



## Helping Hands and Kind Hearts

**Age Level:** Kindergarten and 1st grade

**Purpose:** Learning about kindness, helping others, and recognizing community helpers.

**Connection to the Memorial:** Introduce the idea that when something sad happens, helpers show up—police, firefighters, doctors, and caring neighbors.

### At Home:

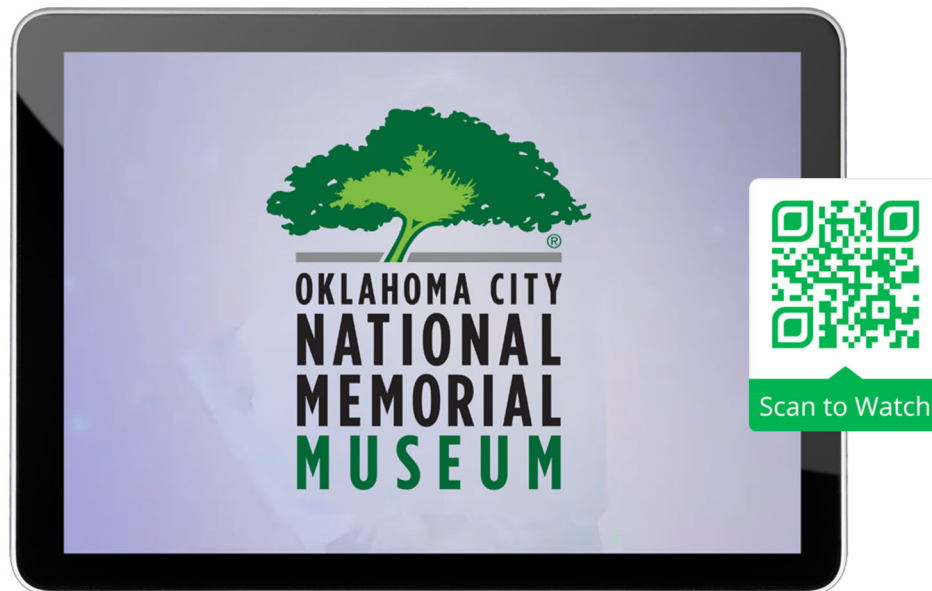
**Discussion Topics:**

- What does it mean to be kind?
- Who helps us in our community?
- How can we help someone who is sad?

**Watch:**

A reading of *A Day to Remember* by the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, narrated by Darci Lynne Farmer (winner of *America's Got Talent*) for children. The video tells the story of the Oklahoma City bombing, explaining what happened, honoring the heroes and victims, and describing the purpose of the Memorial and Museum.

[Click Here to Watch](#) or *Scan the QR Code*





# At the Memorial and Museum:

**Leader Notes:** In order to maintain age-appropriate content, the Daisies will only experience the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial.

**Scavenger Hunt:**

Walk quietly. Look carefully. Check the box when you find each item. Check in when complete.

Item / Symbol	Found it (✓)	Observation / Reflection
A Big Tree		
Water Pool		
A Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Big Chair</li><li>• A Little Chair</li></ul>		
Something Green		
Two Tall Gates		
A Bird or Butterfly		
A Quiet Place		



**Moment of Reflection:** Look at the Reflecting Pool. This water is called the Reflecting Pool because it helps us think quietly about our feelings. The water is calm and shiny, like a mirror. It helps us reflect on our thoughts and feelings. Put your hand in the water. Feel the cool water and think quietly about things that are important - like being kind, helping friends, or remembering people. Touch the Gates of Time with your hand. Your handprint is a way of showing that you are thinking and remembering.

## Back At Home:

### Helping Hand Collage:

- Trace the child's hands on paper.
- Inside each hand, they draw or write one thing they can do to help (ex: "Help clean up toys," "Share," "Hug someone," "Feed pets").
- Decorate and hang somewhere at home.

### Kindness Rocks

- Draw a heart or smiley on a rock.
- Write a kind "Hi!," "Smile," or "Be Kind" message.
- Kids "hide" them around the community.





## Building a Caring Community

**Age Level:** 2nd and 3rd Grade

**Purpose:** Understanding what makes a community strong, the importance of a community, how people work together in hard times, and how we can help each other.

