

Activity 5

Unity, Empathy, and Service

9TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE

Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize moments of unity, empathy, and service. Describe moments of unity, empathy, and service in their own life.
Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-12.1 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-12.2 CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-12.2
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journal: Unity, Empathy, and Service printable Computer access
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print a copy of Journal: Unity, Empathy and Service for each student. Consider the degree to which you will address the events of September 11 with your students. This activity focuses primarily on the sense of community in the days after September 11, 2001, and the 9/11 Day movement. There are many organizations that provide excellent educational materials and resources to teach students about the events of 9/11 if you wish to go into more depth with your students. Preview the 9/11 Day Ambassador interview with Cindy McGinty to determine how much of it you will show students (we recommend the first 4 – 4.5 minutes at a minimum).
Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the days after 9/11, people across the country felt united by a desire to help and support one another, creating an extraordinary spirit of empathy and resilience. Many Americans stopped thinking about the differences that often separate us, at least for a while. For those who lived through the tragedy of 9/11, that time of caring and helpfulness remains an important reminder that we are stronger as people, and as a nation, when we work together
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share the 9/11 Day Ambassador video interview with Cindy McGinty. If you did Activity 4: How 9/11 Became a Day of Service, reference the 9/11 Day slide deck as well as the Cindy McGinty interview as needed to lead a discussion on the meaning of unity, empathy, and service as they were demonstrated in the days after 9/11. Invite students to share examples of each concept from their own lives or which they have witnessed.
Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have students reflect in their journals by using the Journal: Unity, Empathy, and Service printable to write about times they witnessed or experienced unity, empathy, and service. If students have difficulty thinking of personal experiences, encourage them to reflect on the experiences Cindy McGinty described in the 9/11 Day Ambassador video.



Name _____ Date _____

Journal: Unity, Empathy, and Service

Describe a time when you witnessed or heard about people coming together in a spirit of *unity* despite their differences.

Describe a time when you felt *empathy* by understanding or feeling the feelings of another person.

Give an example of an act of *service* you have seen or done yourself.
