

How to print this booklet

Open the PDF, choose Print, and set these:

Paper size	US Letter (8.5 × 11 in)
Orientation	Landscape
Print on both sides	On (two-sided / duplex)
Flip on	Short edge
Scale	100% / Actual size — not “Fit to page”
Pages	All

THEN

1. Take the whole stack out of the printer. Keep the sheets in order.
2. Fold the stack in half, so this page is on the outside.
3. Staple twice along the fold.



Make another at didtheyreallyread.com

Reading Journal

My thoughts, chapter by chapter

Reader:

Book Title:

Fish In A Tree

Author:

Lynda Mullaly Hunt

Date Started:

Date Finished:

Keep reading. Keep wondering.
Created by didtheyreallyread.com

How to Answer

Your answer does not have to be perfect. Just answer in complete thoughts and use details from the chapter.

How to structure your answer

A strong answer usually has a few parts. Try these steps:

1. **Answer the question.** Start with one sentence that answers the question directly.
2. **Give an example.** Add a detail or moment from the chapter that shows what you mean.
3. **Explain why.** Tell why it mattered, or how it made you think or feel.
4. **Wrap it up.** Finish with a closing thought, a question, or a prediction.

In Chapter 17, Ally spends time at the “misfit” lunch table. How do Keisha, Albert, and Ally begin to fit together as friends?

Example answer: I think Keisha, Albert, and Ally fit together because they all know what it feels like to be different. They do not act exactly the same, but they start to understand each other. Keisha is bold, Albert is thoughtful, and Ally is creative. Together, they make a group where each person has something important to add.

Chapter 51

In Chapter 51, the word courage is important. How has Ally shown courage from the beginning of the book to the end?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

How to Answer (continued)

In Chapter 29, Mr. Daniels explains the idea behind “fish in a tree.” What does this idea mean, and how does it connect to Ally?

Example answer: To me, “fish in a tree” means that people should not be judged by something they were never meant to do. A fish would look bad at climbing, but it might be amazing at swimming. Ally has been judged mostly by reading and writing, so she thinks she is not smart. Mr. Daniels helps her see that she is smart in different ways.

In Chapter 51, the word courage is important. How has Ally shown courage from the beginning of the book to the end?

Example answer: Ally shows courage because she keeps going even when school is hard and embarrassing for her. At first, she hides her struggles by making jokes or getting in trouble. Later, she is brave enough to accept help and believe she can learn. I think her biggest courage is learning to see herself as smart and worthy.

Chapter 1

In Chapter 1, why does Ally get in trouble after giving Mrs. Hall a card? What does this misunderstanding show about Ally and about how others see her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 50

In Chapter 50, characters have a chance to act like heroes. What do you think a hero's job is in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 49

In Chapter 49, the idea of being original becomes important. Why might being different be a strength instead of a weakness?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 2

In Chapter 2, Ally tries to handle embarrassment in her own way. How do her classmates' reactions make the situation better or worse for her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 3

In Chapter 3, what do you learn about Ally's life outside of school? How does her family situation help you understand her feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 48

In Chapter 48, Oliver has his own idea of being lucky. How can different people see luck in different ways?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 47

In Chapter 47, the chapter title says great minds do not think alike. What is the author teaching about different kinds of intelligence?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 4

In Chapter 4, Ally compares herself to a bird in a cage. What do you think this comparison means, and why might she feel that way at school?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 5

In Chapter 5, Ally thinks about things that are real and things that can fool you. How does this connect to the way she acts in class?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 46

In Chapter 46, Ally learns about people and ideas that are bigger than her classroom. How can learning about others help her feel less alone?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 45

In Chapter 45, Travis asks an important question. What does his question reveal about him and about Ally's journey?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 6

In Chapter 6, Ally seems stuck between different choices. What choices does she have, and why are they hard for her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 7

In Chapter 7, how does Ally's relationship with her grandpa still affect her? What memories or lessons seem important to her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 44

In Chapter 44, Ally notices more about Travis and school. How are Ally and Travis alike, and why does that matter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 43

In Chapter 43, the phrase “set the world on fire” sounds powerful. What dream or confidence is growing in Ally?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 8

