RECOMMENDED FOR
Lower primary (K-2)

CONTENTS
1. Plot summary 1
2. About the author & illustrator 2
3. Author & Illustrator inspiration 2
4. Themes 2
5. Pre-reading questions 3
6. Key study topics 3
7. Reading Don’t Forget 4
8. Order Form 5
9. Activity Pack 6-8

KEY CURRICULUM AREAS
• Learning areas: English, Creative Arts, Science, HSIE
• General capabilities: Literacy, Critical and creative thinking, Personal and social capability, Visual literacy

REASONS FOR STUDYING THIS BOOK
• To discuss new vocabulary, respond to texts and share feelings and thoughts about the events and characters in texts.
• To learn and understand more about our place in the community.
• To understand the importance of memories – both good and not so good.
• To learn more our fears and how we can help ourselves and others to overcome them.
• To use and experiment with different materials, and create artworks to communicate ideas to an audience

THEMES
• Hope
• Empathy
• Dreams
• Nature
• Friendship
• Families
• Community
• Memories

PREPARED BY
Penguin Random House Australia

PUBLICATION DETAILS
ISBN: 9781761040955 (hardback)

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Don’t Forget
Jane Godwin & Anna Walker

PLOT SUMMARY

Don’t forget to make your bed, and wear socks that fit your feet...
Don’t forget to care, to play, To run, to laugh...

Sometimes, we need to remember all the things we can do to be part of the world. Small things, like offering a smile. And bigger things, like hoping, dreaming, imagining...

A timely and uplifting picture book for 5+, reflecting on what’s important for each of us to remember, from the creative team that brought us All Through the Year and Today We Have No Plans.
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jane Godwin is the highly acclaimed author of many books for children of different ages. Her work is published internationally. Jane has created a number of bestselling picture books with Anna Walker, including Little Cat and the Big Red Bus, All Through the Year, Today We Have No Plans, Starting School, What Do You Wish For? Go Go and the Silver Shoes, and Tilly. Jane is based in Melbourne.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Anna Walker writes and illustrates children's books and is based in Melbourne. Her illustrations are inspired by the everyday details of life and the amusing antics of her menagerie. Together with Jane Godwin, Anna has created many beautiful picture books, along with many of her own as author-illustrator, such as Mr Huff, Florette, Lottie & Walter, and the recent heartfelt and poignant Hello Jimmy. Florette, was selected among best illustrated books of 2018 by New York Times and New York State Library. It was also shortlisted for 2017 CBCA Book of the Year for Early Childhood and won the Wilderness Society Picture book of the year.

AUTHOR’S INSPIRATION

Jane says:

I wrote this piece very early in 2020, before the pandemic, as a response to what I felt were unsettling and disconcerting times for all of us: the devastating bushfires, climate change, unstable political situations, and the nihilistic narcissism that has a mouthpiece on social media. I was feeling a bit lost, and then imagining how young people must be feeling. I was pondering how incredibly important it is to remind children (and all of us!) that in these uncertain times there are still so many things to be comforted by and ways that we can comfort others; to see what’s good in the world, to find meaning, and to be a good global citizen, too.

And then the pandemic hit us, amplifying all these thoughts so that this little story felt even more relevant for now, and way on into the future.

ILLUSTRATOR’S INSPIRATION

Anna says:

As soon as I read the beautiful words in Don’t Forget, I imagined the images in a simple, joyful colour palette. It was exciting to think about the precious everyday moments from childhood to that form a special part of our lives. I felt fortunate to work on this book during 2020 as, not only did it keep me busy, but it became a refuge of hope. In one of the early lockdowns, on a walk in a late Autumn afternoon, the sun was hitting the tip of a tree filled with yellow leaves. The leaves gleamed gold in the afternoon light. I tried to capture this feeling on the cover.

THEMES

Hope

Children can discuss what they hope for in the future. Something they hope for themselves, for their family, a friend, or the world/planet.

Empathy

What does empathy mean? What are some ways we can understand how someone else is feeling? How do you feel when someone understands how you are feeling? Discuss things you might do when a friend is sad or angry or lonely.

Dreams

Dreams can mean different things. There are the dreams we have when we’re asleep at night, but also daydreams, and dreams can also mean wishes for the future.

Nature

Do you have a favourite place in nature? It could be your own back garden, a park, a beach, or somewhere you might have been for a holiday.

Families

What is a special thing that you love to do with your family?

Friendship

What are some things you love doing with your friends?

Community

What is a community? Can you name some communities that you belong to? School, kinder, family, neighbourhood, apartment block, church, sporting group, choir, etc. Why do we have communities? Has your community ever helped you or your family? Have you helped someone in your community?

Memories

Memories are important because they remind us of the people and places we love. Sometimes we take photos so we can remember happy times or beautiful places, or remember people who we mightn’t see all the time. Do you have any photos that represent different memories in your life? What are some of your memories? What do you remember of your first day of
school? The best holiday you ever had? A birthday party? A memory of your pet, if you have one? A memory of being brave, or being scared? A memory of welcoming someone new, or saying goodbye to someone you love?

2. We all live in communities. Some are big and some are small. What can you tell us about the community you live in? Who do you know in your neighbourhood? What neighbourhood get-togethers do you have? (Street parties, playing in the street etc)

Nature

From the author

I love to go walking in nature. Whether it's in a forest, a park, along a beach, or even down a country road, a walk in nature always makes me feel calm and happy. It's one of my favourite things to do.

