



# Remembering September 11 with Kids

The first anniversary of September 11 will likely be a significant event throughout the country. It also coincides with an especially demanding time for many kids—the start of a new school year. Children’s reactions to the anniversary will vary, depending in part on how much they were directly affected by the events. How can you recognize and respond to the feelings children may have? Here are some tips that may be helpful.

## **Find out what your child is feeling.**

Take time to listen, and answer questions honestly but briefly.

## **Offer different ways to express feelings.**

Writing, drawing, and dramatic play are helpful ways to express thoughts and work out worries. Kids can also visit ZOOM Remembers Zmail ([pbskids.org/zoom](http://pbskids.org/zoom)), where they can share their feelings with kids from across the country and around the world.

## **Limit viewing of television and other media.**

Graphic pictures of the attacks may be frightening and cause nightmares.

## **Emphasize the positive.**

Help your child notice the positive effects of the recovery process, such as a stronger sense of community, greater appreciation for people’s differences, and increased community service.

## **Provide ways for children to help others.**

Volunteering is a wonderful way to help children feel empowered instead of helpless. To learn more about involving young children in volunteering, visit ZOOM Into Action at [pbskids.org/zoom/action](http://pbskids.org/zoom/action).

## **Additional Resources**

### **ZOOM: America’s Kids Remember**

This 30-minute video covers such topics as coping with loss, respecting differences, and improving communities through volunteerism. For educational use only. Contact WGBH Boston Video at (800)949-8670 to place an order.

### **ZOOM Remembers Web Feature**

[www.pbskids.org/zoom](http://www.pbskids.org/zoom)

This special feature offers a safe place where kids can share their questions and thoughts through letters, art, and chat topics. (Launches August 28)

### **American Library Association (ALA)**

[www.ala.org/pio/sept11.html](http://www.ala.org/pio/sept11.html)

The ALA has compiled a list of books, arranged by age level, that are related to the events of September 11.

### **American School Counselor Association (ASCA)**

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

ASCA offers links to lesson plans and other ideas to help commemorate the anniversary.

### **ARTHUR**

[www.pbskids.org/arthur/grownups](http://www.pbskids.org/arthur/grownups)

Younger children can watch a special ARTHUR episode called “April 9,” in which Arthur and his pals react to a fire in their school (airs November 26). Check the Web site for resources on talking with young children about upsetting events.

### **PBS: America Remembers**

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

Discover more resources for parents and kids on PBS Online.



# ZOOM Into Action™

and make a difference!

All across the country, kids are volunteering and sharing their experiences with ZOOM Into Action, a multimedia campaign that honors kids who make a difference.

Young children have lots to give—ideas, enthusiasm, and most importantly, time. But they need your support. Behind every young volunteer is an adult who provides guidance and supervision.



## ZOOM Into Action at [pbskids.org/action](http://pbskids.org/action)

To help young volunteers engage in meaningful community service, ZOOM has created a special ZOOM Into Action Web feature. Here are some of the things you will find:

### Great Ways to ZOOM Into Action

Find step-by-step instructions that make it easy for any kid to collect canned food, clean up a playground, plant a tree, and more.

### ZOOM Into Action Printables

Print signs, labels for collection jars, bookmarks, and thank you notes.

### Share Your Story Form

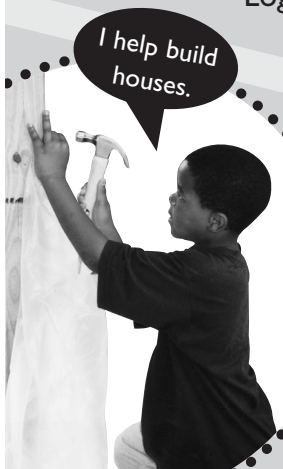
Log in your volunteer hours and become part of the ZOOMteam Tally. Every day on the TV show and Web site, ZOOM honors kids who volunteer.

### ZOOMtoo

Parents and educators—look here for more tips and resources on how you can help children volunteer.

### Family Guide to Volunteering

Print this 16-page guide to learn how your family can volunteer together.



## Additional Resources

### Champions of Hope

[www.championsofhope.org](http://www.championsofhope.org)  
Kids from across the country can join any one of five service projects in remembrance of September 11.

### Family Cares

[familycares.org](http://familycares.org)  
Discover over 60 hands-on family volunteering activities.

### Kids Care Clubs

[www.kidscare.org](http://www.kidscare.org)  
Any school or afterschool program can start a volunteering club with these free resources.

### United Way

[www.unitedway.org](http://www.unitedway.org)  
Find your local United Way and learn about volunteering opportunities in your area.

### Volunteer Center National Network

[www.volunteerconnections.org](http://www.volunteerconnections.org)  
[/VCP\\_volunteercentermap.cfm](http://VCP_volunteercentermap.cfm)  
Locate a Volunteer Center near you and learn about volunteering activities in your community.

### Youth Service America

[www.ysa.org](http://www.ysa.org)  
Take part in National Youth Service Day, held every April.