

9/11 MEMORIAL

UNIT: Individuals and 9/11

GRADE LEVEL/S: K-2

TIME NEEDED: 1 session

TEACHER: Tina M. von Dohlen

LESSON TITLE:

FIREMEN? NO...FIREFIGHTERS!

Common Core Standards

RL 7 Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.

W 2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Key Questions/ Issues Addressed

Can men and women be firefighters?

Are there jobs meant only for men or women?

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Lesson Goals/ Objectives

Students will discover that jobs should not be restricted by gender.

Students will view a photograph of a woman firefighter from 9/11.

Students will draw a picture and/or discuss their thoughts of what they would like to be when they grow up and what types of jobs are usually associated with men or women.

Key Terms

Firefighter, Job, Profession

Materials

Photo of Adrienne Walsh (see [Appendix A](#))

9/11 Memorial website: www.911memorial.org

Background for lesson

Off-duty on the morning of September 11, 2001, firefighter Adrienne Walsh responded to the World Trade Center with the second wave of firefighters to leave FDNY's Ladder Company 20 on Lafayette Street in Soho.

**Instructional
Activity/
Procedures**

1. Brainstorm a list of jobs/professions with your class.
2. Discuss whether any of the jobs listed are meant for only men or women.
3. Show a generic picture of a firefighter and ask students to describe the job of the individual in the image. Ask students what they know about this profession. See if they refer to the individual in the image as a “firefighter” or “fireman” and discuss.
4. Display and discuss photo of Adrienne Walsh (See [Appendix A](#)). What do you notice about what she is wearing? What does she do for a living?
5. Have students draw pictures depicting what they want to be when they get older. *What did you choose? What do you like about that job? Did firefighter Adrienne Walsh change your mind on what you might want to be?*

**Evidence of
Understanding**

Students will display understanding through their discussion/activity participation, observation/listening skills, and artistic responses to the drawing activity.

**Extension
Activities**

Research professions of interest: *What about those professions do you find interesting? Do any of those traits exist in other professions? Which ones?*

Interview working family members. Possible questions include:

- *How and why did they choose their jobs/professions?*
- *Did they always dream of becoming what they are today?*
- *If not, what did they dream of becoming?*
- *Is it ever too late to change your profession?*

Send generic photo of firefighter home and have children ask family members if they refer to it as a “firefighter” or “fireman.”

APPENDIX A

Adrienne Walsh.
Collection 9/11 Memorial Museum.
Photo by Joe McNally.

