

TALL TONY

Dobeck, Maryann

Tony is the tallest boy in his class, and sometimes that's a bother. As you read, evaluate how well the words and pictures work together to tell Tony's story. Tony was very tall. In fact, he was the tallest person in his class. He was even taller than the teacher, Ms. Bell.

Tony didn't mind being tall. He liked being able to reach things nobody else could reach. Tony was always reaching up high for something.

"Tony, I need that book on the top shelf. Will you please get it for me?" Alex asked. Tony got the book. "Tony, it's hot in here. Will you

please open that window" May asked. Tony opened the window. "Tony, I want this elephant picture at the top of the board. Will you please tack it up for me?" Ms. Bell asked. Tony tacked up the picture. "Tony, I forgot to write Canada at the top of this map:" Anna said. "Will you please write it for me?" Tony wrote Canada. Day after day, Tony had to do things because he was the tallest person in his class. Who had to draw stars at the top of the mural?

Tony did.

Who had to measure the clock and the door for math lesson? Tony did.

One day, Tony got tired of doing all the reaching. "I'm going to shrink myself:" he thought. "Being tall is driving me CRAZY. I've got to say . something about it." . So Tony raised his hand. "Yes, Tony" said Ms. Bell. "I want to say something to the class:" Tony said.

"Later:" said Ms. Bell. "Right now it's time to go to the gym for basketball:" In the gym, everyone gathered around Mr. Sams, the basketball coach.

"A basketball team needs a captain," he said.

"Now, who do you think it should be?"

"The player who knows all about basketball!" said Alex. "The player who is super fast!" said May. "The player who is a good leader!" said

Jim. "The player who shoots lots of baskets!"
said Anna..

"Who is that played" asked Mr. Sams. "Me!"
said Tony, standing very straight to look as
tall as he could. "How about me?"

"YES!" everybody yelled. "CAPTAIN TONY!"

"Now we can start practice:" said Mr. Sams.

"But first, there's one thing I need you to do,
Tony:"

"Name it, Coach:" said Tony happily.

"The basketball is on top of the shelf:" said
Mr. Sams. "Will you please reach up and get
it for me.