



**SUBJECT**

Social Studies

**UNIT IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

It is recommended that unit implementation take place at any time during the school year, especially on or near September 11.

**OVERVIEW**

This unit is designed for teaching the events of September 11, 2001 to grades 6-8. This Guide lays out an approach for students to acquire a deeper understanding of the heroism displayed by real people on 9/11, the perseverance of people following the attacks, as well as the impact 9/11 continues to have on people today.

**UNIT DESCRIPTION**

This unit is designed to increase understanding about September 11, 2001 among middle school students, grades 6-8. This Guide includes ancillary social studies lessons, background for teachers, and learning activities to further children’s understanding of compelling and supporting questions while students pursue their own research. From basic facts about America’s darkest day to the impact it continues to have on people today, this unit will give students a strong foundational understanding of 9/11 and how to research the topic.

**INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS**

- Ask and answer questions based on experiences or information gained.
- Participate in collaborative conversations.
- Write an informative essay to provide information about the events of September 11, 2001.

**UNIT OBJECTIVES**

- All students will:**
- Conduct a short research project to build knowledge about 9/11.
  - Complete learning tasks to better understand the events of 9/11.
  - Understand the importance of remembering 9/11 heroes.
  - Sense the emotional impact 9/11 had on the nation.
  - Perceive a personal need to remember 9/11 to honor the fallen.

**UNIT LEVEL QUESTIONS**

- Essential Question**  
How can we gather information to learn more about September 11, 2001?
- Guided Questions**
- Does anyone know what an eyewitness account is?
  - Can anyone share how we know we can trust a source like this?
  - If a primary source is a piece of information that comes from a person who lived through and experienced an event, does anyone know what a secondary source is?

**UNIT LEVEL VOCABULARY**

- Compelling Question
- Supporting Question
- Eyewitness Account
- Primary Source
- Secondary Source
- Hijacked
- Militant
- Despite
- Debris
- Devastation
- Solemn
- Headquarters
- Renovation
- U.S. Capitol
- Symbol of the American Republic

**INCLUDED ANCILLARY MATERIALS**

- 9/11 Research: NYC Reading Sheet
- 9/11 Research: The Pentagon Reading Sheet
- 9/11 Research: Flight 93 Reading Sheet
- Transitional Words and Phrases
- 9/11 Research: Essay Graphic Organizer
- Additional 9/11 Research

**ELA CONNECTIONS**

- Grade 6 CCSS**  
RI.6.1, RI.6.4, RI.6.7, W.6.2, W.6.7, W.6.8, SL.6.1, SL.6.2, SL.6.4, L.6.2, L.6.3
- Grade 7 CCSS**  
RI.7.1, RI.7.4, W.7.2, W.7.7, W.7.8, SL.7.1, SL.7.2, SL.7.4, L.7.2, L.7.3
- Grade 8 CCSS**  
RI.8.1, RI.8.4, W.8.2, W.8.7, W.8.8, SL.8.1, SL.8.4, L.8.2, L.8.3

**C3 FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIAL STUDIES STATE STANDARDS**

- D1.4.6-8**  
Explain how the relationship between supporting questions and compelling questions is mutually reinforcing.
- D1.5.6-8**  
Determine the kinds of sources that will be helpful in answering compelling and supporting questions, taking into consideration multiple points of views represented in the sources.
- D3.1.6-8**  
Gather relevant information from multiple sources while using the origin, authority, structure, context, and corroborative value of the sources to guide the selection.