

Educator Resource Guide



MEMORIAL
AT SPRING PARK



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DISTRICT

Dear Educators,

This year will mark the 21st anniversary of the September 11th attacks. This dark day shaped us as a nation and united us in the wake of tragedy.

An I-Beam salvaged from the World Trade Center was given to Poudre Fire Authority in honor of nine local firefighters who assisted with search, rescue, and recovery at ground zero. This artifact rests at the PFA Training Center awaiting permanent installation at the 9/11 Memorial at Spring Park. The memorial will be a focal point in our community to share the story of 9/11 at a local level.

As a step forward, we have collaborated with The Poudre River Library to create a resource guide for educators to share the September 11th story with students in Northern Colorado. Below are discussion prompts to spark classroom conversations about this pivotal event in our nation's history.

“It's critical to remember the lessons learned from 9/11 and to acknowledge the progress made in preventing terrorism.”

- Tim Doran, Current Fort Collins Assistant Chief of Police,
Former Joint Terrorism Task Force Supervisor in Washington DC

1. Why is it important for us to remember and learn from past events?
2. What is terrorism?
3. How does a nation work to prevent terrorism? How has technology changed military and counterterrorism?

“My greatest take-away, and the lesson I hope to pass on to my children, is that we are better (as a nation) together. Hate can consume us, but the unity Americans felt following September 11th gives me hope.”

- Jason Patello, Fort Collins Father of two who took shelter
and survived when the Twin Towers fell.

1. What does it mean to “unite?” How do neighbors, teams, cities, countries unite?
2. How did Americans come together after the events of 9-11?
3. In addition to 9-11, what events brought Americans together for a united and common cause?

Thank you for giving solemn pause on September 11th and for seizing the opportunity to give young people context of the impact of this tragedy. In this way, we can fulfill our promise to NEVER FORGET. To learn more about the 9/11 Memorial at Spring Park, visit: 911memorialfortcollins.org.

Sincerely,

The 9/11 Memorial at Spring Park Committee

★ Early Elementary Booklist

Saved by the Boats: The Heroic Sea Evacuation of September 11

by Julie Gassman; illustrated by Steve Moors

Presents the heroic sea evacuation of September 11, 2001 with narrative text and vivid illustrations.

September 11th Attacks

by Christopher Forest

Early readers will learn about the causes, main events, key players, and lasting impacts of the September 11 attacks.

This Very Tree: A Story of 9/11, Resilience, and Regrowth

by Sean Rubin (ON ORDER)

A moving story about community and resilience, from the point-of-view of the Callery pear tree that survived the attacks on September 11.

September 11

by National Geographic

With compelling photographs and sensitive, age-appropriate text, this Level 3 reader recounts the shocking attacks at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania, explains who was behind the attacks, and celebrates the spirit of hope that emerged through the inspiring story of rescue and recovery and the heroes who raced to save lives.

Sirius, the Hero Dog of 9/11

by Hank Fellows

Told by "Sirius" in his own words, this heart-warming story describes the friendship and courage shared by "Sirius" and his police officer partner David, who survived the 9/11 attacks.

★ Upper Elementary to Middle School Booklist

The Attacks of September 11, 2001

by Lauren Tarshis; illustrated by Scott Dawson

When Lucas decides to skip school because he wants to discuss football with a firefighter friend of his father, he finds himself caught up in the terrorist attacks on New York City.

September 11, 2001

by Caroline Kennon

Look at the events leading up to 9/11, the morning of the attacks, the devastating consequences, and the life-altering aftermath.

Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story

by Nora Raleigh Baskin

Relates how the lives of four children living in different parts of the country intersect and are affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

Heroes of 9/11

by Allan Zullo

From the World Trade Center and the Pentagon to a hijacked plane above Pennsylvania, these ten stories of true American heroes on the day that changed America – September 11, 2001.

Ground Zero

by Alan Gratz

A dual tale published to mark the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks finds a young boy struggling to find his father and escape the World Trade Center in 2001, before a girl in battle-torn 2020 Afghanistan risks her life to help a wounded soldier.

Towers Falling

by Jewell Parker Rhodes

A powerful story about young people who weren't alive to witness this defining moment in history, but begin to realize how much it colors their every day.

★ Middle to High School Booklist

September 11, 2001: Attack on New York City

by Wilborn Hampton

Describes the September 11 attacks in the United States and presents several personal stories of tragedy told by New Yorkers who lived through the collapse of the World Trade Center.

Hope and Other Punchlines

by Julie Buxbaum

The tragic 9/11 event in NYC that changed the world, altered the life of Abbi Hope Goldstein as well as that of Noah Stern. They did not know each other back then, but they know each other now, and while Abbi is trying to move forward with her life, Noah still has unanswered questions that he believes Abbi can help answer.

