

Rising Together Answer Key

1. People felt fear, sadness, confusion, and eventually hope and unity.
2. Communities donated blood, comforted one another, held vigils, and offered help.
3. The flag represented strength, unity, and pride during difficult times.
4. The author wants readers to see how compassion and courage can grow from tragedy.
5. Such days remind people to value peace, honor heroes, and stay united.
6. Answers will vary - examples: helping classmates, showing respect, volunteering, or writing thank-you notes.

Teacher's Guide

- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - **Grades 5-6:** Read the passage aloud and discuss difficult vocabulary (e.g., *vigil*, *unity*, *compassion*).
 - **Grades 7-8:** Have students annotate the text, identifying examples of courage and community.
 - **Grades 9-12:** Extend by asking students to connect the passage to other moments of national unity or resilience.
- **Extension Activities:**
 - Write a poem titled "*Stronger Together*."
 - Research how different communities across the U.S. responded to 9/11.
 - Design a classroom Patriot Day poster featuring symbols of unity and remembrance.