**Connection to the Memorial:** Emphasize the response of the Oklahoma City community and how people came together.

### At Home:

**Discussion Topics:**

- What does community mean to you?
- What are ways you can show care to others?
- What did people do after the Oklahoma City bombing to help?
- Discuss the importance of rule following, volunteering, helping others, or being a good citizen and contributing to the community.
- What does it mean to be a “good citizen” at school, home, or in a group (sports team, scouts, etc.)?

**Watch:** A reading of *A Day to Remember* by the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum, narrated by Darci Lynne Farmer (winner of *America’s Got Talent*) for children. The video tells the story of the Oklahoma City bombing, explaining what happened, honoring the heroes and victims, and describing the purpose of the Memorial and Museum.

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# At the Memorial and Museum:

**Leader Notes:** In order to maintain age-appropriate content, Brownies will only experience the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial.

**Scavenger Hunt:**

Walk quietly. Look carefully. Check the box when you find each item. Check in when complete.

Item / Symbol	Found it (✓)	Observation / Reflection
A Big Tree		
Water Pool		
A Chair <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A Big Chair</li><li>• A Little Chair</li></ul>		
Something Green		
Two Tall Gates		
A Bird or Butterfly		
A Quiet Place		



**Moment of Reflection:** Look at the Reflecting Pool. This water is called the Reflecting Pool because it helps us think quietly about our feelings. The water is calm and shiny, like a mirror. It helps us reflect on our thoughts and feelings. Put your hand in the water. Feel the cool water and think quietly about things that are important - like being kind, helping friends, or remembering people. Touch the Gates of Time with your hand. Your handprint is a way of showing that you are thinking and remembering.

## Back At Home:

### Oklahoma Standard Letter: Service, Honor, and Kindness

- **Service** - Show up to Serve. This means helping others and making a difference in your school, home, and community.
- **Honor** - Rise up to Honor. This means respecting people and doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.
- **Kindness** - Step up to be Kind. This means being nice, caring, and friendly to everyone.

Now we can think about all the ways first responders show these traits every day. They help people, keep us safe, and work hard to protect our community. Let's write a letter to local first responders to say thank you and let them know we notice and appreciate all they do.

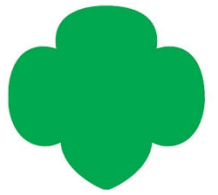
### Community People Chain

- Fold a strip of paper accordion-style.
- Cut a "person" shape so the hands stay connected.
- Unfold to reveal a chain of people.
- On each paper person, write a name of someone important in their community (classmates, family, teachers, mail carriers, doctors, neighbors).
- Add a positive trait to each (kind, helpful, brave, friendly).



### Helping Tree

- Draw or glue a tree trunk on a poster.
- Kids trace their hands on green paper and cut them out to use as leaves.
- On their hand-leaf, they write a helping action like doing the dishes, walking the dog, or holding open a door for a friend.
- Add the leaves to the tree.



## Symbols of Hope and Remembrance

**Age Level:** 4th and 5th grade

**Purpose:** Understand and interpret the meaning of the symbols of the Oklahoma City National Memorial (Chairs, Survivor Tree, Reflecting Pool).

**Connection to the Memorial:** Teach what the symbols represent and why remembering is important.

### At Home:

**Discussion Topics:**

- Why do we create memorials?
- What do you think the empty chairs mean?
- What does a tree surviving an explosion represent?

### At the Memorial and Museum:

**Leader Notes:** In order to maintain age-appropriate content, the Juniors will only experience the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial.



### Scavenger Hunt:

Walk quietly. Look carefully. Check the box when you find each item. Check in when complete.

Item / Symbol	Found it (✓)	Observation / Reflection
Field of Empty Chairs		
Reflecting Pool		
Survivor Wall		
Survivor Tree		
Rescuer's Orchard		
Gates of Time		

**Moment of Reflection:** Look at the Reflecting Pool. This water is called the Reflecting Pool because it helps us think quietly about our feelings. The water is calm and shiny, like a mirror. It helps us reflect on our thoughts and feelings. Put your hand in the water. Feel the cool water and think quietly about things that are important - like being kind, helping friends, or remembering people. Touch the Gates of Time with your hand. Your handprint is a way of showing that you are thinking and remembering.



# Back At Home:

## Open Discussion

- What is a symbol?
- Which symbol stood out to you most?
- What does this symbol represent?
- How does this symbol show hope or remembrance?

