Counting by 7s by Holly Goldberg Sloan

Recommended for grades 4 to 6

**Summary:** Willow Chance is twelve years old genius who is obsessed with nature, diagnosing medical conditions, and counting by sevens. She is living peacefully and contentedly until both of her adoptive parents die in a car crash. Join her as she pushes through her grief and journeys to find a large array of different people whom she can call family.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What is family? Who do you consider to be family?
2. How does Willow cope with her tragic situation?
3. Would you want to be friends with Willow?
4. How did you feel about Dell at the beginning of the book versus the end? Why do you think he changes?
5. Without her parents, Willow begins to question what binds her to this world. What binds you to this world?
6. How are you similar or different from Willow?

**Further Resources:**

About the author: [https://dar.to/2rgZ5Tm](https://dar.to/2rgZ5Tm)
Are you a genius quiz: [https://dar.to/2O5wB7P](https://dar.to/2O5wB7P)
Requirements to become a foster parent: [https://dar.to/2O7EgT1](https://dar.to/2O7EgT1)
Plan your own garden: [https://dar.to/2O6pIDo](https://dar.to/2O6pIDo)

**Activities**

Draw Willow Chance with the people she considers to be her family. Label:

a. Who you think she was closest to
b. Who you think she affected the most
c. Who you think affected her the most