

7th Grade Summer Reading/Writing

Name: _____

Below is your Summer 2019 Reading/Writing work. You will find detailed instructions on what to complete.

Book: **Fish in A Tree** by Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Reading Activity: Annotate the first chapter using Stop-and-Jots. Use post-its or other materials to create your Stop-and-Jots and keep them organized in the book itself. These will be a class grade when you arrive in September.

Some questions to guide your annotations:

1. What do you think Ally wants? Why do you think this?
2. How do Ally's classmates feel about her?
3. How does Ally feel her classmates feel about her? Why?
4. Why doesn't Ally want to do her work?
5. Why do you think Ally scribble on her desk? Why do you feel this way?
6. What does Mrs. Hall say to Ally when she scribbles on the desk? How does Ally react? Why do you think she reacts this way?

Writing Activity: Below are 4 discussion questions. Please answer all parts of the question. You can write the answers on lined paper and staple them to this sheet.

#1: Read the Albert Einstein quote shared by Mr. Daniels: *"Everybody is smart in different ways. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its life believing it is stupid."* What does this quote mean to you? How does it relate to Ally?

#2: Bullying is a major theme in the book. Discuss how Ally reacts and why she gets so upset by things Shay says to her and others. How did Ally feel when she was mean to Albert? Why does Albert not stand up to the boys who pick on him?

#3: Ally compares her being called a "slow reader" to people thinking she is like "a can of soup, and they can just read the list of ingredients and know everything about me." How do we label each other? How do you label yourself? Discuss how labeling can help us make sense of the world but also limit our view of others and ourselves.

#4: Discuss the friendship between Ally, Albert, and Keisha. How does their friendship benefit each one of them? What friendships help you be your best self? Contrast their relationship with the friendship between Shay and Jessica.
