

Activity 5

How 9/11 Became a Day of Service

3RD THROUGH 5TH GRADE

Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Define “unity.” ■ Describe 9/11 Day of Service.
Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3-5.2 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3-5.3 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3-5.4 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3-5.8 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3-5.1 ■ CLLSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3-5.2 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3-5.1 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3-5.4
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Computer and ability to display a slide deck presentation ■ How 9/11 Became a Day of Service slide deck ■ How 9/11 Became a Day of Service Comprehension Check printable ■ Pencils
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider how to, or whether to, address the events of September 11 with your students. There are many organizations that provide excellent educational materials and resources to teach students about the events of 9/11. ■ Print a copy of How 9/11 Became a Day of Service Comprehension Check for each student.
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tell students that 9/11 Day is a national day of service, which means helping or doing things for other people. ■ It is also a day of remembrance, when we honor the thousands of people who died in a series of events on September 11, 2001. ■ Point out that after 9/11, people did kind things for each other and served their communities together.
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Write “9/11 Day” on the board. ■ Tell students they are going to learn about 9/11 Day. ■ Explain that 9/11 is a shorter way of saying September 11th because September is the ninth month. ■ Tell students that in the days after 9/11/2001, people around the country came together in a spirit of oneness, or togetherness.



Introduction (continued)

- Tell students another word for that oneness is unity; write the word on the board. Underline “unit” and circle the “-y” suffix. Tell students the suffix means “the quality of,” so “unity” means the quality of being a unit, or being one.
- Point out that after September 11th, people didn’t focus on their differences; they felt connected to one another. People did kind things for each other and served their communities together.

Activity

- Display the How 9/11 Became a Day of Service slide deck. Display the How 9/11 Became a Day of Service slide deck. Preview the video link on Slide 9 before beginning the activity to decide if you would like to share it with your class.
- Read the presenter notes for each slide aloud, pausing as needed to define unknown words. When the text supports it, ask volunteers to point out context clues that can help define the meaning of an unknown word.
- Distribute a copy of How 9/11 Became a day of Service Comprehension Check to each student.
- Ask students to work in groups to answer each question. Each student should fill out a paper.
- Remind students to write their answers to each question in complete sentences.
- After the groups meet, have a volunteer summarize the text.
- Ask a representative from each group to share what they think the main idea is.
- From the group suggestions, work as a class to come to consensus on the main idea.



Name _____ Date _____

How 9/11 Became a Day of Service

Comprehension Check

Discuss with your group the answers to each question. Then write your own answer.

What was the goal of 9/11 families when they created 9/11 Day?

How did 9/11 become an official day of service?

What happens each day on 9/11?

What is the main idea of the “How 9/11 Became a Day of Service” presentation?
