UNITE
FOR GOOD

An Educator's Guide

The 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance



Free tools to help students learn, reflect, and serve their communities on 9/11 Day, gathered for this year's historic 25th anniversary.

9.11DAY | AmeriCorps

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INTERACTIVE

Welcome to the largest day of doing good in U.S. history

For millions of Americans, September 11 was a day they will never forget. But for more than 100 million young Americans — too young to carry any memory of it — 9/11 is just something they learn about in school.

Our goal at 9/11 Day is to help them see that 9/11 was not only about fear and loss. It was also about goodness — a powerful moment of unity and shared compassion that reminded us that our differences and disagreements are not, in the end, what matter most.

What matters most is taking care of each other.



Recreating a Nationwide Moment of Unity

This year, we ask for your help recreating that moment of togetherness — by inviting every student to pledge one good deed: a single act of kindness or helpfulness that reaches across the lines we too often draw between us. It can be anything they choose — and shared with the world using #UNIITEFORGOOD and #911Day.

To make it easy, we've gathered a wealth of free resources at **911day.org/education**, created by fellow teachers. Every lesson plan and activity is age- and grade-appropriate and meets key educational standards, including Common Core, CASEL, and C3.

You don't need to be a history or social studies teacher to take part. Just pick one simple way for your students to serve, do good, and help others.

Thank you for helping teach the next generation of Americans the lessons we carry forward from September 11.

Suggested Classroom Activities

Pick one, run all three, or adapt as needed. Each asks something small of every student and family, and adds up to something real across the school.



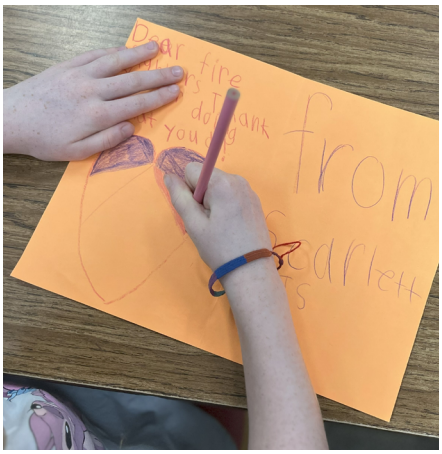
1 Plan

The Good Deed Pledge

Pre-K–12

Schoolwide

- Every student and faculty member writes one good deed they'll do in September (ideally Sept. 8–13) on a Pledge Card.
- Send home the 9/11 Conversation Guide at the end of this document so students can brainstorm a good deed with their families.
- Display completed cards in classrooms and hallways, and share good deeds on social media using #UNIITEFORGOOD.



2 Serve

Help the Helpers

Pre-K–5

Class or Schoolwide

- As a class, choose people who help or need support — school staff, first responders, or seniors.
- Each student writes a letter or draws a picture to thank or encourage them.
- Deliver or mail them together, and talk about how kindness brought people together after 9/11.



3 Create

Design a Service Project

Pre-K–12

Class, Grade-Level, or Schoolwide

- Students can plan a simple class, grade-level, or schoolwide service project, with age-appropriate support
- Partner with a local food bank, shelter, veterans' group, or first responder house.
- Students plan, recruit, and document; faculty guide, students lead.

Access our free lessons, activities, and family resources.

Tailored to different grade levels. Resources are age-appropriate, inspiring, and educational. Visit 911day.org/education

These lessons focus on service rather than on the events themselves. Teaching about the events in depth? The 9/11 Memorial & Museum offers excellent learning tools for teachers, students, and families. Visit 911memorial.org/learn

Free, ready-to-teach lessons and activities at 911day.org/education

Our lesson plans give you the tools to encourage students to take part in the 9/11 National Day of Service through their own good deed or act of service. They're written for classroom teachers — and work just as well for before- and after-school program leaders, homeschool parents, and anyone who works with young people. The lessons build on one another, yet each can be taught on its own. You do not need to be a social studies teacher to use these resources.

The Five-Lesson Arc — From Reflection to Real-World Service

1. **Gratitude** | SOCIAL AWARENESS
   Students define and reflect on gratitude, with plenty of class, group, and partner support.
2. **Good Deeds** | SELF-AWARENESS
   Students learn what good deeds are and reflect on kindness they've seen or experienced.
3. **Learning About 9/11 Day** | RELATIONSHIP SKILLS
   An age-appropriate look at why September 11 became a National Day of Service, and how people came together in the days that followed.
4. **Personal Service Project** | SELF-MANAGEMENT
   Students independently choose, plan, and carry out a service project that matters to them.
5. **Class Service Project** | RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING
   Students brainstorm and agree on a group project, and make plans to complete it.

How it's Organized

- Four grade bands: Pre-K–2, 3–5, 6–8, and 9–12.
- Five sequenced lessons per band — teach in order or any one alone.
- 9 to 11 short activities per band, following the five lesson themes.

Standards

- Tailored by grade level for age-appropriate content.
- Supports Common Core literacy standards, CASEL social-emotional learning competencies, and the C3 social studies framework.
- Specific standards are noted at the top of each lesson.

Short on Time?

Each grade band also includes 9 to 11 short, one-off activities drawn from the lesson themes. Use them when you don't have time for the full lesson sequence, or as quick advisory, homeroom, after-school, or family activities.

9/11 Conversation Guide

On September 11, 2001, our country experienced a terrible tragedy (and many people lost their lives). In the days that followed, people across the country came together to help one another. Neighbors supported neighbors, volunteers stepped up, and people showed kindness and care for others.

That spirit of unity inspired 9/11 Day, a National Day of Service and Remembrance. Each year, people across the country remember 9/11 by doing good deeds, helping others, and serving their communities.

9/11 Day is a chance for families to talk about how people can come together, especially during difficult times, and how each of us can help carry that spirit forward.

Talk About 9/11 Day as a Family

Use these questions to start a conversation:

- Why do you think people came together to help one another after 9/11?
- What can we learn from the way people supported each other?
- What does it mean to set aside differences and come together?
- Why is helping others a meaningful way to remember 9/11?
- How can we carry that spirit of unity forward today?

Carry the Spirit Forward

One way to observe 9/11 Day is to do something good for someone else. Your family might help a neighbor, thank someone who serves your community, donate needed items, volunteer together, or choose another simple act of kindness or service.

What is one good deed you or your family could do for 9/11 Day?

_____

_____

Who could your good deed help?

_____

How could it help bring people together?

_____

9/11 Day reminds us that even in difficult times, we can choose to help one another, care for our communities, and come together for good.

9/11 DAY Good Deed Pledge

9.11 DAY

For 9/11 Day this year, I will:

_____ Name _____

_____ Grade _____ State _____ Country _____

_____ School _____

_____ Teacher _____

_____

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Share your pledge on social media and tag us!

@911day @911day @911day 911day.org #911day

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