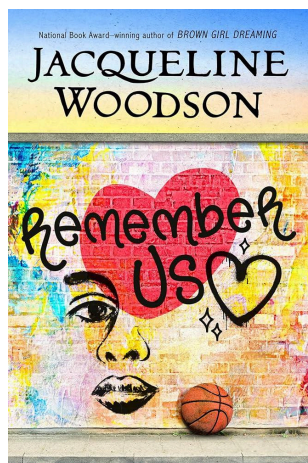


2025-2026 School Year  
Summer Reading for 5th Grade ELA/SS



Please purchase the novel [Remember Us](#) by Jacqueline Woodson. This novel is your required summer reading for 2025. You will also need to purchase a notebook, however it can be the same one you bring from your required supply list for ELA at the beginning of the school year.

This novel's most impactful message is about how growth can involve both letting go and holding on. Main character Sage confronts the challenges of friendship, family, emotional and physical loss, and community as she navigates growing up. I challenge you to think about how her story connects to your personal life, the world around you, and to other texts and forms of media you've interacted with.

After reading, please write your answers to the formal questions below in your ELA notebook. **Please label your responses with the question number.**

**Question #1: Change Over Time**

Throughout this novel our main character Sage goes through a transformation. Describe how she changes throughout the story. What events caused these changes? ***Include textual evidence from the text in your response.***

**Question #2a: Theme**

Friendship is a major theme of this story. Explain how friendship, particularly Sage's friendship with Freddy, helps her to navigate her sense of self and the challenges she faces. What does Freddy do as Sage's friend that helps her throughout the novel? ***Include textual evidence from the text in your response.***

**Question #2b: Theme**

The friendships in the book help the characters deal with difficult situations. Describe what makes a good friend and how friends can support each other through tough times. Do you have a friend who has supported you during a difficult time? If you feel comfortable sharing, please do!

**Question #3: Main Idea**

Explain what you think the author's main message of this novel is. What message do you think the author wants you to walk away with after you are done reading this novel? What lessons did you learn from reading about the characters in this novel and the experiences they went through?

**Question #4a: Imagery**

In this novel, Woodson uses vivid descriptions to create a strong sense of place. Choose one of these descriptions from the novel and sketch in your notebook what that place looks like to you.

**Question #4b: Imagery**

Choose a place that is special to you and describe it using all of the senses (sight, sound, smell, touch).

**Question #5: A Community Sign**

If a sign could be created for Sage's neighborhood of Bushwick in Brooklyn, what message would it convey to remind people of the community's strength and resilience? You can describe the sign and message or you can draw the sign but either way, please include an explanation of WHY you chose the messages/symbols/depictions for your sign.