LENDING A HAND AFTER 9/11

Common Core Standards

RI 3 Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

RI 7 Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

Key Questions/Issues Addressed

• Why did/do people choose to remember 9/11?
• How did/do people in the United States and throughout the world pay tribute to 9/11?

Lesson Goals/Objectives

• Students will be able to identify and describe actions taken after 9/11 to remember the attacks and help others cope.
• Students will understand the different ways people volunteered in the aftermath of 9/11.
• Students will research, chart and share out findings about a tribute or memorial.

Key Terms

Memorial, Tribute

Materials

• Chart paper & markers
• Dear Hero Collection webpage: www.911memorial.org/dear-hero-collection
• Computer and projector or printed copies of the 9/11 Memorial’s Tribute Collection: www.911memorial.org/tribute

Background for lesson (if necessary)

Determine student’s background knowledge of 9/11. Discuss with students their feelings, connections, and questions about the day.
1. Conduct a shared reading of the Dear Hero Collection found on the Museum’s website: www.911memorial.org/dear-hero-collection. Students should listen for details such as the name of the organization, who started it, why they started it, and what makes up the collection.

2. Ask children to describe the purpose of the organization: How did the Dear Hero letters help people who were affected by 9/11?

3. Divide children into groups and assign roles if necessary. Provide each group a copy (either digital or printed) of a volunteer group’s story as recorded on the 9/11 Memorial’s website: www.911memorial.org/tribute. The page lists numerous organizations to consider.

4. Children research their assigned or chosen group and records on chart paper:
   - Name of the organization
   - The founder/s
   - Why organization was created
   - The goals of the organization
   - How the organization works
   - How do you feel the organization helps those affected on 9/11?

5. Each group shares their findings with class.

Students exhibit understanding through their research and sharing out of the organization they studied

Thinking about your community:

- What memorial or tribute could the class create that would honor those who were affected by 9/11?
- How would we reflect what is unique about our community?
- How could we help existing memorials?

View the Brave Individuals lesson to continue exploring the Dear Hero Collection.