

Commemoration and Instructional Resources for 9/11

The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009 adopted by the U. S. Congress in 2009 federally recognizes September 11 as a day of service and remembrance. Schools are important community places that can serve as facilitators of such commemorations.

In addition, instructionally, the State Frameworks in Social Studies in Grade 5, High School United States History, and Modern World History provided by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) offer opportunities for students to inquire about the historic events associated with September 11, 2001. The sequence of those frameworks places the related objectives in the concluding units of those frameworks, typically in January or May given the structure of the local school system’s schedule.

Social studies teachers and community members interested in providing commemorative experiences for the twentieth anniversary of 9/11 or addressing the instructional opportunities offered through the MSDE instructional frameworks, may benefit from reviewing the guidelines and resources provided by the organizations below.*

Organization	Brief Description
9/11 Museum	Resources for educators, families, and community members. Includes sample lesson plans, guidelines for how to talk about 9/11 with children, and community activities.
U. S. Department of Education	Lesson plans on 9/11 related topics and links to other government agency resource banks.
Learning for Justice	A bank of lesson plans and professional development resources on topics related to 9/11.
DBQ Project	The DBQ Project has opened access to one of their “Mini-Qs” from grade 5 focusing on an inquiry about how we should honor heroes from 9/11. Potential use for other grade levels as well.
Center for Civic Ed	Series of lesson plans reflecting and examining the values and principles expressed in the founding documents of the United States of America.
Center for Islam in the Contemporary World	Resources and research on how to support professional development on culturally responsive instruction during 9/11 commemorative activities.
Library of Congress	A collection of oral histories, documents, and photographs that show the diversity of experiences and reactions to the events on September 11 and the months following.

**Disclaimer – These materials were developed by both public and private entities for free and open use on the tenth and twentieth anniversary of September 11. It is the intention of the MSDE to provide these links to support teachers and others seeking resources for commemorations. The MSDE does not endorse or control the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of these materials or the organizations that created them.*