## Survivor Tree Drawing

[Click Here to Watch](#) or *Scan the QR Code*

Watch the video quietly and pay attention to how the Survivor Tree is described and why it is important. As you watch, think about what the tree went through and how it was able to survive and grow again. After the video, be ready to draw a tree with three labeled parts: Roots (what supports it), Trunk (what helps it stay strong), and Branches/leaves (what grows afterwards). It can be about people, communities, and the world.





### Archives Activity

[Click Here to Watch](#) or *Scan the QR Code*

Go to the Memorial Museum Archives page and find the artifact called Girl Scouts Vest – Susan Jane Ferrell. Read the description and learn who Susan Jane Ferrell was and why her vest is preserved in the museum. Choose three other artifacts that interest you from the online Archives.

For each artifact, write:

1. The name of the item.
2. Who it belonged to (if known).
3. Why you picked it.
4. What this artifact teaches you about the event or the people involved.

Try to pick artifacts from different categories (like personal items, items of comfort, messages, or memorial objects) to get a broader picture of life and remembrance.



### Fence of Items Video

[Click Here to Watch](#) or *Scan the QR Code*

Watch the video quietly and pay attention to why people left toys, notes, and other items on the memorial fence and what those objects might represent. As you watch, think about how the fence became a place for people to express memories, support, and healing.



## The Power of Resilience and Hope

**Age Level:** 6th, 7th, and 8th grade

**Purpose:** Exploring emotional resilience, recovery after tragedy, and the human spirit.

**Connection to the Memorial:** Learn about the Survivor Tree and survivor stories to understand how people heal.

### At Home:

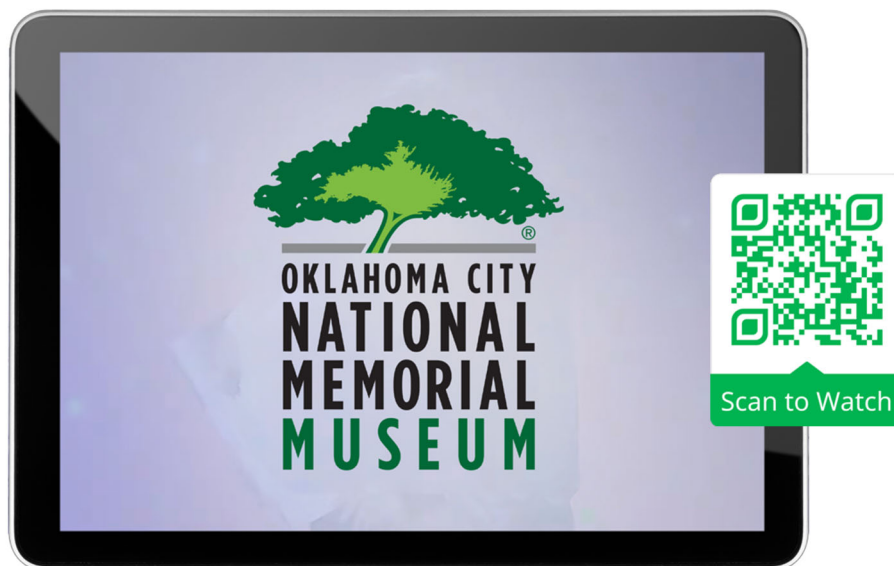
**Discussion Topics:**

- What does it mean to be resilient?
- How do you think people find hope after something tragic?
- What do you think the Survivor Tree symbolizes?

**Overview Story**

Watch this video before the visit to help you understand the story of the memorial and museum, so you'll be better prepared to notice important symbols, reflect on the experiences of those affected, and think about the meaning behind what you see.

[Click Here to Watch](#) or *Scan the QR Code*





# At the Memorial and Museum:

**Leader Notes:** Cadettes will experience both the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial and the Memorial Museum.

**Symbol Hunt:** The Outdoor Symbolic Memorial is a space for reflection, observation, and respect. As you move through, your goal is to notice symbols and think about what they might represent.

Symbol Name	Where It's Found	What It Represents	How It Makes Me Feel	Why It's Important



### Scavenger Hunt:

Walk quietly. Look carefully. Check the box when you find each item. Check in when complete.

