

Unit VII: Building for the Future

Grade Levels: 6 – 8

Time: 90 minutes + time for a community project

Lesson MVII-18: You Can Do It, Yes You Can!

Objective:

- Students will demonstrate their comprehension of the power of one.
- Students will brainstorm ideas of how to memorialize September 11, 2001 through service.

Key term:

Memorialize

Materials:

- <http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=3750158>
- *Walking to Remember* article <http://www.schooltube.com/video/3850/paramus-freedom-walk>

Activities/Procedures:

1. Do now/journal prompt: What are some ways that you have honored someone who has been important in your life? (This person should be someone you personally know. It does not matter if the person is not alive today.)
2. Students will share what they have written with the class.
3. Ask students if they have knowledge of someone their age (or older/ younger) that has made an impact on his/ her town, state or country. Explain.
4. Give students a copy of the Scholastic article, *Walking to Remember*, about the town of Paramus, New Jersey, which has an annual Freedom Walk. In 2007, Joey Rizzolo, a 6th grader, initiated this idea to commemorate those who died on 9/11. Pair students and have them read the article, answering the 5 W's (who, what, where, when, and why) and H (how).
5. Discuss as a class the impact of this young man, while answering the 5 W's and H.
6. View video <http://www.schooltube.com/video/3850/paramus-freedom-walk>
7. Have students discuss:
 - What did you notice about the ages of the participants of the walk?
 - Master Sergeant George Maurer reported that this was an emotional day. Why do you think he made that comment?
8. Ask students some ways that our dreams (goals) can become reality.
9. Have they ever had a "dream come true?"
 - Have students brainstorm and respond to: "Now....what can you do?" (to memorialize 9/11 as an individual, class or school).
 - Have class choose a project that has been presented to class.
 - a. What materials, permission, support, financial backing would be needed for this "dream" to come true?
 - b. Is this something that can be realistically done? If yes...GO FOR IT!
 - c. If not, what modifications need to be made for it to become a reality?
 - d. Can modifications be made? If yes, GO FOR IT! If no, return to (a).

Extension Activities: Taking Action and Giving Service

- The teacher/class may wish to follow through with their “dream” to make a difference.
- Go to the Points of Light Institute (<http://www.pointsoflight.org>) and learn more about the National Conference on Volunteering and Service.

