

## Tim All Alone By Edward Ardizzone

### LEARNING TO LOOK

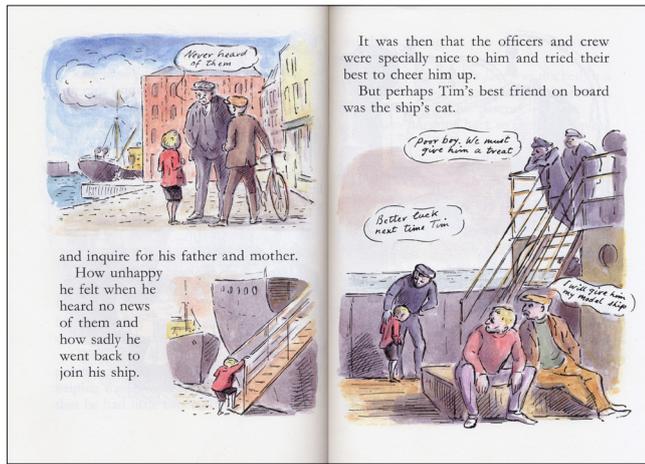
This activity is to encourage children to look more closely and critically at illustrations. It can be modelled whilst working with the whole class or a mixed ability group. It encourages children to offer their personal interpretation of the illustration and to share and shape their ideas orally in a collaborative setting.

#### The aims of this activity are:

- to increase the interaction with and enjoyment of picture books for children of all ages
- to develop children's confidence and vocabulary to respond to what they see – to observe and describe
- to encourage them to build on their previous experience, imagination and understanding to make sense of visual information – to interpret
- to consider a variety of graphic forms and their interaction with a text in order to convey layers of meaning – to appreciate
- to recognise different styles and techniques used and developed by a variety of illustrators – to analyse
- to begin to recognise and appreciate visual metaphor, irony, puns and jokes etc. – to participate

The following questions have been designed to help children to look more closely at the illustrative work of **Edward Ardizzone**. By moving from the whole picture to the smallest part children are encouraged to search for and use all available clues given by the artist to make meaning. Please select and adapt the questions to make them appropriate for your setting.

If possible give children one copy of the picture to share between two or use an enlarged picture that everyone can see.



### TELL ME ABOUT EDWARD ARDIZZONE'S ILLUSTRATION...

Please select/adapt questions, which you think are most appropriate for the children you are working with...

Where is this place?

What do you notice about the setting?

- The time in history
- The time of year
- The time of day

What do you think happens here?

Which character is the focus of this story?

How has the illustrator drawn your attention to him?

In what ways has the illustrator encouraged you to empathise with Tim?

In the three scenes depicted, how would you describe the changes in Tim's mood?

#### Consider his:

- Body language
- Body shape
- Gestures
- Position on the page
- Relationship with /proximity to other people

How would you describe the mood of the first scene?

#### Consider:

- How this illustration is positioned on the page
- The colour and the amount of sky depicted.
- The type of clouds
- The colour of the sea
- The way in which the left hand side of the illustration is unfinished
- What you can see in the distance
- The general openness of the scene
- The men's body language
- The facial expression of the taller man

What do you think Tim has said to the men?

Why has the author chosen to give a speech bubble to the man and not Tim?

In the second scene the illustration is pushed into the gutter of the book by the text. What effect does this have on your perception of how Tim is feeling?

How would you describe the boat, which Tim is about to board?

Why has the illustrator chosen to give you a restricted view of this scene?

Why has the illustrator chosen to put Tim at the bottom of the gangplank?

In the third scene, what do you notice about the colour tones used by the illustrator?

How would you describe the colours of the sea and the sky?

Do you notice any movement in the sea or the sky?

In what ways do these elements impact on the mood created?

What do you notice about Tim's position on the page?

In what ways is your attention drawn to Tim?

What is the effect of putting the men on the bridge so that they look down on him?

Why do you think that the illustrator has not used any colour on these two men?

How would you describe their body language and facial expressions?

The sky and the sea are still, where does the movement in this picture come?

How would you describe the behaviour of the sailor standing with Tim?

What is the effect of the speech bubbles in this scene?

How would you describe Ardizzone's illustrative style?

Do you think he would have worked quickly on these pictures or have spent a long time on each one?

What has he used to achieve this effect? For example, Pen/ink/wash, Pastels, Watercolours etc

When do you think that Edward Ardizzone was writing and illustrating this book?

Where do you think he got his story ideas and knowledge about boats and the sea?

Is this book contemporary?

Does the style and presentation of these illustrations give you any clues about when it was published?

**Consider details such as:**

- Font
- Page layout
- Fashion
- Use and application of colour
- Definition of colour
- Amount of colours used
- Appearance of characters
- Illustrative style
- Language style

**When do you think it was published?**

**1950s?**

**1960s?**

**1970s?**

**1980s?**

**1990s?**

**2000s?**

**WRITE IT DOWN**

Harvest children's responses and record their descriptions and comments on a whiteboard/flip chart. Are there any aspects of the picture that they find particularly interesting or puzzling?