

LESSON E-UVII-L1

National Day of Service: Serving our Town, Country, and World

Unit VII: Building Better Futures: Narrative, Recovery, and Responsibility

Grade Levels: K-5

Time: 30–45+ Minutes (plus time required for a service project)



National Day of Service: Serving our Town, Country, and World

Lesson: E-UVII-L1

Unit VII: Building Better Futures: Narrative, Recovery, and Responsibility

Grade Levels: K-5

Time: 30–45 Minutes (plus the time required for a service project)

Interdisciplinary Connections

Literacy, technology, character education

Objectives

- Explain the value of providing service.
- Experience being an active participant in their community.

Key Terms

- appreciation
- awareness
- charity
- reflect
- service

Lesson Materials

- information on the September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance (found at <http://911day.org/>)
- resources for age-appropriate youth service activities:
 - Youth Volunteer Corps (<http://www.yvca.org/>)
 - Hands on Nashville – Families Volunteering Together (http://www.hon.org/HON_Families)
 - Hands on Nashville – Youth & Teens (found at http://www.hon.org/HON_Youth_Teens)
- service opportunities: <http://www.serve.gov/>

Lesson Background

Explain to the class the initiative for September 11, 2009 as the National Day of Service and Remembrance. Read the following (from <http://911day.org/>):

On April 21, 2009, President Barack Obama signed legislation that for the first time officially establishes September 11 as a federally recognized National Day of Service and Remembrance. Join us and many others in supporting this historic and forward-looking observance.

By pledging to volunteer, perform good deeds, or engage in other forms of charitable service during the week of 9/11, you and your organization will help rekindle the remarkable spirit of unity, service, and compassion shared by so many in the immediate aftermath of the attacks. And you'll help create a fitting, enduring, and historic legacy in the name of those lost and injured on 9/11, and in tribute to the 9/11 first

responders, rescue and recovery workers, and volunteers, and our brave military personnel who continue to serve to this day.

Lesson Plan

- Using the resources above for service ideas appropriate for your grade level, decide as a class which service project you will work on. (The time needed to complete the service project is in addition to the indicated lesson time.)
- As much as possible, involve students in the planning and decision-making pieces of the project.
- Ask students to reflect (by thinking, speaking, and/or writing) about the experience following each “moment of service.”

Evidence of Understanding

After completing the service activity, discuss the following with the class:

Why is service important?

Who/what did our project help?

Why did the president designate September 11th as a Day of Service?

What are some service projects you can do at home or in your community?

How did you feel when you were participating in the service activity?

Taking Action and Giving Service

- Collaborate with another class to do a service project together.
- Join with a community group to engage in a service project together.
- Review the history of Martin Luther King Day and the Day of Service found at <http://mlkday.gov/serve/index.php>.