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# The U.S. Navy: Defenders of the Seas

The United States Navy is one of the five branches of the United States military. It plays a crucial role in protecting our country and ensuring the safety of the seas. Let's take a closer look at the U.S. Navy and its important missions.

## Early Beginnings

The U.S. Navy has a long and storied history. It was officially established on October 13, 1775, during the American Revolutionary War. The Continental Congress recognized the need for a naval force to protect American interests at sea. The first fleet consisted of small ships, but it laid the foundation for the modern U.S. Navy.



## Protecting Our Shores

One of the primary roles of the U.S. Navy is to protect the United States and its interests along the coasts and on the high seas. Navy ships are often deployed to ensure the safety of our shores and to respond to threats that may arise.

## Global Presence

The U.S. Navy is not limited to protecting American waters. It operates in various parts of the world, maintaining a global presence. This presence helps in promoting peace, supporting allies, and responding to crises and natural disasters.

## Aircraft Carriers and Ships

The U.S. Navy is known for its massive aircraft carriers, which are like floating cities with a fleet of airplanes. These carriers serve as mobile airbases and are a vital part of the Navy's capabilities. The Navy also operates various types of ships, including destroyers, submarines, and amphibious assault ships.

## Specialized Roles

The U.S. Navy has specialized units and roles, such as the Navy SEALs, who are highly trained in combat and often operate in missions requiring stealth and precision. These elite forces are skilled in a wide range of operations.



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### Humanitarian Missions

In addition to its military responsibilities, the U.S. Navy plays a significant role in humanitarian missions. Navy ships are often among the first responders to provide aid and relief during natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and tsunamis. They also support medical and humanitarian operations around the world.

### The Navy's Core Values

The U.S. Navy upholds a set of core values: honor, courage, and commitment. These values guide the behavior of sailors and officers in their service to the nation. They emphasize doing what is right, even in challenging situations.

The U.S. Navy is a vital part of our nation's defense and an important force for maintaining peace and security worldwide. Its sailors and officers work tirelessly to protect our shores, support our allies, and provide aid when needed. The U.S. Navy's commitment to duty, honor, and service is a source of pride for our nation.

1. What is the text structure of this passage? (circle all that apply)

description

cause and effect

compare and contrast

problem and solution

sequence

2. When did the U.S. Navy begin? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What is the main job of the U.S. Navy? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How does the U.S. Navy help during disasters? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

