



You're Beautiful (Grades 6–8)

Students will plan an art beautification project in their community to commemorate the spirit of unity that brought the world and individual communities together as a result of 9/11.

Learn! Questions to investigate before getting started

- **What** community sites might be good for the art project? Consider which sites have enough space, could benefit from beautification, and would potentially be viewed by a lot of people. Contact those at the site to determine if they would accept an art project from students and inquire about any related constraints.
- **Learn** more about what happened on September 11, 2001, and the spirit of unity that brought so many people together. This could be accomplished by interviewing those who remember that day and the days that followed, or by visiting <http://911memorial.org>.
- **Invite** a local artist or the school's art teacher to talk about different mediums and the related materials and steps for each. This could include sculpture, murals, tile mosaics, photography, or painting.
- **Read** about real students in California who designed a mural in their community by visiting <http://nationalserviceresources.org/practices/17795>.

Share your good deed on Twitter and Facebook using #911Day.
(Or visit 911day.org)

Plan! Helpful hints to prepare for your 9/11 Day Project

- **Have students create word webs or journal entries** that help them define the feelings, spirit, and sense of unity surrounding September 11, 2001, and the days that followed.
- **Determine how you will select the art project.** Will you brainstorm one idea as a class or divide students into teams to come up with separate ideas that will be voted upon? Ensure that every idea somehow commemorates the spirit of unity surrounding 9/11 and the days that followed.
- **If student teams are nominating ideas,** encourage them to create a sketch or mock-up. Organize a method for teams to present their ideas and a voting panel to help make the final decision. The voting panel could include community members, students, staff, and/or parents.
- **Get donations** or purchase materials.
- **Enlist the help of volunteers.** Think about high school students, parents, and community members. DO! Ready, set, go!
- Once the final idea is selected, **organize students into separate work groups.** Each group could focus on a section of the artwork or a specific task.
- **Plan and organize a work schedule.** Be sure to include community volunteers.
- **Give students ample time to complete the project.**
- **Create a dedication plaque** that includes the name of the project, date of presentation, students' names, and

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project's significance.

- **Contact those at the site** and select a date to officially present the artwork to the community.
- **Plan a ceremony** to present the artwork. Create invitations for media, school district and community leaders, and parents.
- **Deliver the artwork** and have students share the idea behind the project and what it means to them with those in attendance.

Think! Reflect on how your 9/11 Day Project has impacted students and the community

Have students write a letter to a potential visitor viewing their art project, sharing what the project means to them and what they would like it to mean to those in the community.

Keep It Going! Ideas to continue your 9/11 Day Project or inspire others to get started

- Take photographs of the dedication ceremony and share them with media outlets and school and community news sources.
- Encourage students to visit their artwork each year on September 11 to reflect upon what happened and think of ways to honor those who died.
- Brainstorm other ways to encourage community unity and to bring people together.

Share your Good Deed on Twitter, #911Day

- **Let the world know** what your class did to pay tribute on 9/11 by sharing your good deed (and pics) on Twitter or Facebook (hashtag #911Day). Also visit 911day.org for more info.



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