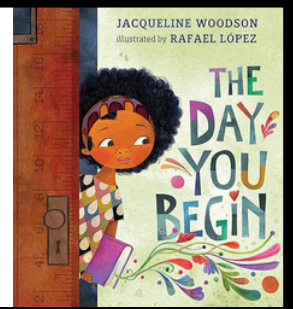


# The Day You Begin

By Jacqueline Woodson



## Before Reading: Get Ready

**Review the book synopsis with the student to confirm interest in reading the book.** Share the title, author, and illustrator. Talk about the cover.

**Activate comprehension and set a purpose for reading.** Have you ever felt different from other people in some way? I know I have (share an example). In our story today, some of the students feel very different from the other students in the class. But then, at the end of the book, something changes! We will infer how they are feeling at the beginning, middle, and end of our book.

**Introduce important vocabulary and ask your student to listen for these words during reading.**

- **unfamiliar:** If something is unfamiliar to you, you don't know about it or have not experienced it before.
- **kimchi:** Kimchi is a kind of spicy cabbage that some people like to eat. What is a food that you like to eat?
- **fabulous:** When something is fabulous, it is really good and wonderful. I think you are fabulous!

## During Reading: Read Together

**Sit side-by-side to share the book.** Follow the conversation prompts and invite your student to ask questions or comments connected to the text to ensure their comprehension.

Remind your student that, when we infer as readers, we use our own experiences and the clues the author gives us in the story to help us understand what is happening in the book.

- **After reading p. 12:** Let's infer what the girl in the story may be thinking or feeling.
  - Help your student understand that the girl has had different experiences than the other students in the class, and may feel like she is very different and that no one understands her.
- **After reading p. 18:** How do you infer the boy is feeling now? What makes you think that?
  - Encourage your student to share how they may have felt left out before, and that is probably how the boy is feeling in the story.

- **After finishing the book:** How do you infer the students' feelings changed? That's right! They learned that they are different from their classmates in some ways, and that they are also the same as their classmates in other ways!

**NOTE:** This book does not have page numbers. These conversation prompts will be marked in the book for your use.

## After Reading: Discuss and Extend

**After reading, briefly discuss the text and revisit vocabulary words to ensure your student understands the text.**

- **Let's write to respond to this story.** (Choose a prompt for student response and copy the selected frame into your student's notebook.)
  - One way that I am the same as other people is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - One way that I am different from other people is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The students in the story learned that \_\_\_\_\_.