9/11 MEMORIAL

LESSON TITLE:	USS *NEW YORK*

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 4 Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.

W 1 Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Key Questions/ Issues Addressed

How do US naval warships serve as memorials?

How have warships been involved in terrorists attacks?

Lesson Goals/ Objectives

Students will determine why people, events, and things are memorialized.

Students will research several US warships, determine what contributions they made to American history, and will determine which were involved in acts of terrorism.

Key Terms

Memorial, Warship

Materials

Computer with internet capabilities

www.911memorial.org

www.911memorial.org/blog/naval-ships-are-built-honor-sept-11-victims

www.911memorial.org/blog/ship-forged-wtc-steel

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_United_States_Navy_ships

Background for lesson

Students should have an understanding of 9/11 and its aftermath.

Instructional Activity/ Procedures

1. In a class discussion, assess student's background knowledge by asking them to name famous American warships. Some questions to consider: *How did they hear about this ship? What is it known/famous for?*

2. Direct students to the 9/11 Memorial website and view two Memo Blog posts at www.911memorial.org/blog/naval-ships-are-built-honor-sept-11-victims & www.911memorial.org/blog/ship-forged-wtc-steel

3. Have students read both stories and hold a brief class discussion. Ask students the following questions:

   • What is the USS *New York*?

   • How did it get its name?

   • Is naming a local, state, or national icon an appropriate way to memorialize a person or event?

   • What is unique about the new USS *New York*?

   • How can the naming of this new ship help the healing process for New Yorkers?

   • Do we memorialize only tragic events, or do we memorialize successful people or events as well? Do you see a difference between the two?

   • This memorial gesture involves a warship that will engage in military combat. Does this change your view of this act? How so? Is military memorial-making different from civilian memorial-making? How?

4. Have students research the USS *Arizona* (BB-39), the USS *Indianapolis* (CA-35), and the USS *Cole* (DDG-67). Students will write an essay comparing and contrasting the three ships grounded in the following questions:

   • What role did each of these ships play in US history?

   • What missions did they take part in? Were they successful?

   • What was the fate of each ship?

   • How many service men and women were lost on each ship?

   • Would you consider the fates of each of these ships to have been the result of a terrorist act? Explain.

   • Did the United States mount a response to each of these events? If so, explain what the response was.

5. Have students research the USS *Iwo Jima* (LPH-2), the USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN-76), and the USS *The Sullivans* (DD-537). Continuing with their essays, students should answer the following questions:

   • What is the story behind these ships? How/why did they receive their names?

   • Describe the significance of the event/person for which these ships are named.

   • If you had the opportunity to name a new US warship for a significant event, place, or person in American history, what or who would it be? Explain the significance of your choice.

Evidence of Understanding

The class discussion and final essay will highlight students' understanding of the lesson's goals

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Extension Activities

Research all the US Navy ships to carry the name USS *New York*, and answer the following questions:

- How many ships have had this name?
- What time periods in history did they serve?
- What, if any, historical events were they involved in?
- What happened to each ship?