

## **When Everything Was the Wrong Way Round- Opposites Story**

### **Instructions for teachers and parents**

*The story is given in two versions, a big version for reading together and a smaller one for reading in small groups and/ or photocopying to keep.*

*As you read the story together, they can guess what is going to happen on the next day, specifically whether the next day will be stranger or if things will be back to normal. After you read the part of the next day that says the level of strangeness, they can brainstorm examples of things with that level of strangeness. Then as you introduce each specific topic (e.g. "cereal"), they can guess what might be wrong with that thing. On the very last page, they can guess how Tom feels about everything being back to normal, maybe with opposites pairs like "happy"/ "sad" and "relieved"/ "disappointed".*

*When they finish reading the story, they can be tested on the opposites, test each other on the opposites, draw (some) pictures for the story, write more examples of things on each day of this story, and/ or write similar stories.*

### One-page version

#### **When Everything was the Wrong Way Round An opposites story by Alex Case**

When Tom woke up on Monday morning everything seemed a little strange.

His door was shut and locked and his curtains were open. His bedroom was neat and tidy and his parents' bedroom was messy. And when he went down for breakfast

the cornflakes were hot and the coffee was cold. On the way to school

the bicycles were noisy and the cars were quiet. In school

soccer was hard but maths was easy, and at lunchtime

there were a few pieces of spaghetti and many pieces of chicken. On Monday evening Tom was happy to get back to bed, but on Tuesday morning, everything seemed stranger.

The carpet was on his bed and the pillow was under. In the bathroom

the water came up out of the plughole and went up into the taps. At breakfast

his brother took cereal out of his mouth and put it into his bowl. At school

the year one pupils were tall, the oldest kids were short, and the teachers were so short that they couldn't write on the whiteboard or sit on their chairs. On Wednesday morning

everything was completely the wrong way round. But soon it seemed normal that

there were rough sheets and smooth carpets, huge ants and tiny buses, curtains behind the windows and a whiteboard in front of the teacher. It even seemed normal that

the students gave lunch and the school chefs took it. So on Thursday Tom wasn't surprised that

the table was soft and his food was hard, the ground was up and the sky was down, the sun was near but his front gate was far far away, and the corridors were wide but the classrooms were narrow. But on Friday morning everything seemed to have changed again. When he woke up

the bathroom was tidy and his hair was messy. His parents were nice and his brother was nasty. The cornflakes were soft and the toast was hard and crunchy. On the way to school

the kids looked tired and sleepy, not energetic like the little old ladies. At lunch

the food looked disgusting but actually was yummy. And while Tom was eating that tasty but revolting looking meal, he realised

that everything was back to normal. THE END



# **When Everything was the Wrong Way Round**

**An opposites story by Alex Case**

When Tom woke up  
on Monday morning  
everything seemed a  
little strange.

His door was shut and locked and his curtains were open. His bedroom was neat and tidy and his parents' bedroom was messy.

And when he went down for breakfast

the cornflakes were  
hot and the coffee  
was cold.

On the way to school

the bicycles were  
noisy and the cars  
were quiet.

In school

soccer was hard but  
maths was easy, and  
at lunchtime



there were a few  
pieces of spaghetti  
and many pieces of  
chicken.

On Monday evening  
Tom was happy to get  
back to bed, but

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The carpet was on his  
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In the bathroom

the water came up out  
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At breakfast

his brother took cereal  
out of his mouth and  
put it into his bowl.

At school

the year one pupils were tall, the oldest kids were short, and the teachers were so short that they couldn't write on the whiteboard or sit on their chairs.

On Wednesday morning

everything was completely the wrong way round.

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there were rough sheets and smooth carpets, huge ants and tiny buses, curtains behind the windows and a whiteboard in front of the teacher. It even seemed normal that



the students gave  
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So on Thursday Tom  
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the table was soft and his food was hard, the ground was up and the sky was down, the sun was near but his front gate was far far away, and the corridors were wide but the classrooms were narrow.

But on Friday morning  
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When he woke up

the bathroom was tidy  
and his hair was  
messy. His parents  
were nice and his  
brother was nasty.  
The cornflakes were  
soft and the toast was  
hard and crunchy.

On the way to school

the kids looked tired  
and sleepy, not  
energetic like the little  
old ladies.

At lunch

the food looked  
disgusting but actually  
was yummy. And  
while Tom was eating  
that tasty but revolting  
looking meal, he  
realised

that everything was  
back to normal.

**THE END**

**Opposites presentation**

*Without looking above, write opposites of the words below. Other words may be possible.*

shut/ closed  
neat/ tidy  
hot  
noisy  
hard/ difficult  
few/ a few  
on/ above  
out  
tall  
rough  
huge  
behind  
give/ gave  
soft  
up  
near/ close  
wide  
nice  
tired/ sleepy  
disgusting/ revolting

*Use the words below to fold to help.*

-----fold-----

cold  
down  
easy  
energetic  
far  
hard  
in  
in front of  
many  
messy  
narrow  
nasty  
open  
quiet  
short  
smooth  
take/ took  
tiny  
under/ below  
yummy/ delicious/ tasty