# SCHOLASTIC



llustrations © 2009 Nick Sharratt from *Sleep-overs* by Jacqueline Wilson, published by Corgi Children's Books

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AGES 6+



# Using this book in your classroom

### Themes

This story explores friendship, family loyalty and a range of issues surrounding disability.

### Summary

Daisy has moved to a new school, and she doesn't have a best friend yet – so she's delighted when Emily, Bella and Amy want to be friends with her. The only problem is Emily's best friend, Chloe, who doesn't seem to want to be friends with Daisy at all...

When it's their birthdays, each of the girls decides to have a sleepover party. The parties are brilliant – at Amy's they have a delicious chocolate cake and play lots of games; at Bella's they have an amazing tea and all sleep in the same bed; and at Emily's they have a fantastic picnic. But when it's time for Chloe's sleepover, she takes every opportunity to be horrible to Daisy – calling her names, leaving her out of games and covering her tea-time pizza in horrible anchovies so Daisy can't eat it.

Daisy's birthday is coming up, but she's not sure she wants a sleepover party. It's partly because she doesn't want to have to invite Chloe ... and partly because Daisy is worried the other girls won't understand about her big sister, Lily, who is disabled. She can't stand the thought of Chloe being mean to Lily, and she's also worried that Lily might spoil the party. But she goes ahead with the party anyway, and as it turns out, she needn't have worried. Chloe is her normal spiteful self, but she gets her come-uppance in the end – and in a way, it's all thanks to Lily!

### Did you know?

• Jacqueline Wilson was the Children's Laureate from 2005 to 2007.

• Jacqueline is one of the most popular children's writers in the world, and has sold over 25 million books in the UK alone.



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## **The Story Session**

### 1. Introducing the story

Start by quickly discussing sleepovers. Have the children ever been on a sleepover? What kinds of things do they think happen? Would it be fun to have a sleepover party? Can they think of anything that could go wrong at this kind of party?

### 2. Reading the story

• Read Chapter One aloud to the children. Pause at the end of the chapter, and ask the children what kind of person they think Daisy is. How do they think Daisy feels about the other girls in the story? What kind of person do they think Chloe is? Look for some words and phrases in the chapter that give us a clue about Chloe (e.g. "You have to try to keep on the right side of Chloe" or "Chloe gets away with murder".)

• Ask the children to predict why Daisy says she can't have a sleepover. Then read Chapter Two. Talk about Lily and how Daisy feels about her. What are the good things about having Lily as a sister? What are the difficult things?

#### 3. Follow-up

• Ask the children whether they think Daisy will have a sleepover after all. Share their predictions for the rest of the story. If possible, encourage the children to read the rest of the story independently or in groups.

• At the end of the story, talk about whether Chloe deserved what happened to her. Can the children think of anything Chloe could do if she wanted to make friends with the other girls again?

• How do the children think Daisy feels about Lily at the end of the story? How have her feelings changed from the beginning of the story?

• Ask the children to choose a favourite character from the book and make a character profile. They could draw a picture of the character in the middle, and write words and phrases to describe the character all around the outside.

### YOU TELL US

- Did you use these notes to have a Book Talk in class?
- Were they helpful?
- Are there any changes you'd like to see to make them more useful?

We're always happy to hear your comments, so please email us! For the UK, email: **bookfairs@scholastic.co.uk** For Ireland, please email: **bookfairs@scholastic.ie** 

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