



Sid and the Lucky Fish

Instructor: Present in noise without speechreading. Student repeats or asks to clarify.

Once upon a time a penguin was walking on an iceberg. His name was Sid.

All penguins have orange feet with three toes. But not Sid. Sid's feet were red. And one foot only had two toes!

Other penguin girls and boys thought Sid was just as fun to play with as any penguin student. Sid could still run and slide on his belly just fine, but he felt different because of his feet.

Sometimes the other penguin girls and boys asked about Sid's feet. They were curious. All other penguins look just the same, but not Sid.

Sid felt lonely and sad sometimes. He went for walks on the iceberg. With every step he saw his red feet and only 5 toes.

Sid liked to kick ice cubes when he walked. One day he kicked an ice cube really hard. It bounced to the edge of the iceberg and landed right on top of a blue fish.

The fish was just lying on the ice. One eye was looking up at the sky. Sid went over, bent down and looked at the blue fish. And then the fish jumped!

The fish moved his eye to look at Sid. The fish said "Hi. I'm Fred." Sid said, "Hi. I'm Sid. What are you doing on the ice instead of in the water?"



Fred said, "I'm a special fish. I'm different because I can be out of the water for a little bit." "The other fish think I'm very lucky. I tell them all about the sky."

Sid thought about being special. Then he thought about his red feet and only five toes. Sid said, "All penguins look the same. I'm different. I have red feet and only five toes."

Fred said, "Then you are special too! Out of everyone one else, you get to be unique. That means being one of a kind. Everyone else is ordinary. YOU are extraordinary. Is there anything you can't do that other penguins can?"

Sid thought and thought. Then he smiled and said, "Not if I really want to! Red feet don't make any difference. Two toes instead of three toes does make it a little harder, especially if it is slippery."

Fred said, "What do you do if it's slippery?" Sid said, "I try to not go to slippery spots! Sometimes everyone goes to a slippery spot so I need to go too. Sometimes I just go slower. Sometimes I slip a bit and ask for help."

My friends and the adult penguins stick out a flipper so I can get over the slippery spots. I know they would rather help me than to see me fall on my beak."

Fred said, "Being able to help you makes your friends feel special too." Sid said, "So I am extraordinary and I can help other people feel special?" Fred said, "Yes. We are both unique and lucky!"

Then Fred waved his fin and slipped into the water. Sid walked back to play with the other penguin students knowing that he was extraordinary. In a crowd of penguins, it was okay to be a little different!

Flesch-Kincaid Reading Level 2.7

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