

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Heroes in the Sky

By Kelly Hashway



Jason picked up a model helicopter on his grandfather's desk. "This is cool," he said, spinning the blade on top.

His grandfather walked over and took the helicopter in his hand. He looked at it for a moment without saying a word. "It's a Huey. I flew one just like it in Vietnam."

"You mean the Vietnam War, Grandpa Bill?" Jason asked. He knew his grand-

Grandpa Bill said, his voice quiet.

"Did you help wounded soldiers, too?" Jason asked. He remembered his history teacher saying something about the helicopters airlifting casualties to medical facilities.

Grandpa Bill nodded again, but then he smiled. Jason had never seen him



## Preview

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Grandpa Bill was a war veteran. The reason why he didn't like to talk about the war was because it had been frightening. "Were you scared?" Jason asked, looking into Grandpa Bill's eyes.

"Of course. But I had a very important job in the Huey. I had to escort troops for the Army and Marines. The Huey became a symbol of the U.S. forces in Vietnam,"

did at that time."

Jason reached for the model Huey. "I'd really like it if you'd tell me more about your time in Vietnam. And not just about the helicopters or the places you've been to. I want to know what it was like to fight for your country, to risk your life to save others. I want to know what it feels like to be a hero."

Grandpa Bill shook his head. "There you go, using that word again."

"Because you are a hero, Grandpa."

Grandpa Bill wiped a tear from his eye and began telling Jason about his time in Vietnam.



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1. What did Grandpa Bill do in the Vietnam War?
  - a. He was a helicopter pilot.
  - b. He fixed helicopters.
  - c. He gave medicine to wounded soldiers.
  - d. He made maps of Vietnam.
  
2. Why didn't Jason's grandfather like to talk about the Vietnam War?



**Preview**  
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the printable version of this worksheet.

4. What did Grandpa Bill do in the Vietnam War?
  - a. He killed many people.
  - b. He could operate a machine gun.
  - c. He took risks to save and protect other people.
  - d. He knew a lot about helicopters.
  
5. What did Grandpa Bill mean when he said, "By the end of the war, the Army had an Air Force of their own?"
  - a. The Army had beaten the air force.
  - b. The Army had many helicopters.
  - c. The Air Force gave equipment to the army.
  - d. The Air Force and the Army worked together.

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Fill in the missing letters to create words from the story.  
Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure to spell each  
word correctly.



1. \_\_\_\_\_ l i \_\_\_\_\_ o \_\_\_\_\_ t \_\_\_\_\_ r

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**clue:** aircraft with a large spinning blade  
on top



**Preview**  
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the printable version of this worksheet.

4. v \_\_\_\_\_ t e \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**clue:** person who served in the military

5. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ a p \_\_\_\_\_ n s

5. \_\_\_\_\_

**clue:** things that are used to harm  
other people, such as guns

6. \_\_\_\_\_ e r \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

**clue:** person who is honored for being  
brave for doing something outstanding

## ANSWER KEY

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1. What did Grandpa Bill do in the Vietnam War?

- a. He was a helicopter pilot.**
- b. He fixed helicopters.
- c. He gave medicine to wounded soldiers.
- d. He made maps of Vietnam.

2. Why didn't Jason's grandfather like to talk about the Vietnam War?

*It was a frightening experience for him.*



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Fill in the missing letters to create words from the story. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure to spell each word correctly.



1. h e l i c o p t e r

1. helicopter

**clue:** aircraft with a large spinning blade on top

A cartoon superhero with brown hair, wearing a blue suit and a red cape, flying through a blue sky with white clouds. The superhero has a shield on his chest with the letters 'MJS' on it.

# Preview

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4. v e t e r a n

4. veteran

**clue:** person who served in the military

5. w e a p o n s

5. weapons

**clue:** things that are used to harm other people, such as guns

6. h e r o

6. hero

**clue:** person who is honored for being brave for doing something outstanding