**Memorials and Monuments in the Classroom-borrowed from Facing History and Ourselves**

Any investigation into the stories behind memorials and monuments can yield exciting opportunities for teachers and students to design, build and interpret their own creations. After establishing an understanding of the potential power of memorials and monuments, teachers and students construct their own personal monuments or memorials. In many cases, a series of essential questions are posed:

**What would you like people to feel or think about when they visit the monument that you are designing?**

**Who is it built for? What will be the audience?**

**What message will it convey? What point of view will it assume?**

**Is it possible to create a "neutral" monument, or is remembering inherently an act of selection and the expression of a point of view?**

**How can your monument be most effective in connecting the public to the point in the past that you have chosen to remember?**

In other cases, a class may come together to brainstorm and discuss what comes to mind when students hear the word "monument". They can discuss how monuments have changed over time, how they reflect the values of a particular segment of society, and how they speak to what a society wants to communicate about itself.

Ultimately, students explore the challenges facing individuals and groups who choose to remember an event, and idea, or acts of great heroism.

This section of this module will feature student created memorials and monuments projects.