-D-Deer!". Piglet lives in a beech tree that he likes to keep neat and tidy, can sing very well and he likes to eat "haycorns".

Eeyore is Pooh's ever-glum, slow-talking, sarcastic and pessimistic donkey friend who has trouble keeping his tail attached to his bottom. Eeyore has a house made of sticks, which falls apart many times

and has to be rebuilt. Eeyore is more sensible than some of the other animals and is often reluctant to go along with their actions, but usually does not bother trying to oppose anyone because he believes it to be futile to try. His catchphrase is "Thanks for noticing" as indicated to himself.

Kanga is a female kangaroo who is the doting single-parent mother of Roo. The two live in a house near the Sandy Pit in the northwestern part of the forest. Kanga is kind-hearted, calm, patient and docile. She likes to keep things clean and organized, and offers motherly advice and food to anyone who asks her. She is protective over Roo, almost obsessively, and treats him with kind words and gentle discipline.

Owl is the stuffy and talkative eldest citizen of the Hundred Acre Wood who acts as a mentor and teacher to the others. Owl and most of his friends believe that he is the most intelligent animal in the wood, but he is really quite scatterbrained. He often rambles on into long-winded speeches and uses words that his friends do not understand. He is always happy to offer his opinions, advice and anecdotes, whether or not they are actually wanted. Owl is literate, but, like other characters, he does not spell very well—he even spells his own name "Wol". He likes to read for pleasure, but his poor reading comprehension skills of messages sometimes lead the others into trouble.

Roo is Kanga's cheerful, playful and energetic joey (son), who moved to the Hundred Acre Wood with her. His best friend is Tigger, whom he looks up to like an older brother.

Rabbit is friendly, but irritable. He fancies himself the smartest animal in the Hundred Acre Wood. He insists on doing things his way and is obsessed with rules, planning and order. He often loses his temper to others and bosses them around, but deep down, he cares a lot about his friends. Rabbit takes pride in his garden and hates when anyone (mainly Tigger) messes it up.

Tigger is Pooh's exuberant, less-than-responsible and trouble-making tiger friend. He loves to bounce, especially bouncing on others. He is full of energy, likes to have fun and is so overconfident that he thinks that any task is "what tiggers do best". Tigger commonly mispronounces words, like 'ridickerus' (ridiculous) or 'vill-i-an' (villain) and often does more harm than good. However, Tigger is also shown to be tough, fearless, optimistic and resourceful. He is Roo's best friend. His main catchphrase is "Hoo Hoo Hoo Hoo!" when he is happy.

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