

# An Extraordinary Day

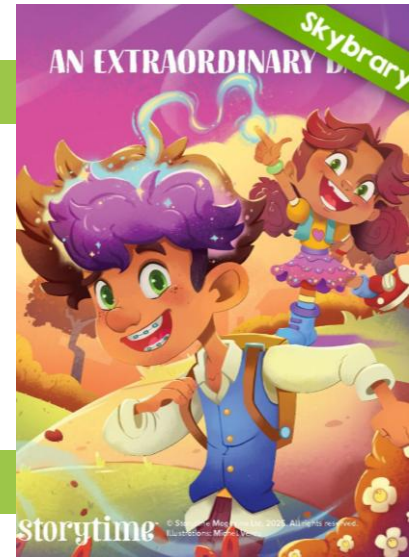
## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** School, First Day, 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.

**The Pictures:** Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice.

**Prior Knowledge:** Explain what extraordinary means and ask students what experience they would consider as extraordinary. Why?

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

**Purpose for Reading:** “As we read, pay attention to the new things that Alastair learns on his first day of school and how his new friend Olly helps him throughout the day.”

## DURING READING

Check for understanding and make connections:

- Why was Alastair nervous about going to a new school?
- What things do you worry about when you are doing something for the first time?
- What made Alastair's day extraordinary? Why?

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** Say, “Think about the first time you had to do something. What was it? Did you have anyone to help you? How was the person helpful?”

**Extending Our Thinking:** Create a chart with a list of events students experienced for the first time. Have students identify the people who helped them in each of these experiences. Using the same list, students can identify specific ways that they can help others during their first time experiences. Draw a picture to show what you would change if you could cast a spell.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore other books with similar themes such as [Imagine You and Me](#) and [Chrysanthemum](#).