

9/11 MEMORIAL

UNIT: The Aftermath: Humanitarian, Charitable, and Volunteer Support

GRADE LEVEL/S: 6-8

TIME NEEDED: 2-3 sessions

TEACHER: Adele Goldfinger Black

LESSON TITLE:

RADICAL HOSPITALITY: NINO'S RESTAURANT

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.

SL 2 Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

Key Questions/ Issues Addressed

How did individuals at the attacks sites respond in the immediate aftermath of 9/11?

How did the general public respond in the aftermath of the attacks?

Lesson Goals/ Objectives

Students will be able to explain the different ways in which people responded to 9/11.

Students will understand the motivations influencing those responses.

Key Terms

Volunteer, Volunteerism

Materials

Nino's Restaurant Powerpoint (See attachment on website)

www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1001570-3,00.html

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/september11/collection/record.asp?ID=53>

Background for lesson

Basic Background of 9/11: See [9/11 FAQ](http://www.911memorial.org/faqabout911): www.911memorial.org/faqabout911

Instructional Activity/ Procedures

1. Provide the following journal prompts for your students:
 - *Have you ever been a volunteer? What type of project was it?*
 - *Did a parent/teacher enlist you to become a volunteer? If yes, how did you feel when you were "volunteered"?*
 - *Did your feelings change after the volunteer experience?*
 - *Beyond the issue of money, how do you think volunteering differs from being compensated for a task?*
2. Read the [TIME Magazine](#) article to learn more about Nino's Restaurant.
3. Show Powerpoint of Nino's Restaurant.
 - *Why do you think Mr. Vendome (Nino) began to serve free meals to volunteers working at Ground Zero?*
 - *Do you think that volunteerism is contagious? Why or why not?*
 - *Why did Nino feel it was important, despite the windows being covered with notes, postcards and stickers, to place sheets of plywood outside of the restaurant for people to leave comments, etc.?*
 - *Why was it important for volunteers to leave ephemera at the restaurant?*
 - *Why did Nino see his restaurant as "America's Kitchen Table"? How could Nino's Restaurant be viewed as a microcosm of America's response to 9/11?*
 - *Why did so many people want to volunteer at Nino's? Why was there a three-week waiting list to volunteer?*
 - *How did Nino get the money to provide 7,000 meals per day?*
 - *Do you think the response of the volunteers was unusual?*
 - *Can you think of a recent disaster which has sparked volunteerism?*

Evidence of Understanding

Student responses during discussion.

Extension Activities

Find and research other examples of volunteerism in the aftermath of 9/11.

Conduct interviews of your family members to determine what type of volunteer positions they have held. *How did being a volunteer make them feel? Were they ever instrumental in forming a volunteer group?*

Find examples of organizations that were founded on volunteerism. *What makes them successful? How does a non-profit organization remain in "business"?*

Research your community to identify a charitable/humanitarian project that interests you and investigate the nature of volunteer support needed. Volunteer for the project or for another project where your assistance would be welcome.