

Unit V: Challenges and Consequences in a Post 9/11 World

Grade Levels: K-3

Time: 30 minutes

Lesson EV-11: September Roses

Interdisciplinary Connections:

Literacy, geography, character education

Objectives:

- Students will be able to identify the choices of individuals in a threatening situation to help others.
- Students will be able to realize that we are all able to make contributions and help others.
- Students will be able to understand the effects of our words and actions on others.

Key Terms:

Roses

“Peace rose”

South Africa

September 11, 2001

Materials:

- Book: *September Roses* by Jeannette Winter, Frances Foster Books, Farrar Straus, New York.
- Map: South Africa & Africa
- Drawing paper, crayons, or markers
- Optional: Roses of different colors: one for each student (may be artificial)

Activities/Procedures:

- Ask students the following questions:
 - Where is South Africa? (show map)
 - Do you have a flower garden?
 - What is your favorite flower?
 - What do flowers represent?
 - What flowers did the two sisters grow in South Africa?
 - What do roses represent? How do they make you feel?
 - What is the “peace rose?”
 - What does it represent?
- Optional: Give each student a rose to decorate the room.
May also use photos or illustrations, silk, paper, roses, etc.

Classroom Activity:

- Ask students to think about and discuss these questions:
 - Why did the two sisters come to New York with their roses?
 - What happened when the two sisters came to New York?
 - What happened on September 11, 2001?
 - What problems did the sisters face when they arrived at the airport (list on the board)?
 - Who came to the rescue? What did they do?
 - Where did the two sisters stay?
 - What did they create with their roses?

How did the survivors feel when they saw roses?

Evidence of Understanding:

- Plant seeds of rose-colored flowers to give to friends or family who are ill or experienced hardship.
- Design cards using a “rose” motif to give to friends and family who are ill or experiencing hardship.
- Decorate the classroom with artificial roses (made out of tissue paper).

Extension Activities: Taking Action and Giving Service

- Have students talk with family, friends, neighbors, other adults in the school, etc. for other symbols of peace, love, expressions of sympathy, and friendship. Make a list on an easel pad or on the board of the various symbols that they learned from others. Have each student select the symbol that s/he likes best and make an illustration of it on drawing paper. The drawings may be posted around the classroom or in the hallway outside the classroom entry.
- Plan a service project in honor or in memory of someone special in the class or school. Visit www.911dayofservice.org for ideas or to post your project.