All We Have Left

by Wendy Mills

In interweaving stories of sixteen-year-olds, modern-day Jesse tries to cope with the ramifications of her brother's death on 9/11, while in 2001, Alia, a Muslim, gets trapped in one of the Twin Towers and meets a boy who changes everything for her as flames rage around them.

The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation

by Sid Jacobsen and Ernie Colón

A visual adaptation of the report of the 9/11 Commission uses a graphic novel format to provide an accessible version of the Commission's findings regarding the terrorist attacks on the United States and its recommendations concerning what the United States government needs to do in its wake.

At Ground Zero: Young Reporters Who Were There Tell Their Stories

Edited by Chris Bull and Sam Erman

Collects the stories of fledgling reporters from a variety of media sources, including Fox News, NPR, the New York "Daily News," and "Newsday," sharing their first-hand accounts or reaction to the September 11 attacks.

★ **9/11 Memorial & Museum: Students and Teachers**

Provides students and teachers the tools to understand what happened on 9/11 and how the attacks continue to impact our lives. This site includes: Virtual Field Trips, Lesson Plans, Anniversary in the Schools Webinar, Webinar Stories, Teacher Workshops, Interactive Timelines and Oral Histories.

<https://www.911memorial.org/learn/students-and-teachers>

★ **National Education Association: Teaching About 9/11**

Lesson collections and background resources that provide context for examining events before, during, and after the attacks.

<https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/teaching-about-911>

★ **U.S. Department of Education: 911 Materials for Teachers**

Materials developed by federal grantees and agencies in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001.

<https://www.ed.gov/911anniversary>

★ **Library of Congress Collection: September 11, 2001, Documentary Project**

The September 11, 2001 Documentary Project captures the reactions, eyewitness accounts, and diverse opinions of Americans and others in the months that followed the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and United Airlines Flight 93.

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/september-11th-2001-documentary-project/>

★ **Teaching with the Library of Congress: Teaching About September 11 Using Primary Sources from Library of Congress**

Part of the power of teaching with primary sources comes from their immediacy—eyewitness accounts of historic events can have an emotional impact that secondary sources might lack. This is especially true of primary sources relating to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

<https://blogs.loc.gov/teachers/2011/09/teaching-about-september-11-using-primary-sources-from-library-of-congress/>

★ **George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum: September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attacks**

Selected resources provide primary sources, photographs, a research guide, and resources for teachers, kids, and more.

<https://www.georgewbushlibrary.gov/research/topic-guides/september-11-2001-terrorist-attacks>

★ [PoudreLibraries.org/research](https://poudrelibraries.org/research)

Not Familiar with the Databases at Poudre River Libraries? Research databases contain thousands of easy-to-find articles published in journals, magazines, and newspapers.

- Articles and content are vetted by subject experts
- Abstracts and summaries are available, and databases often include alerts for subject searches.
- Educator support resources including lesson plans, pathfinders, project ideas, and more.

A Poudre River Public Library card is needed for database access, and some will require you to create a login and password.

★ [Biography In Context \(Gale\)](#)

Search for current or historic figures based on name, nationality, ethnicity, birth/death dates, places, or occupation in this collection of biographical information for over 500,000 people.” **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [Elementary School Research \(EBSCO’s Explora\)](#)

Resources for grades K-5. Search for articles, news and more using a single search box. Results can be limited to reading levels. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia \(EBSCO Youth Reference\)](#)

General encyclopedia for K-12 students includes full text articles. Encyclopedic entries are searchable by subject or keywords. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [Gale Virtual Reference Library](#)

Search encyclopedias and specialized reference sources for history and many more topics. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [High School Research \(EBSCO’s Explora\)](#)

Resources for grades 9-12. Discover reliable information on thousands of topics covering a wide range of subjects. Search for articles, news and more using a single search box. Results can be limited to reading levels. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [History Reference Center \(EBSCO\)](#)

Comprehensive, full-text history reference database designed for secondary schools, public libraries, junior/community colleges and undergraduate research. Features full text for more than 1,990 reference books, encyclopedias and non-fiction books from leading history publishers. Includes images, video recordings and primary sources. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [Middle School Research \(EBSCO’s Explora\)](#)

Resources for grades 6-8. Discover reliable information on thousands of topics covering a wide range of subjects. Search for articles, news and more using a single search box. Results can be limited to reading levels. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [Points of View Reference Center \(EBSCO\)](#)

A full-text database designed to provide students with a series of essays that present multiple sides of a current issue. The database provides more than 290 topics, each with an overview (objective background/description), point (argument), counterpoint (opposing argument), and Critical Thinking Guide. The database also offers guides to debate, developing arguments and writing position papers. **Available in multiple languages.**

★ [Primary Search \(EBSCO Youth Reference\)](#)

Provides full-text for children’s magazines and children’s pamphlets, designed for the elementary school student. **Available in multiple languages.**