

# Remembering 9/11

## 1. As pupils enter

Have the **webpage** open. Play your chosen music and display the image of the **twin towers** or the map of **eastern United States** if you wish.

## 2. Introduction

Tell the children that they will be finding out about the events that took place in the United States of America on 11 September 2001. Explain that this day is now widely referred to as '9/11' - because in the US it is customary to write the date with the month before the day. Explain that the things that happened on this day affected people not just in the US but all around the world - and continue to affect us today [and have been in the news recently]. Ask everyone to think about the immediate and long-term effects of 9/11 as they watch the video.

## 3. Play the video

The duration is 5' 01". Final words: '...becomes a peaceful, better place to live.'

## 4. After the video - Time to talk

Begin with some questions to help children consolidate their understanding:

- **Who can tell me what happened on 11 September 2001?** (Hijacked planes were flown into US landmarks, including the twin towers of the World Trade Center, causing them to collapse).
- **Who was directly affected by the events?** (The approx 3000 people who died - including many emergency workers; their families; their friends).
- **How have the events of 9/11 affected people around the world?** (Increased security - especially at airports; Muslim people in many western countries have experienced 'Islamophobia', including violence and discrimination; two countries - Afghanistan and Iraq - were invaded).
- **What can now be found at the site of the attacks in New York City?** (A memorial, a museum, a new tower, lights in the sky on the anniversary).
- Follow up with **What do you think is the message of the 9/11 memorial?** (To remember those who died and to encourage compassion and tolerance to avoid events like this from happening again).

Then tell everyone: **Turn to the person next to you and ask them to imagine and tell you how they would have felt if they were watching the news as these events happened on 11 September 2001.**

## 6. Opportunity to sing

If your assembly is to include a song this would be a good time to sing.

## Video page



## 7. Opportunity to reflect

Focus your reflection on the people who came together to help one another after the terrible events of 9/11.

Ask the children to sit quietly and think about how they can help their friends and family after something bad happens just by being kind, and being tolerant of other people's views.

**By showing compassion and tolerance we can all help to make the world a more peaceful place and try to make sure events like 9/11 do not happen again.**

## 8. Opportunity for prayer

Begin with your usual form of address and:

**We remember all the people who lost their lives on 11 September 2001.**

**We thank you for the bravery of those people who risked their lives for others on that day.**

**Help us to understand that we all have a role in shaping the future... and that by showing compassion and tolerance we can all help to build a more peaceful world. Amen.**