In Chapter 8, Ally gets into more trouble. Why do you think she sometimes acts out instead of asking for help?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 9

In Chapter 9, the chapter title suggests having a “bag full of nothing.” What might Ally feel she is carrying around inside, even if others cannot see it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 42

In Chapter 42, the chapter title lists unusual “gifts.” How can things that seem annoying or difficult at first turn into gifts?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 41

In Chapter 41, Ally has a “not-so-secret weapon.” What do you think her strongest weapon is, and how does she use it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 10

In Chapter 10, Mr. Daniels begins to show that he is different from some other teachers. What does he do or say that makes Ally wonder if she can trust him?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 11

In Chapter 11, words and letters feel confusing to Ally. How does the author help you understand what reading is like for her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 40

In Chapter 40, mystery boxes make the students curious. What do the boxes teach about judging things before you understand them?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 39

In Chapter 39, Ally responds to Shay in a new way. How is Ally beginning to change in how she handles teasing or unfairness?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 12

In Chapter 12, Albert has problems of his own. What do you learn about him, and how does this change the way you see his character?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 13

In Chapter 13, a small event leads to hurt feelings or confusion. How can good intentions still turn into problems?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 38

In Chapter 38, the word “loser” is hurtful. How do labels affect Ally and other characters in this chapter?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 37

In Chapter 37, a tricky problem makes the characters think carefully. What does this chapter show about problem-solving?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 14

In Chapter 14, Ally feels both boxed in and boxed out. What makes her feel trapped, and what makes her feel left out?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 15

In Chapter 15, the chapter title suggests gears that do not move smoothly. What is not working smoothly in Ally's school life, and why?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 36

In Chapter 36, the chapter title compares life to a game with teammates. Who is on Ally's team, and how do they support her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 35

In Chapter 35, pictures are very powerful for Ally. How does Ally's imagination help her understand the world?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 16

In Chapter 16, Ally starts to think about what she does have instead of only what she cannot do. What strengths does Ally show?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 17

In Chapter 17, Ally spends time at the “misfit” lunch table. How do Keisha, Albert, and Ally begin to fit together as friends?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 34

In Chapter 34, Ally has a chance to shine. What helps her feel like a star, and why is that important?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 33

In Chapter 33, the chapter title is about possibilities. What new possibilities does Ally begin to notice?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 18

In Chapter 18, Mr. Daniels encourages students to think in a wide-open way. How does this kind of thinking help Ally?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 19

In Chapter 19, a letter becomes important. What can written words show about a person, even when writing is difficult?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 32

In Chapter 32, Ally learns more about how her brain works. How does this new information change the way she sees herself?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 31

In Chapter 31, the characters learn there can be more than one way to solve a problem. How does this lesson matter in Ally's life?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 20

In Chapter 20, humor and frustration both appear in the chapter. How do the characters use humor when things feel uncomfortable?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 21

In Chapter 21, the idea of wishes is important. What does Ally seem to wish for, and what is stopping her from believing it can happen?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 30

In Chapter 30, Ally learns about the king in chess. How can a chess piece help her think differently about herself?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 29

In Chapter 29, Mr. Daniels explains the idea behind “fish in a tree.” What does this idea mean, and how does it connect to Ally?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 22

In Chapter 22, the chapter title mentions a queen. Who seems to have power in the classroom, and how do they use it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 23

In Chapter 23, words feel scary or confusing to Ally. Why can something that is easy for one person feel frightening to another?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 28

In Chapter 28, Ally is offered a deal that could change things for her. Why is it hard for her to accept help, even when she needs it?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 27

In Chapter 27, friendship is tested during an upsetting afternoon. How do the characters show whether they are loyal friends?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 24

In Chapter 24, Ally imagines heroes and brave moments. Why might imagining herself as a hero help her in real life?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 25

In Chapter 25, an event can feel like both a celebration and a disaster. Why do you think Ally has mixed feelings?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?

Chapter 26

In Chapter 26, Ally stalls instead of doing something right away. What is she trying to avoid, and what does this tell you about her?

New word I learned:

What do you think it means?
