



YMCA Project Cornerstone Summer Fun — ABC

An 8-week adventure in reading, games,
and family fun!

There are 8 weeks of Summer Fun Activity, and every time you complete the week's activities, you can color in the image on the special coloring poster. Print a copy of the [coloring sheet](https://tinyurl.com/yc8fk97e) (<https://tinyurl.com/yc8fk97e>)

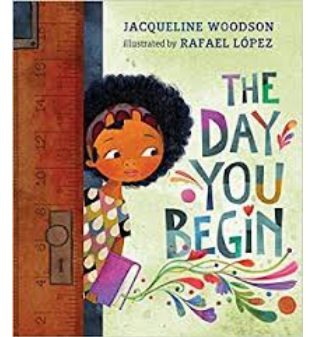
Week 3 — The Day You Begin

By Jacqueline Woodson

Celebrate Differences

Book synopsis: This book tells a story of tolerance and acceptance of others. It also makes us aware of the importance of creating a community where all kids share a sense of belonging and safety.

Goal: Children will learn how to embrace each individual for who they are and recognize and value diversity.



Book Narration Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oM3DesXftrQ>

Pre-Recorded Videos:

- Conversation and Activity (all grades) [Video](#)
- Name Art Craft (Grades K-2) [Video](#)
- Acrostic Poem Craft (Grades 3-6) [Video](#)

Monday Activity:

Thought Jar

- Materials: Jar or box with a lid, paper cut into fourths, crayons, colored pens or pencils
- Think about how you feel different from others.
- Write or draw thoughts - one thought per piece of paper.
- Roll papers up one at a time and tie with a ribbon or just fold them.
- Place them in the jar labeled as (your name's) THOUGHT JAR (ex. *AMY'S THOUGHT JAR*)

Tuesday Craft:

Weave Your Own Unique Story

- Materials: Heart cut out of construction paper or card stock, colored and variety of yarn cut in different lengths, hole punch, tape
- Punch holes in the hearts.
- Think of what makes you unique and different. Express this with the colored yarn.
- Start at any hole and weave the yarn in and out of the holes. Use a piece of tape to attach the yarn at the beginning and the end.

Wednesday Reading:

Complementary Book

- Read or listen to the narration of the complementary book, *The Sandwich Swap* by Queen Rania Al Abdullah and Kelly DiPucchio: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MIAFhYo4z-Y>

Visit <https://www.ymcasv.org/ymca-project-cornerstone>
and click the "Summer Fun" link for more!



Thursday Craft:

Word Search

- Complete the *Day You Begin* Word Search on page 3.
- The answer key is on page 4.

Friday Family Movie Night:

Encanto

- Watch “Encanto,” a film about embracing differences, learning to rethink weaknesses and strengths, and the importance of family togetherness. After watching the movie, here are some discussion questions (ages 5+; provided by Common Sense Media):
 - Talk about the family dynamics in the movie. Why does Mirabel feel like she has to prove her worth to her family? How does she display courage, empathy, and teamwork?
 - What aspects of Colombian culture are highlighted in the story? How do costumes, music, dance, and food play a role in the movie? How is magical realism, which is associated with Latin American literature, a big part of the movie?
 - Why does representation behind the camera matter as much as in front of the camera? While most of the movie's cast and the soundtrack's performing musicians are Colombian, the filmmakers themselves aren't. How could a Colombian filmmaker have enriched the film?
 - How did each character's uniqueness contribute to a caring community?
 - How does your family celebrate your culture?

BONUS FUN

Mindfulness Activity: Five Sense Scavenger Hunt

Most kids love a scavenger hunt, and this one designed to encourage mindfulness by engaging all the senses. All you need to do is provide a safe environment for exploration. Here are the steps for kids to follow:

- **Listen** Name one thing that you hear when you listen with your ears.
- **Look** Name one thing that catches your attention when you look around.
- **Smell** Name a scent that you notice when you take a sniff with your nose.
- **Touch** Name an object that you enjoy feeling with your hands.
- **Taste** Name flavors you enjoy (sweet, salty, sour, spicy) Have you and your child taste a few kid friendly snacks and name the flavors.

The Day You Begin Word Search

B D H T V N X D B F Y E A Q Z
E I M C N B Q A O S X W W W S
G V Q W Q F V N O C L U N C H
I E Y B C L M G K X E X J C R
N R D X U Y Q E S S Q O F Z X
V S U N L D S L I U H O J I S
K I P K T P P I N R H A B V B
Y T S Y U Q E N C V N W R X R
N Y T Q R S C A L H R R B E A
A Y A G E C I V U S T O R Y V
E C N G V H A L S E L M R V E
O D D K X O L D I L D H R P N
X T E M A O J Y V V L U K V I
N W R J J L N T E Y Y T S T S
R S T O L E R A N T F A Y L Q

Inclusive
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School

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Culture
Begin
Brave

Upstander
Story
Share

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Answer Key

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