Questions

1. Do you have a special place in nature that you like to visit?
2. If you think about this place and use all your senses, how would you describe what it looks like? Sounds like? Feels like? You could write about it or do a drawing.

Activities

1. Make a memory kite: make a cardboard kite and draw or write a special memory on it – see full instructions at the end of these Teachers Resources.
2. Create a diorama - use cardboard to cut out figures or other elements to create a diorama of a memory that made you happy. Use paints or colouring pencils, or even collage elements, to help create and decorate your diorama.
3. Draw a picture or do a collage, or even create a mini play to show a moment of being 'brave'.

Creative arts

Anna used gouache (a method of painting), pencil and collage to create the artwork in this book.

Questions

1. What is collage?
2. What are some simple materials you can use to make a collage? (Perhaps combine your walk around the school/kindergarten with collecting some collage materials from nature.)

Activities

1. Walk around the school/kindergarten and find some treasures from nature – seedpods, small flowers, stones, leaves etc.
2. Create a diorama - use cardboard to cut out figures or other elements to create a diorama of a memory that made you happy. Use paints or colouring pencils, or even collage elements, to help create and decorate your diorama.
3. Draw a picture or do a collage, or even create a mini play to show a moment of being 'brave'.

KEY STUDY TOPICS

English

Activity

1. Exploring a visual narrative:
   - Before reading the text of the story, try looking at all the illustrations first and ask the children to tell their version of the story. (See also ‘Reading Don’t Forget’ on p4 of these notes.)
   - Now go back and read the text with the illustrations – how different does the story feel now? What extra things in the illustrations tell us more about the story than when we just read the text?

2. New Words:
   Can you find three words in the book that are new to you? Try to work out what they mean from the context (the way they are used and what surrounds them).

Question

1. We all have memories. Can you think of some happy, and perhaps one or two sad memories that you have? You could write them down, or draw them, or even draw how they make you feel.
REASONING Don’t Forget
While you’re reading the story with the class, here are some suggested questions you could ask.

Page 5
Who do you think lives in this street?

Page 6 and 7
What makes the boy drop the ship that he made?

Page 8 and 9
What are some new things you have tried? Describe how you felt before and after you tried the new thing.

What is your favourite flower? Why?

Page 10 and 11
What is the creature swimming in the sea? Have you ever seen one in the wild?

Page 12 and 13
What do you think the child in the bath is wondering about?

What is the bravest thing you've ever done?

Page 14 and 15
Do you like to play by yourself sometimes? What kind of activities do you do when you’re by yourself?

What is your favourite season? Why?

Page 16 and 17
Who do you care about in your life?

Page 18 and 19
Describe a time when you laughed with a friend or a member of your family?

Page 20 and 21
Do you think it’s important to cry sometimes? How do you feel after you’ve had a cry?

The children are all dressed up for the party. What are each of them dressed as?

Page 22 and 23
What do you love most about your home?

Page 24 and 25
What’s a special time you’ve shared with someone in your family?

Page 26 and 27
What are the things you hope for?

Page 28 and 29
What do you think the people are preparing for?

Page 30 and 31
A party!

Page 32
Name some places where you belong.
### ORDER FORM

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**TOTAL**

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Class Activity: Make a Memory Kite

An easy-to-make, decorative kite to represent a special memory for each child.

Don’t Forget all those wonderful memories we have to share!

Each child will need
- A4 piece of white or brown paper
- 2-3 pieces of coloured paper (optional)
- Colouring pencils/textas
- a piece of string (approx 50 cm)
- coloured crepe paper cut into strips (approx 5cm wide x 15cm long)

Directions
1. Cut the plain piece of paper into the large kite shape using the template below, drawing the 4 triangular shapes in pencil on one side.
2. As an option, cut the same shape from 2-3 other different coloured papers, then cut these into 4 triangular shapes as show inside the template. Use the coloured shapes as a jigsaw puzzle to find different shapes that fit into the triangles on the plain kite shape then glue in place (see photographs above)
3. On the plain side of the kite, draw a picture of, or write about a special memory (see notes below)
4. Ask an adult to make a small hole near the bottom of the kite to thread the string through and tie gently to your kite (or use sticky tape to attach string to the bottom of your kite).
5. Select 6 to 8 strips of different coloured crepe paper and tie them along the string.
6. Hang your memory kites around the classroom or in the window to make a colourful display.
Notes

- Younger children could simply draw their family, their pet, their home, or their street, etc, onto a plain kite-shape.
- Older children with writing skills could decorate the kite in any way they like, and then write on a piece of paper smaller than their kite shape: **My favourite memory is...** (filling in the rest with their favourite memory) and then glue it to the back of the kite, perhaps adding an illustration or representation of this memory.
- Or illustrate the memory on the front, and add the written piece about the memory on the back.

A happy memory that inspired Anna Walker’s memory kite (pictured below)

‘One of my favourite memories is of walking into an art gallery with my three children when they were little. They were wearing hand-knitted jumpers and holding hands. Olive wore her little red cardigan, Joe wore a knitted green jumper and Sam had a pale blue jumper. I remember thinking how lucky I am to share the world with these three precious beings.’
Kite Template