Item / Symbol	Found it (✓)	Observation / Reflection
A Story of a First Responder		
An Artifact from the Day of the Bombing		
A Symbol of Courage		
A Story of Community Helping		
Something that Made You Feel Hope		
A Personal Story from a Survivor		
A Memorial or Tribute		
An Image or Photograph that Stood Out		
A Moment of Unity or Solidarity		



## Back At Home:

**Better Conversation Questions:** Before starting, explain this is a judgment free zone, there are no right or wrong answers, and listen respectfully to other’s ideas. These questions are meant to help us think, listen, and understand—not to debate or impress. Anyone who feels comfortable may share, and it’s okay to build on what someone else says or simply listen. We’ll respect all perspectives and move to the next question once the discussion feels complete.

- What motivates you to dig deep and be resilient in hard times?
- How do we create an environment that fosters belonging and the courage to speak up?
- How do we look past differences to find common ground?
- Why do small acts of help matter during big moments?
- How can we notice when someone needs help but isn’t asking?
- How did people show courage in quiet ways—not just dramatic ones?
- What helps people feel safe sharing their thoughts?
- The Girl Scout Law says to be “*courageous and strong.*” What does courage look like in everyday life—not just in moments of crisis?
- Why do small acts of kindness sometimes matter more than big gestures?
- Why does doing the right thing sometimes feel harder than doing what’s easy?
- How can hardship shape people without defining them?
- What values guide your decisions when no one is watching?
- How can listening be just as powerful as speaking?





## Survivor Tree

[Click Here to Watch](#) or *Scan the QR Code*

Watch the video quietly and pay attention to how the Survivor Tree is described and why it is important. As you watch, think about what the tree went through and how it was able to survive and grow again. After the video, think about what the Survivor Tree might symbolize — for example, resilience, strength, healing, or hope after tragedy. Consider how a tree can grow again even after something very hard happens.



## Open Discussion

- What does resilience mean to you?
- Where did you see resilience or hope today?
- Choose one symbol or space that stood out to you. Why?
- How does remembering the past help people move forward?



## Understanding Tragedy and Honoring Memory

**Age Level:** 9th and 10th grade

**Purpose:** To investigate the causes and effects of the bombing, and the importance of remembrance.

**Connection to the Memorial:** Study the history of the event, including personal stories of victims.

### At Home:

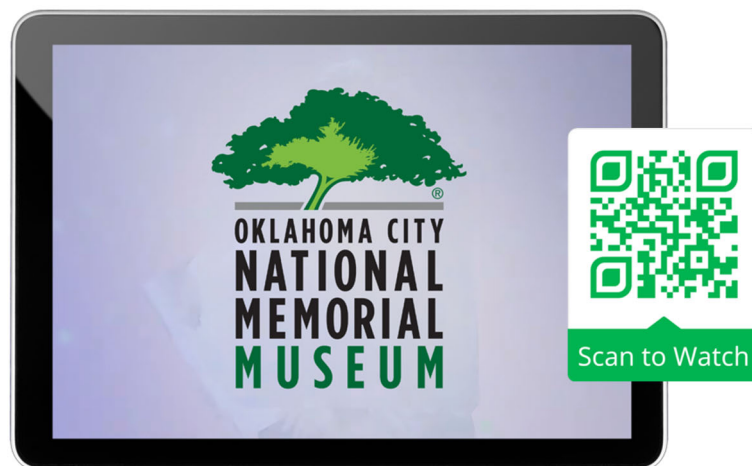
#### Discussion Topics:

- What does it mean to be resilient?
- How do you think people find hope after something tragic?
- What do you think the Survivor Tree symbolizes?

#### Overview Story

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# At the Memorial and Museum:

**Leader Notes:** In the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial, please maintain age-appropriate content and emphasize the senselessness of violence.

**Symbol Hunt:** The Outdoor Symbolic Memorial is a space for reflection, observation, and respect. As you move through, your goal is to notice symbols and think about what they might represent.

Symbol Name	Where It's Found	What It Represents	How It Makes Me Feel	Why It's Important



**Scavenger Hunt:**

Walk quietly. Look carefully. Check the box when you find each item. Check in when complete.

