



# GEAR UP WITH OUR FIREFIGHTERS

A Coloring & Activity Book



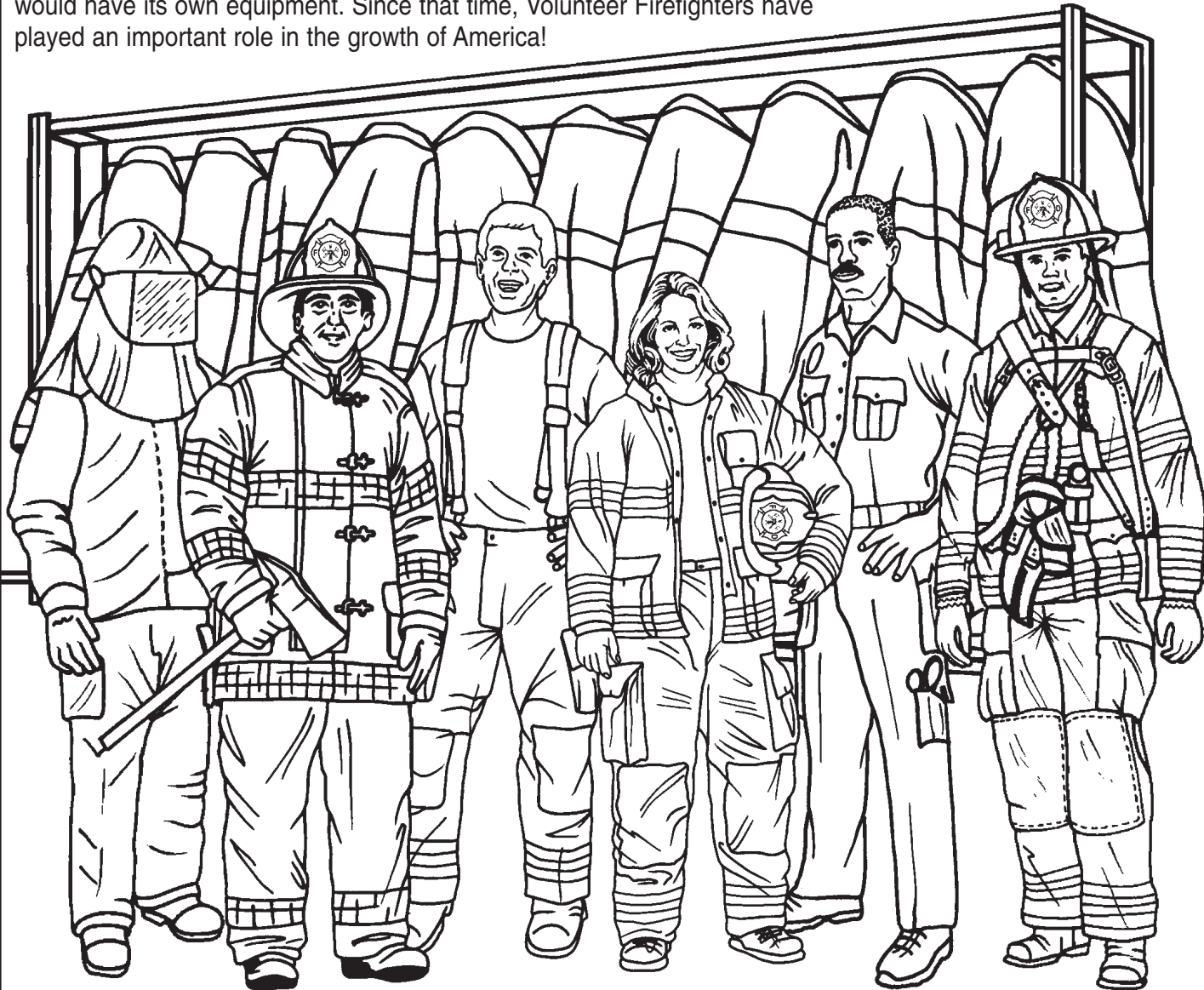




Benjamin Franklin, (1706-1790) was a great American citizen and patriot. He would go on to study electricity, write and print "Poor Richard's Almanac", invent bifocals and the Franklin stove, which still exists today! Franklin helped to draft the Declaration of Independence. He was a signer of both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution! A true American Patriot!

