

NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11  
MEMORIAL & MUSEUM  
AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER

# History in the Making

## Teaching Guide and Take-Home Pages

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum, now being built at the World Trade Center site in New York City, is dedicated to the remembrance of September 11 and the previous attack at the World Trade Center on February 26, 1993. The growing collection of primary sources—including artifacts, documents, and recorded testimonies—offers firsthand perspectives on the events of September 11 and the days following. The Memorial Museum will offer future generations the opportunity to examine this history and think critically about the significance of September 11.

### TOUR FOR THE NATIONAL SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL & MUSEUM LAUNCHES FALL 2007

Initial stops include:

Columbia, SC  
Raleigh, NC  
Norfolk, VA  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Charleston, WV  
Cincinnati, OH  
Lexington, KY  
Fort Wayne, IN  
Lansing, MI  
Aurora, IL  
Madison, WI  
Sioux Falls, SD  
Des Moines, IA  
Omaha, NE  
Wichita, KS  
St. Louis, MO

Please visit  
[www.national911memorial.org/btm\\_nationaltour](http://www.national911memorial.org/btm_nationaltour)  
for additional tour stops and details.

[www.national911memorial.org](http://www.national911memorial.org)



Thoughtful lessons to help students  
think critically about the events of  
September 11 and:

- how current events become part of history
- how the past affects our lives—as individuals, as members of a local community, and as citizens of the world

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# Dear Teacher,

Helping young people to understand the events of history and recognize the impact of these events on today's world is one of the most important things you do as a teacher. Your job has become more complicated as news and information are transmitted around the world and people everywhere experience historic events instantaneously.

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, happened only six years ago. The record of the events of September 11, the significance of those events, and our understanding of their impact are still evolving.

As scholars and historians search for “meaning,” students in classrooms all over the world are asking the same difficult questions: “What happened?” as well as “Why?” and “What does this mean for our future?” As an educator, you are challenged daily by these inquiries and the need to provide opportunities for students to share and express their feelings about complex ideas and issues.

The lessons in this Teaching Guide from the National September 11 Memorial & Museum are meant to help students understand:

- how historical records and authoritative history are written, and how they are formed from the careful and balanced combination of documentary accounts from many and varied primary sources; and
- that many perspectives come together to shape historical records.

We hope that by learning about these concepts through a discussion of the events of September 11 your students will understand more about the evolving world in which they live.

The Memorial & Museum's tribute exhibition is currently visiting cities around the country. Please watch for the tour when it travels to a city near you, visit the website, and learn more about this important institution.

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National September 11 Memorial & Museum

On September 11, 2001, nineteen terrorists hijacked four planes and killed 2,974 people at the World Trade Center in New York City, at the Pentagon outside Washington, DC, and in a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. As these horrific events unfolded, people from all over the world came to help; together they mourned the innocent lives lost, honored the first responders and all those who risked their lives to save others, and recognized the thousands of people who survived. September 11 stands as a defining moment in history, an event that continues to affect individuals and local, national, and international communities.

## LEARN MORE:

- For excerpts from firsthand accounts and responses to the events of September 11, 2001, see the class set of Take-Home Pages included with this Teaching Guide.
- Visit the Museum's exhibits through the online Multimedia Gallery at [www.national911memorial.org](http://www.national911memorial.org), where you can explore the collections and photographs and listen to firsthand accounts from the Museum's expanding library of recorded testimonies.

**Visit [www.scholastic.com/historyinthemaking](http://www.scholastic.com/historyinthemaking)**

- Download copies of this Teaching Guide and Take-Home Pages
- Connections to national standards
- Links to additional resources