

# 9/11 Anniversary

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September 11, 2013, marks the 12th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the Twin Towers in New York City, the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, and Flight 93 in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. On this solemn anniversary, take time to help students understand the events of this fateful day, some of whom were too young to remember or possibly were not even born when the events happened. To help you explain the 9/11 events, the heroic actions of rescue workers, and the bonding of a nation, look to Thinkfinity's collection of lessons, artifacts and interactives that will help your students understand the impact of the September 2001 events, and how they still affect our nation to this day.

*Iron Worker's Hard Hat, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution.*

## Lessons

### Smithsonian's History Explorer

- Pre-recorded Online Conference - Access the archived version of the [September 11: Teaching Contemporary History online conference](#) that explores strategies and resources for K-12 educators to use when teaching about the events of September 11, 2001. (K-12)
  - Highlighted conference session: - [Small Children, Tough Topics: A Literature-Based Strategy](#) - explore ways to use books to teach about tough topics such as 9/11 in this highlighted conference session (K-6)
- [Looking at Memorials](#) - Take a trip to a local memorial and learn how it tells a story. (K-4)
- [OurStory: September 11, 2001](#) - Students learn about the events of 9/11 in an age-appropriate way and can expand the learning with additional related activities. (K-4)
- [Reading \*The Little Chapel that Stood\*](#) - Learn about the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and the ways Americans responded to those attacks. (K-4)
- [Responding and Remembering through Art](#) - Look at ways artists and members of the public responded to the events of September 11, 2001. (K-4)
- [Students' Response to 9/11-A Documentary Report](#) - ask students to document the national response to the terrorist attacks on the United States. (9-12)
- [The Curator's Challenge: Life in a Post-September 11 World](#) - Introduces students to the work of a curator, including collection building and historical narrative building as it relates to life after September 11, 2001. (9-12)

## EDSITEment

- [A Virtual Visit to the National September 11 Memorial and Museum](#) - Explore the events of 9/11 through the website of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum. [Teacher Guide](#) (K-12)
- [Launchpad: A Guided Exploration of the Events of 9/11](#) - Students take an interactive tour of the events of 9/11 and learn about the heroes who have given back to the community after the events of September 11. (9-12)

## ReadWriteThink

- [Responding to Tragedy: Then and Now](#) - Students reflect on their responses to tragedy, read personal responses of poets and then compose a poem of their own. (8-12)

## Illuminations

- [National Debt and Wars](#) - Students collect information about the National debt, plot the data by decade, and determine whether an exponential curve is a good fit for the data. Then student groups determine and compare common traits and differences in changes in the National debt in three major eras: the Civil War, World War I, and World War II. (9-12)

## ARTSEDGE

- [Analyzing Photographs: From Theory to Practice](#) - Students will learn how to analyze photographs. Images from 9/11 can easily be integrated into the lesson. (5-8)