



Title and Author: Not Norman: A Goldfish Story

By Kelly Bennett and **Illustrated by** Noah Z. Jones

Genre/Text Type: Fiction

Theme/Idea:

- Having a pet

Vocabulary – Related Words for Discussion:

- Trade: to exchange one thing for another
- Goofy: Silly
- Sway: to move slowly back and forth

Before Reading:

Questions to build predicting skills

- If you could have any pet you wanted, what would it be?
- How many of you have ever had a fish?

Go Back to the Story:

Questions to lead into a classroom discussion about story

- Page 4 – Why isn't the boy happy with Norman as a pet? *Answers: He wanted a pet who could run and catch; one who could climb trees and chase strings; a soft furry pet. He wanted a dog/cat.*
- Page 8 – Why does Norman need more water for his bowl? *Answer: Because the dogs drank out of Norman's bowl*
- Page 13-16– Why does the boy have to stay for extra music practice? *Answer: Because he interrupted the teacher instead of playing his tuba.*
- Page 23 – Does the boy trade in Norman at the pet store? *Answer: No. Why? Answers may vary*

Making Connections

Story to Real World

- What do pets do for us? If you had a pet, what would you and your pet do together?