

Family
and
Friends 4

Changing Places



By Alan Hines

Illustrated by Marcelo Baez

OXFORD

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Bill Bowler and Sue Parminter**

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Activities

Before reading

1 Match the sentences with the pictures. Tick the boxes.



film actor



museum worker

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 It's exciting work. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 It's different every day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 You can make a lot of money. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 It's the same every day. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 You can walk down the street and people don't look at you. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6 You don't make much money. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7 People always stop you in the street and want to talk to you. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8 It isn't very exciting. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

2 Would you like to change places with someone famous for a day? (They live your life and you live their life for twenty-four hours.) Who would you like to be? Why?

Serena Williams

Nicole Kidman

Nicholas Cage

Michael Phelps

I'd like to be Serena Williams, because she can play tennis every day.

CHAPTER 1 Hal and Tim meet

Hal Tanner lives an ordinary life. He has got a nice flat and a good job at a natural history museum in San Diego, California.

At the weekend he does his chores around the house. Later he goes to his mother and father's house and helps them with their chores. Sometimes he plays basketball with his friends. Then he meets his cousin David for a cup of coffee in the afternoon.

During the week Hal gets up every morning and does the same thing. He makes his bed. He puts on his museum uniform. Then he reads the newspaper at the kitchen table, and he eats toast and cereal with milk. After breakfast he washes up, brushes his teeth and rides his bike to work. He walks into the museum, and he doesn't have to look at the clock, because he knows that it is eight o'clock. He gets to work at the same time every day.

In the evening Hal leaves the museum, and he rides his bike to the supermarket. Usually he looks for something easy to cook. Then he goes back home. After dinner he reads, or he watches TV. Sometimes he works at his computer until he gets tired. Then he goes to bed and falls asleep. Hal knows that tomorrow will be just the same as today.

The Natural History Museum has got a lot of rooms with all kinds of exhibits. There are dinosaur bones and skeletons of extinct animals. There are models of planets, asteroids and stars. In one room a film shows trees changing in the autumn, winter, spring and summer. In the next room there is a film about earthquakes. There are exhibits about people from different countries, and how

ordinary not special

chore a job to do at home

same nothing different, as usual

exhibit something that people look at in a museum



they work and play. Many of these exhibits look real, and visitors love looking at them.

Hal's job is to make sure that every visitor follows the rules, and that no one touches the exhibits. Sometimes he helps lost children find their parents. At times visitors want to know something more about an exhibit. Hal is happy to find a museum expert who can answer their questions.

Hal always tells his family and his friends that he is happy with his life. He is happy to work where people learn more about natural history. But he really thinks that every day is the same, and he's a little bored. Sometimes at night he falls asleep and dreams that he's got a much more exciting job. He's an explorer, a scientist or an astronaut. Then he wakes up in the morning and he's just Hal.

make sure to check that something happens

touch to put your hands or fingers on something

lost when you don't know where you are

expert a person who knows a lot about something

bored not interested

Tim Hawkins is a popular film actor. He acts in all kinds of films, but most people like his adventure films. In one film he rescues a family in a hurricane. In another film he climbs a tall building and rescues some children. In his most popular film he's an astronaut who is lost in space.

Tim's photograph is on the cover of magazines all over the country. When people log on to their computers, they see his face on the screen. When he goes to the shops, girls see him and giggle.

At cafés he has to hide behind the menu, because people look at him. People see him on TV programmes, and they want to know a lot of things about him. They find out about his favourite kind of music and his favourite kind of food. They see what his house looks like. His mother, father and friends from school are on these programmes, and they enjoy talking about him! Now people think they really know him. Sometimes they run after him, and he has to hide.

Tim is not happy to be a popular film actor. He wants to have an ordinary life. For his new film he's going to change the colour of his hair to brown. He's going to wear glasses, too. He thinks that maybe people won't recognize him when he goes out in public.

* * *

Then one morning Hal and Tim's lives changed.

Hal had breakfast and read the newspaper. Then he rode



adventure an unusual and exciting thing to do

popular when lots of people like you

favourite one thing you like more than any other

glasses you wear these to help you see better

recognize to see someone and to know who it is

in public outside your house, where people can see you