

Name _____

Defenders of Freedom Answer Key

1. **The Army**
2. **The Air Force**
3. **Search and rescue missions** (or saving people lost at sea/law enforcement).
4. **Aircraft carriers**
5. They are trained to fight on both **land and sea** (and are often the first to arrive).

Teacher Guide

This worksheet introduces students to the structure of the U.S. Armed Forces, emphasizing the distinct roles each branch plays in protecting the nation.

- **Engagement Tips**
 - Use the "Who am I?" game: Read a description of a mission (e.g., "I am helping a stranded boat near Florida") and have students shout out the correct branch.
 - Mention the **Space Force** as an "extra" sixth branch created recently (2019) to show how the military grows with technology.
- **Differentiation for Grades 4-5**
 - Ask students to write a paragraph about which branch they find most interesting and why, using at least two facts from the text.
 - Have students compare the Navy and the Coast Guard: both work on water, but how are their daily jobs different?
- **Extension Ideas**
 - **Map Skills:** Have students look at a map of the United States and identify where the Coast Guard might be most active versus where a large Army base might be located.
 - **Career Research:** Let students look up one specific job within a branch, such as a "Navy Diver" or an "Army Engineer," to see the variety of roles available.