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READY FOR MILITARY ACTION

Mighty Military Ships

Take a Stand

This book talks about the many conflicts that military ships have been involved with in history. It also talks about new ships that the navy is developing, some of them very expensive. Do you think that the military should keep spending money on new ships? Or should they concentrate on the ships they already have, even if they have to limit their activities? Write a short essay that explains your opinion. Give specific reasons for your opinion, and use real facts and details to support them.



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Tell the Tale

Chapter Two talks about the history of military ships and especially how important they were during World War II. Write 200 words about what it might be like to be a soldier on a Higgins boat about to land on the beaches of France during D-day. Write it as a letter sent home to your family after the battle is over. What sights, sounds, and smells do you experience? What are you feeling? How do you feel about the planned invasion and being in the boat?



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Another View

This book has a lot of information about how military ships have been used in the past and how useful and important they still are. But every source is different. Ask an adult to help you find another source that might not see military ships in a positive way. Write a short essay comparing this other perspective with the one shown in this book. What is the point of view of the new source's author compared to that of the author of this book? How are they similar? How are they different?



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Dig Deeper

After reading this book, what questions do you still have about ships in the military? Do you want to know more about the ships from a particular time in US history? Or do you want to explore more about new technologies? Write down one or two specific questions that can guide you in doing research. With an adult's help, find a few reliable sources about military ships that can help you answer your questions. Write a few sentences about how you did your research and what you learned from it.



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