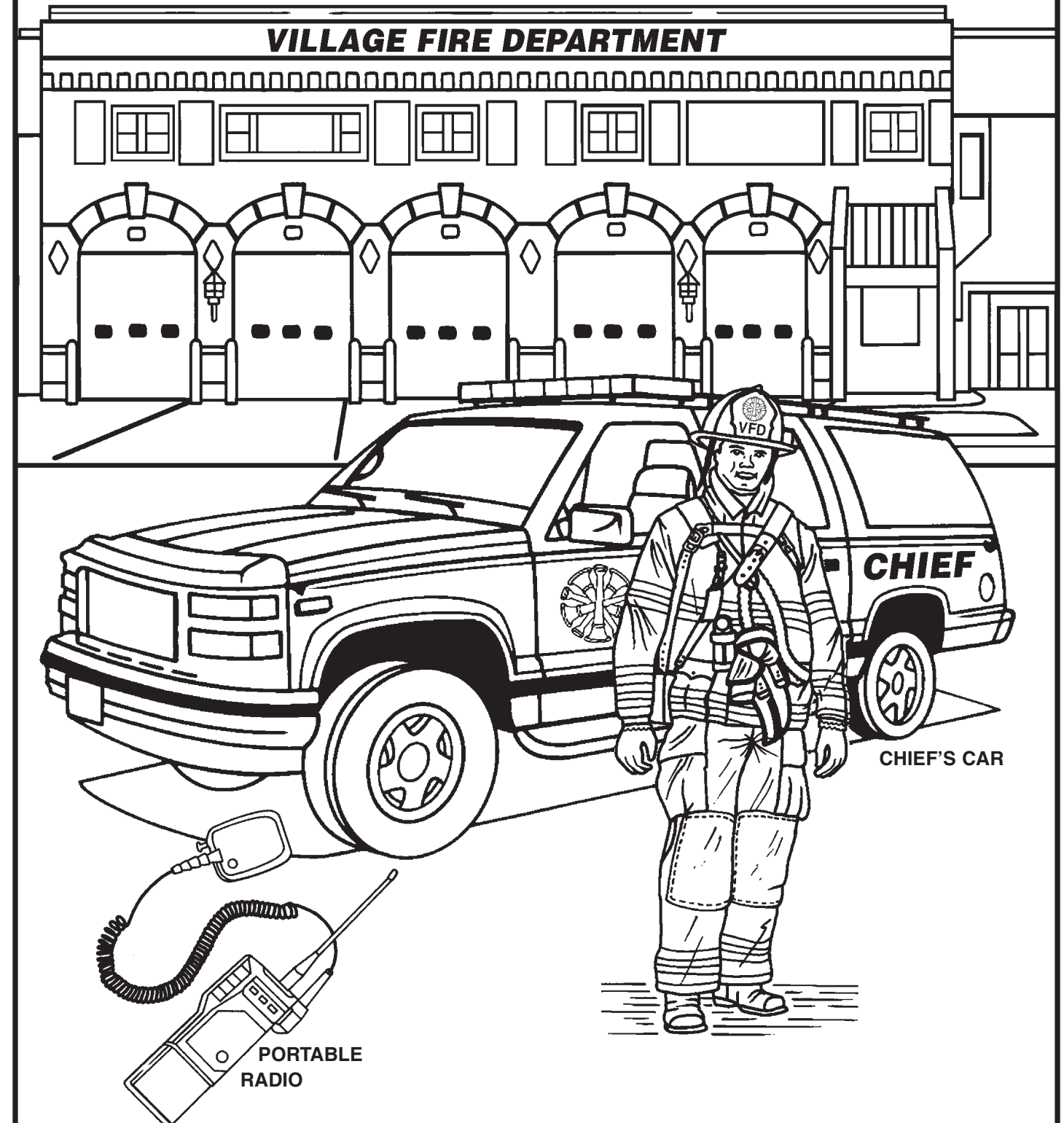
Before 1850, the United States had no fully paid, full-time firefighters. Ben Franklin wanted "organizations that would battle all fires." He organized the Union Fire Company in 1736. The members had to provide at least two buckets for the bucket brigade, along with cloth bags to carry rescued items. The original 25 members of the fire company met monthly to discuss firefighting methods and policies. The volunteer firefighting groups became very popular.

