



“Everyday Heroes”

Grade 2: Overview for Teachers

Purpose of the Unit:

This unit is designed to give 2nd graders an understanding of the qualities of heroism, in particular as it relates to the everyday actions of those who served aboard the USS Midway when she was an active ship in the United States Navy.

Objective:

Students will learn about famous historical figures who are heroes and how they made a difference in our nation. Students will discuss the qualities that these and other heroic persons demonstrate; qualities such as bravery and courage, strength, dedication, and the desire to help others. Connections can be made to individuals in the students’ personal lives or those in the community that displayed or modeled heroic attributes.

Overview:

- As an introduction, students will be given selected mini-books on selected American heroes. Students will write about one or more of these heroes. This will serve as a foundation and topic of discussion as to why these individuals are not only American heroes, but heroes in general.
- Students will then take “virtual visits” to the USS Midway Museum by watching several videos. In specific spaces, students will learn about what the sailors did in each of them and how they exhibited attributes of a hero by simply carrying out their shipboard assignment or job.
- As a culminating activity, students will write three sentences about what they learned, and then create a Midway Heroes medallion. A discussion can be started about heroes that they know, either people in their personal lives, know socially, or through some interaction they had with this community hero.

Standards:

California History-Social Science Standard:

- 2.5 Students understand the importance of individual action and character and explain how heroes from long ago and the recent past have made a difference in others’ lives.

California English-Language Arts Standard:

Reading (Informational Text)

1. Ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
10. Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts.

Writing

8. Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.