

WISCONSIN 9/11 MEMORIAL 9-12 LESSON PLAN

Overview

Students will understand the impact of the events of 9/11 and how counterterrorism evolved after the events of 9/11.

Attachments

Timeline of Events
 Investigation Document
 Reflection Document
 Wisconsin Academic Standards Addressed

Introduction

Have students write down a list of everything they think of when they hear the phrase *9/11*. Then have them create a list of safety measures at airports, sporting events, concerts and other places within the local area.

Have them take a minute to share their thoughts and connections with those around them. If there are similar ideas in small group discussion, have them share out and keep a class list of what their thoughts and connections are.

Prompting Questions

- What is counterterrorism?
- Who was Osama bin Laden?
- Which government agencies fight against terrorism?
- What is Al-Qaeda?
- Why were the Twin Towers and Pentagon targets of terrorism?
- What types of security do you see at events in Wisconsin?

Reflection

Take some time with your students to reflect on the events that occurred on 9/11. What counterterrorism measures are in effect today? What are the connections to Wisconsin and to our community? Fill in the follow-up questions as a class or individually and have students share their thoughts on this significant day.

Timeline of Events

Share the timeline of the September 11, 2001 attacks with the class as a whole group or individually. Give students a few minutes to look over the information, noting the times and locations.

Counterterrorism Investigation

In partners or small groups, have students investigate which intelligence agencies were created around the time of 9/11. Discuss the following questions as a class:

- What was the purpose of these agencies?
- Who were intelligence agencies looking for in addition to bin Laden?
- What challenges did they face?

Discuss the student answers as a class.

Next, have students apply their knowledge by creating their own counterintelligence timelines, starting on September 11, 2001 and ending in present day. They can research the details of:

- The 10 year hunt for Osama bin Laden
- How intelligence agencies were formed
- New inventions that were created
- How security in the United States changed
- How the terrorist group Al-Qaeda changed
- How military training changed
- How Wisconsin businesses supported the counterterrorism efforts

WISCONSIN ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Standard SS.Inq1: Wisconsin students will construct meaningful questions that initiate an inquiry.

SS.Inq1.a.h Frame researchable, complex, and open-ended questions, integrating multiple social studies strands that call for investigation.

SS.Inq1.b.m Identify additional questions that support the research and possible resources to guide the inquiry.

Standard SS.Hist2: Wisconsin students will analyze, recognize, and evaluate patterns of continuity and change over time and contextualization of historical events.

SS.Hist2.a.h Evaluate a variety of primary and secondary sources to apply knowledge of major eras, enduring themes, turning points, and historical influences to analyze the patterns of continuity in the community, the state, the United States, and the world.

SS.Hist2.c.h Evaluate how the historical context influenced the process or nature of the continuity or change that took place.

Standard SS.Hist3: Wisconsin students will connect past events, people, and ideas to the present; use different perspectives to draw conclusions; and suggest current implications.

SS.Hist3.a.h Analyze significant historical periods and their relationship to present issues and events.

TIMELINE OF EVENTS

- 7:59 A.M. EDT** American Airlines Flight 11 takes off from Boston for Los Angeles.
- 8:14 A.M. EDT** United Airlines Flight 175 takes off from Boston for Los Angeles.
- 8:20 A.M. EDT** American Airlines Flight 77 takes off from Washington, D.C. for Los Angeles.
- 8:37 A.M. EDT** Boston air traffic control alerts the military of potential hijacking. Air National Guard jets in Massachusetts are mobilized to follow American Airlines Flight 11.
- 8:42 A.M. EDT** Following a delay, United Airlines Flight 93 takes off from New Jersey for San Francisco.
- 8:46 A.M. EDT** Terrorists crash American Airlines Flight 11 into the North Tower of the World Trade Center.
- 8:50 A.M. EDT** President George W. Bush is alerted. His advisors assume this is a tragic accident.
- 8:59 A.M. EDT** Port Authority police order the evacuation of both towers. A minute later, the order is expanded to the entire World Trade Center complex.
- 9:03 A.M. EDT** Terrorists crash United Airlines Flight 175 into the South Tower of the World Trade Center.
- 9:37 A.M. EDT** Terrorists crash American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon.
- 9:42 A.M. EDT** The FAA grounds all flights.
- 9:59 A.M. EDT** The South Tower of the World Trade Center collapses.
- 10:03 A.M. EDT** Terrorists crash United Airlines Flight 93 into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.
- 10:28 A.M. EDT** The North Tower of the World Trade Center collapses.

COUNTERTERRORISM INVESTIGATION

Group Research & Discussion

Investigate and research which intelligence agencies were created right after September 11, 2001. Find the answers to the questions below. While researching, keep track of additional information you cover.

- What was the purpose of the intelligence agencies?
- Who were the intelligence agencies looking for in addition to bin Laden?
- What challenges did they face?

Timeline Research

Choose a few topics to research and include in your timeline:

- The 10 year hunt for Osama bin Laden
- How intelligence agencies were formed
- New inventions that were created
- How security in the United States changed
- How the terrorist group Al-Qaeda changed
- How military training changed
- What Wisconsin businesses supported military changes

Next, organize your research into chronological order for your counterintelligence timeline, starting on September 11, 2001 and ending in present day.

Add Primary Sources

Once your research is complete, before you begin designing your timeline, find primary source examples to include on your timeline. The primary sources should enhance and connect to your research.

Final Product

Create a detailed timeline to explain how counterterrorism has evolved since September 11, 2001.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What is counterterrorism and what measures are in effect today?

Why was the hunt for Osama bin Laden so difficult?

What measures were taken to enhance security in the United States?

What are the connections to Wisconsin and to our community?