



# Honoring 9/11

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Holiday  
Grades 3–5



## Introduction

In the United States, Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance are observed on September 11th, for the lives lost on the 9/11/2001 attacks. In this lesson, students will remember the heroes of September 11th by writing thank you letters to first responders.

## Learning Objectives

[CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1.A](#). Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.

## Materials Needed

- Paper and pencil

## Procedure

1. Tell students that September 11th is an important date for our country. Then ask students if they know why. Next, discuss how on this day we pay tribute to the lives that were lost in the 2001 terrorist attacks that happened in our country. Building on what students already know, explain that on this day a group of men took over two planes and flew them into the World Trade Center in New York City. After several explosions, both buildings collapsed, killing thousands of people. On that same day, explain that two additional planes were hijacked by the same group. One was flown into the Pentagon in Washington, DC, killing over 100 people, while the other crashed in a field in Pennsylvania killing everyone on board.
2. Explain how there were people trapped in the buildings and how first responders were called to the scene to help. Next, ask students if they know any first responders and why they think being a first responder is an important job.
3. Then, tell students that they are going to write thank you letters to first responders in remembrance of the September 11th attacks on the United States.
4. Once students have completed their letters, allow students to send them to a local first responder if they would like to.

## Evaluation

Students will be assessed on how well they followed the guidelines for the writing prompt.