



# An Extraordinary Day

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** First Day of School, Friendship, Self Acceptance

**Book Brief:** Your first day at school can be difficult, even if you're a magician.

**Author:**  
Storytime

**Illustrator:**  
Michel Verdu

## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Ask students to make a prediction about the story based on the cover and title.

**The Pictures:** Take a quick picture walk and ask students what they notice about the illustrations.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask, "Do you remember your first day at school? How did you feel?" (Optional: Think-Pair-Share)

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying Vocabulary Guide.

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read, pay attention to what happens on the magician's first day at school. Think about how they feel and what makes their day special."



**Think Aloud:** "I'm noticing that Alastair feels nervous about starting school, just like many of us do. His magic makes him special but also different. I can see how he handles the first day and what happens with the other students."

## DURING READING

**Check for understanding & make connections:**

- Why was Alastair nervous about going to a new school?
- What happens on the first day?
- How do the other students react?
- What made the day special, or "extraordinary"?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** "What happened on the magician's first day? How did being different affect their day?"

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask students, "What makes you special or different? How can we help new students feel welcome at school?" Encourage students to draw a picture of themselves on their first day of school (or imagine their first day if they don't remember) and include one thing that makes them special or unique (like a talent, interest, or something they're good at). Students can share their drawings and talk about what makes them special.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Explore 100 other free eBooks on Skybrary! Visit [www.Skybrary.org](http://www.Skybrary.org) to learn more.
- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.