

9/11 MEMORIAL

UNIT: Memorialization

GRADE LEVEL/S: 6-8

TIME NEEDED: 1 Session

TEACHER: Andrea Kovack

LESSON TITLE: PERSONAL HEALING

Common Core Standards

RH 1 Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

RH 6 Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.

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

W1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

W2 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

- How do people express feelings of loss?
- What comforts people in time of loss?

Lesson Goals/ Objectives

- Students will understand the importance of paying tribute to those who sacrificed their lives.
- Students will analyze different memorial styles.
- Students will understand different outlets of healing.

Key Terms

Healing, Memorialization, Tribute

Materials

- Images of Memorial Patches (PBA, UFA, PAPD, EMT), Memorial Tattoos, Memorial Statues, and Memorial Posters. See the 9/11 Memorial Museum's artifact, "Lady Liberty" for notable and numerous examples: <http://ladyliberty.national911memorial.org/>
- [Object Analysis Worksheet](#)
- Art supplies

**Background
for lesson**
(if necessary)

Lady Liberty Background: In the weeks and months following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, a Statue of Liberty replica stood honor guard outside a firehouse on Eighth Avenue and West 48th Street in Manhattan. The firehouse was Engine 54/Ladder 4/Battalion 9, which lost 15 of their men at the World Trade Center on 9/11.

It is uncertain how the fiberglass statue suddenly appeared outside the firehouse, but its arrival soon encouraged Lady Liberty's ongoing, spontaneous ornamentation with messages and tributes left by the public. Neighborhood volunteers assumed responsibility for arranging these offerings, along with the fresh flowers, food and sympathy items that accumulated on the sidewalks edging the firehouse.

Now covered from torch to toe with uniform patches, miniature American flags, money, mass cards, rosary beads, condolence notes, souvenir postcards, angel figurines and other mementos from mourners and passersby, this distinctive memorial was donated to the permanent collection of the 9/11 Memorial Museum in memory of the firefighters from Engine 54/Ladder 4/Battalion 9 killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. It is currently on display at the 9/11 Memorial Preview Site in lower Manhattan.

**Instructional
Activity/
Procedures**

1. Divide students into small groups. Each will research one form of memorialization, either through an online image search or by examining the many forms of memorialization of "Lady Liberty."
2. Each group will answer the following questions:
 - Describe the object's material(s).
 - What shapes, colors, and symbols are used in the object?
 - Who/what is represented in the piece?
 - Does the design tell a story?
 - What is the purpose of the memorial?
 - Who is the intended viewer of the memorial?
 - What questions do you still have?
3. Guided by these questions, each group will create a written explanation of the piece. Share these explanations and the images with the class, leaving time and space for the other groups to ask questions and comment on the explanations and images.

**Evidence of
Understanding**

The statement of explanation will highlight students' understanding of the different forms memorials can take and designs they can employ.

**Extension
Activities**

- For another lesson for younger students exploring Lady Liberty and symbols, see [Symbols of Remembrance and Reflection](#).