

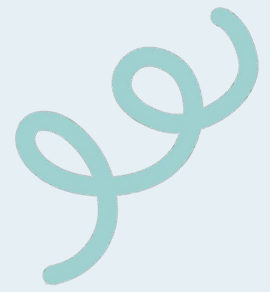


# "Over the Rainbow"

by Harold Arlen

MEMORIES





# "Over the Rainbow"



# Lyrics

Somewhere over the rainbow  
Way up high  
There's a land that I heard of  
Once in a lullaby

Somewhere over the rainbow  
Skies are blue  
And the dreams that you dare to dream  
Really do come true

Someday I'll wish upon a star  
And wake up where the clouds are far  
behind me  
Where troubles melt like lemon drops  
Away above the chimney tops  
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow  
Bluebirds fly  
Birds fly over the rainbow  
Why then, oh, why can't I?

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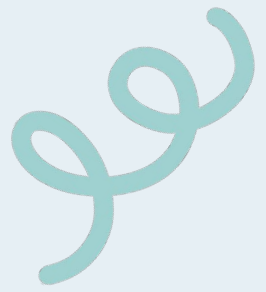
If happy little bluebirds fly  
Beyond the rainbow  
Why, oh why can't I?



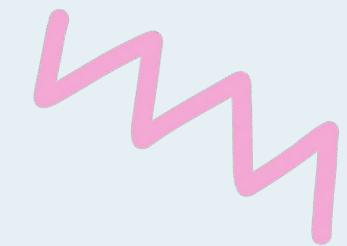
Imagery

Simile

Symbolism



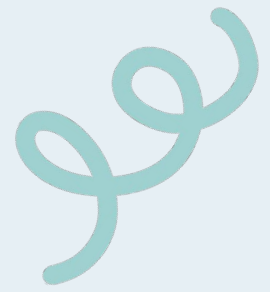
# Theme Idea



Topic or concept about the human experience.

Ex: Adversity, friendship, loyalty, love, revenge

**Hope, Yearning,  
Imagination**



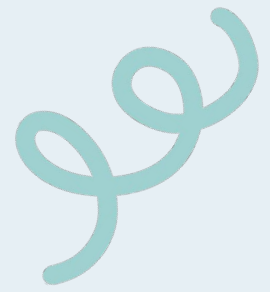
# Theme



An underlying lesson about human nature expressed in a sentence (a complete thought).

Ex: Shared adversity often strengthens bonds between friends.

**Dreams drive us to pursue a better future.**



# Central Idea



A universal truth that relates to the specific text.

**The speaker reminds readers to follow their dreams, and pursue a better future.**

# What is the central idea of this song? How does it tie to family, or another community's values?

General intro of topic

TAG

Seen where in the text (generally)

Central idea

Transition to narrow in on text.

Citation

Explanation

The songs/lullabies and books we expose children to generally reinforce the values and beliefs of the culture of which they are a part. "Over the Rainbow" by Harold Arlen is an inspirational song popularized by its inclusion in *The Wizard of Oz*. The birds referenced in the song represent the speaker's ideal/future self, and reinforce that that the reader should better themselves, so they can achieve their goals.

The birds have already perfected themselves, and are able to reach a wonderful land, where their dreams are possible. The speaker's focus on the birds demonstrate that they [the speaker] are envious of these creatures, wondering, "If happy little bluebirds fly/ Beyond the rainbow/ Why, oh why can't I?" This self-reflection will lead to personal discoveries and growth that will allow the speaker to evolve into the type of person necessary to reach their dreams. The inclusion of this song in my childhood was meant to foster values of imagination, and a desire not only to dream big, but to overcome any obstacles that interfere with my dreams.