

Brave Hearts Answer Key

1. People celebrate Memorial Day to honor soldiers who died serving their country.
2. He dreamed of making a difference and helping others.
3. He rescued his injured teammates during a dangerous mission.
4. They visited his grave, placed flowers, and shared stories about him.
5. The story teaches that freedom requires courage and that heroes are remembered through their actions.

Quick Tips for Differentiation:

- **Grades 3-5:** Read aloud as a class; use guided discussion for comprehension.
- **Grades 6-8:** Have students write a short paragraph about a hero they admire.
- **Grades 9-12:** Assign a reflective essay linking the passage's theme to modern-day examples of service.

Engagement Ideas:

- Invite students to create a "Memorial Wall" of paper poppies or stars with names of heroes.
- Play soft patriotic music during reflection time to build atmosphere.
- Encourage students to share personal or family traditions that honor service members.

Extension Ideas:

- Research a local hero or veteran and create a one-page biography.
- Compare Memorial Day to other holidays of remembrance around the world.
- Write a thank-you letter to a veteran, focusing on appreciation and understanding of sacrifice.