

# MY LIFE AS A POTATO

## Essay Prompts:

1. Ben learns that first impressions are not always accurate. Choose two characters from the book and write about how Ben's impressions of them changed over time. Include examples from the story.
2. What makes a true friend? How did different characters in the book show they were true friends to Ben? Feel free to share examples from your own life of true friendship.
3. In this story, Ben learns that telling lies can harm more than help. Use examples from the book to explain how Ben's lies made his life more difficult.

## Extension activities:

1. Write a scene from another character's perspective. To start, the teacher might lead the class in making a list of scenes: Ellie finding out Ben was the Spud; Hunter getting asked to the dance; Mitch deciding to get into the mascot suit for Ben; Jayla finding out Ben was the Spud; etc.
2. Ben watches Youtube videos of mascots performing to get inspiration for his own acts. The teacher may select a few videos of mascots performing to help the class better visualize Ben's experience as a mascot. If possible, get a mascot to visit the classroom and answer questions about what it's like to be a mascot and what training is involved.
3. As a class, make a list of positive things about your school. If your school has a motto or a fight song, study it as a class. If not, create what you think should be the motto of your school. Together, design a school spirit banner that represents your school. Display it in the hallway!