

Activity 9

Personal Service Pledge



9TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE

Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Research community needs that might be addressed by a service project. ■ Pledge to complete a personal service project.
Standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-12.7 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-12.8 ■ CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-12.4
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Student Pledge Card printable ■ Camera(s) ■ Device for recording student videos ■ Student internet access
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Preview the 9/11 Day Ambassador videos and select the ones you will use in your brainstorming session. ■ To help students get started if they have difficulty brainstorming, prepare a list of a few service projects that connect in some way to the stories of the 9/11 Ambassadors. ■ Some groups connected to 9/11 Ambassadors that you might suggest serving include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victims of a tragedy or disaster (Will Jimeno) • Veterans or their families (Wendy Ploger, Rob Grunewald, Mari Tobin, Kathy Dillaber, Brian and Alma Hart) • First responders (John Feal, Jay Winuk, George Martin, Dan Nigro) • K-9 first responders/service dogs (David Lim) • Cancer patients/survivors (Candiac Baker) ■ Print a copy of the Student Pledge Card for each student.
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

- Tell the class that it is time for them to select a personal service project to do on their own.
- Have students use the library and the internet to research community needs or challenges related to their personal interests.
- Direct students to write and present an informational speech that includes all of the following:
 - a summary of their research
 - their sources
 - service project ideas that might address some of the community needs they researched
 - which service project they will complete
 - the reasons they selected that project
- If students struggle for ideas, direct them to [9/11 Day: More Good Deeds for You \(100 more!\)](#)
- If class time is limited, you can assign the “speech” as an essay to be completed as homework.
- Alternatively, you can have students record their speech for others to view later.

Activity

- Once all students have chosen a service project, meet with them individually to talk about the project they chose. Discuss when and how the student will complete the project, including discussion of what supplies they might need.
- Distribute a copy of the Student Pledge Card to each student.
- Have students fill out the Student Pledge Card.



Student Pledge Card

#IWILLFOR911DAY



For 9/11 Day, I pledge to perform the following good deed in tribute:

My Name _____

Organization (if any) _____

State _____ Country _____

Visit 911day.org/IWillPledge to share your good deed, or post of social media, #IWillFor911Day

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