Upside Down Sid
By Dylan Shearsby
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Sid spends most of his time at home. He is upside down, so it’s easier that way. Until, one day, a basketball lands in his breakfast and changes everything.

Themes:
• Being Different
• Acceptance
• Friendship
• Helping Others

Discussion Questions & Activities:
• Describe how did Sid felt about being ‘Upside Down’?
• ‘Sid tried not to let it bother him. But it wasn’t easy fitting in... or making friends.’ Can you relate to how Sid was feeling?
• Does this make you think about making sure to include others in your activities? Discuss this as class.
• Why do you think people can be apprehensive about others that are different to themselves?
• Can you imagine living your life upside down? Make a list of 10 things that you think would be the most challenging. Think about life at home, at school, at the shops, playing sport etc.
• What were the two things that Sid wished he had? Are these things that everybody should expect to have in their lives? Discuss.
• When Sid was at the fairground, why do you think that even the ghosts were scared of him?
• Why did Sid become nervous after he asked them to come home for lunch?
• Have you ever been in a situation like this, when you have doubted or felt nervous about a decision that you have made?
• Why do you think we have these thoughts and doubts?
• How would you describe what Sid’s neighbours did for him?
• What characteristics did they show?
• Do you think it is important to help others?
• What is the nicest thing that anyone has done for you, and what is the nicest thing that you have done for someone else?
• How does helping others make you feel?
• Make a diorama of your own bedroom, with everything ‘upside down’.

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