

Upside Down Sid Goes to Work

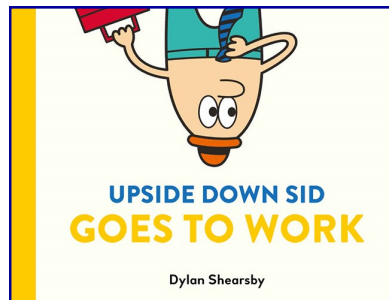
By Dylan Shearsby

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From the one-and-only Dylan Shearsby comes a new adventure in the life of Upside Down Sid. When Sid decides to get a job, he's heartened to find a vacancy at the zoo, but by the end of his first day, he's tattered and torn and barely in one piece. With the help of his friends, Sid trials various other jobs, but it's not until an emergency unfolds on the subway that Sid discovers his true calling.



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Friendship
- Relationships
- Teamwork

Discussion Questions & Activities:

Tuning In: Before reading

- It might be fun to ask students to lay on the floor and stare at the ceiling while you read this book aloud, so they can attempt to get some of Sid's perspective.
- Where In The World – ask students to guess where this book is set. Why do they think the book is set in that particular place? What clues can be found in the illustrations to learn the location of this text?
- Ask students to predict problems Sid might encounter living upside down. How will he eat? Or drink? Or sleep?
- Ask students to speculate about how his feet stick to things? Does he have magnetic boots? Maybe Velcro?
- Ask students how they think it might feel to be as different as Sid. Have they ever felt different? How did that make them feel? What did they do about it?
- Imagine a scenario for Sid where he might feel right at home. Can you think of animals or birds that live or spend time upside down? Make a list of animals and birds you know about and share with the class.
- Ask students to think about what kinds of jobs might be perfect for Sid. Can they think of a scenario where someone might have to work upside down?

After reading:

- Ask students if they know what an 'interview' is. Ask students to share their thoughts on why you might need to have an interview before you get accepted for a job.
- Why might Sid not enjoy feeding the lions at the Zoo?
- Ask students to speculate on what is actually involved in being a firefighter, is being a firefighter just about putting out fires? What else do firefighters do?
- What might it be like to work in a pizza restaurant? What would students enjoy most about this job? What would they not enjoy?
- Do students know what an usher is and what they do? Have any of the students been to a theatre with ushers? Why might it be hard for Sid to be an usher in some theatres? (e.g. high ceilings)
- Ask students to predict what might happen when the lights on the train go out before turning the page.
- How might Sid be feeling about being a hero? Ask students what they feel is heroic behaviour. Have they ever been a hero? Do they know anyone who is?
- Ask students to role-play, in pairs. One student pretends to be Sid and the other is a reporter interviewing him. What questions would you like to ask someone who lives upside down? What answers might Sid have?