Item / Symbol	Found it (✓)	Observation / Reflection
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An Artifact from the Day of the Bombing		
A Symbol of Courage		
A Story of Community Helping		
Something that Made You Feel Hope		
A Personal Story from a Survivor		
A Memorial or Tribute		
An Image or Photograph that Stood Out		
A Moment of Unity or Solidarity		



## Back At Home:

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- What motivates you to dig deep and be resilient in hard times?
- How do we create an environment that fosters belonging and the courage to speak up?
- How do we look past differences to find common ground?
- Why do small acts of help matter during big moments?
- How can we notice when someone needs help but isn’t asking?
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- Why does doing the right thing sometimes feel harder than doing what’s easy?
- How can hardship shape people without defining them?
- What values guide your decisions when no one is watching?
- How can listening be just as powerful as speaking?

### Open Discussion

- How would you define tragedy?
- Why do communities create memorials?
- Which memorial element impacted you the most, and why?
- How does remembering tragedy help shape a more responsible society?

### Small Circle Share

We will do a Small Circle Share where each student gets a chance to speak. Share one takeaway or a quote from the memorial or videos that stayed with you and listen respectfully as others share theirs.



**If you are interested in learning more about Oklahoma’s history and youth leadership, consider applying to the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum Teen Board, which allows students to engage deeply with the memorial and their community**

## Becoming Agents of Change

**Age Level:** 11th and 12th grade

**Purpose:** Analyzing the impact of domestic terrorism, civic responsibility, and preventing hate

**Connection to the Memorial:** Discuss the broader implications of the bombing and how young leaders can promote peace and unity.

### At Home:

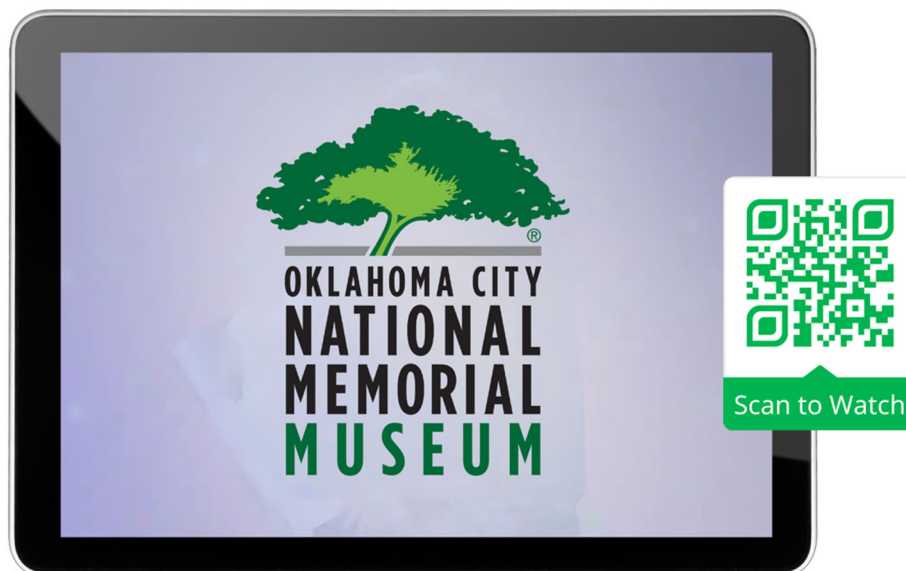
**Discussion Topics:**

- What does it mean to be resilient?
- How do you think people find hope after something tragic?
- What do you think the Survivor Tree symbolizes?

**Overview Story**

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## At the Memorial and Museum:

**Leader Notes:** In the Outdoor Symbolic Memorial, please maintain age-appropriate content and emphasize the senselessness of violence.

**Symbol Hunt:** This is a space for reflection, observation, and respect. As you move through the memorial, your goal is to notice symbols and think about what they might represent.

Symbol Name	Where It's Found	What It Represents	How It Makes Me Feel	Why It's Important



**Scavenger Hunt:**

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Something that Made You Feel Hope		
A Personal Story from a Survivor		
A Memorial or Tribute		
An Image or Photograph that Stood Out		
A Moment of Unity or Solidarity		



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- How can hardship shape people without defining them?
- What values guide your decisions when no one is watching?
- How can listening be just as powerful as speaking?

### Open Discussion

- What does being an agent of change mean to you?
- Which memorial element most influenced your think, and why?
- How can remembering tragedy shape ethical leadership?

### Small Circle Share

We will do a Small Circle Share where each student gets a chance to speak. Share one takeaway or a quote from the memorial or videos that stayed with you and listen respectfully as others share theirs.



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