



“City at Sea”

Grade 3: Pre-Visit Lesson

Introduction:

This pre-visit lesson is designed to take place prior to the students’ viewing of the video segments or participation in the live broadcast from the Midway. It provides appropriate background and prior knowledge upon which to build throughout the lesson. By completing the pre-visit material, your students will be better prepared to reap the most benefit from the video presentations they will see.

Materials:

- “Community Helpers” handout (describing ten different kinds of workers within a community whose jobs help make the community better and spotlight the concept of public virtue)
- “My Community Helper” worksheet
- Crayons or markers

Vocabulary for Lesson:

Most 3rd graders probably already have an idea about what the following words mean, so the teacher could elicit ideas from the class and write their answers on the board to begin the discussion. Answers will probably sound something like what is listed below:

- **caring** – Displaying kindness and concern for others
- **community** – A place where people live, work, and play
- **citizenship** – The rights and duties of a citizen
- **cooperation** – working together towards a common end goal
- **courage** – showing strength in situations when facing pain, grief, or fear
- **respect** – showing admiration and regard for the feelings, wishes, rights, or traditions of others
- **responsibility** – being accountable for doing a task, job, or role



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Engage:

- Start the conversation with students’ understanding of a community. Narrow the discussion to the concept, definition, and their interpretation of a citizen and/or a community helper.
- Have students offer “describing words” that their community member shows.
- If not given by students, suggest the attributes of *caring, cooperation, courage, respect, and responsibility*. These five qualities of public virtue and citizenship are the focus of the overall lesson.

Explore:

- Students read the “Community Helpers” book.
 - (**NOTE:** Students can be assigned to either read the electronic (PDF format) version or a printed hardcopy.)
- Through reading the book, students are introduced to individuals in the community and how they help others.
- Provide each student with the “My Community Helper” worksheet. Assign or have students choose one community helper and on the worksheet, have them write about the one they chose.

Explain:

- Have students compare the community helpers to establish a common trait among them and the idea that everyday people do great things for other people.
- It is important that students understand this as the associated videos and live broadcast will describe how ordinary sailors on the Midway exhibited extraordinary attributes by carrying out their assigned duties.

Evaluate:

- Students share their completed “My Community Helper” worksheet.

Elaborate:

- To conclude, the following prompts could be used:
 - “We have studied several community helpers, people who are known for their efforts in serving others.”
 - “Every day, there are people across America who will never become famous, who will never have a holiday named after them or be in a history book, but who demonstrated qualities of a good citizen that include *caring, cooperation, courage, respect, and responsibility*.”
 - “We will learn about some of these ‘unsung’ community helpers and good citizens, like the crewmembers that served on the aircraft carrier, USS Midway.”