Franklin wanted different companies to be located throughout the town in vital places. Each company would have its own equipment. Since that time, Volunteer Firefighters have played an important role in the growth of America!



## UNIFORMS AND UNIFORM RACKS

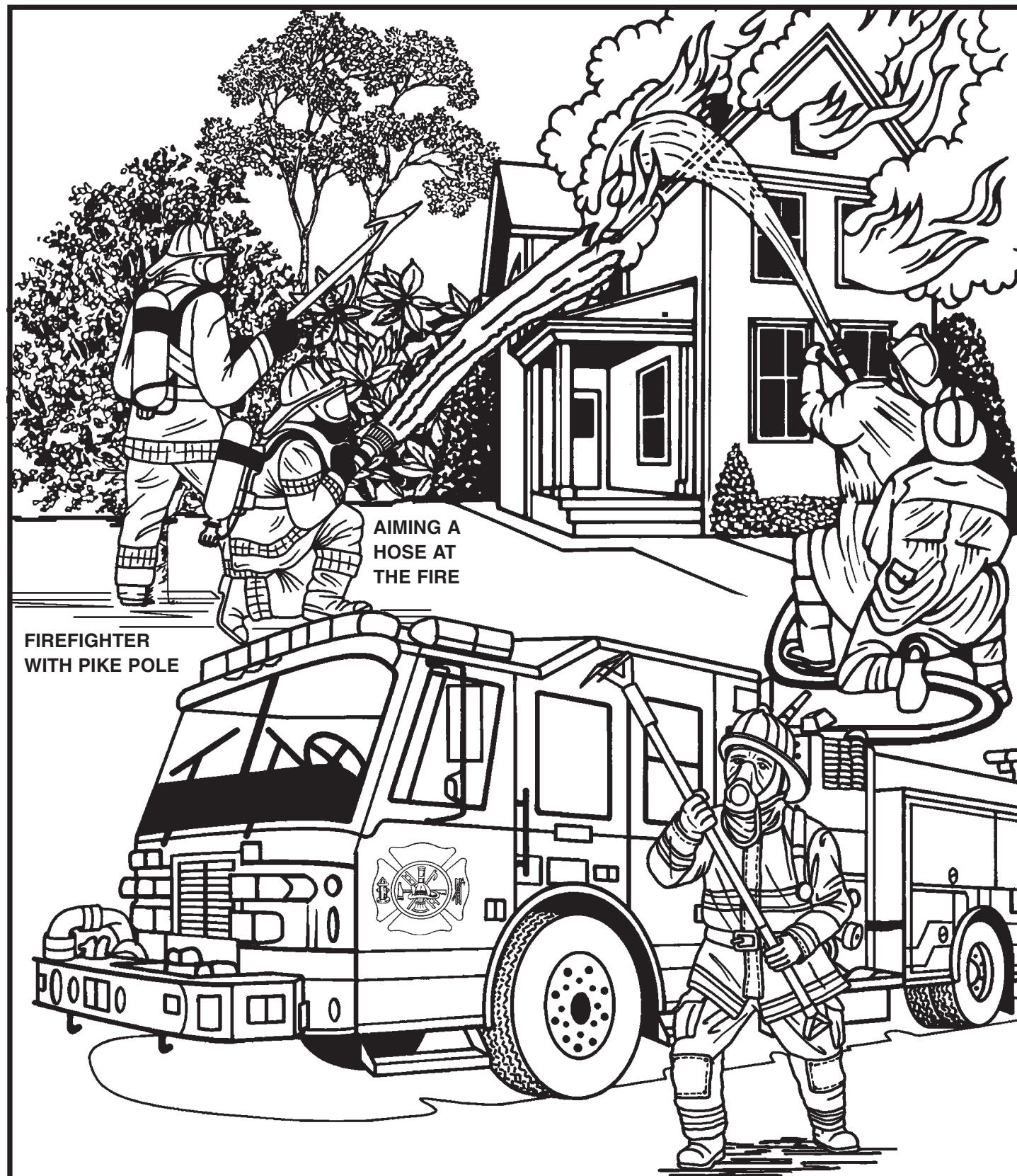
Firefighters have many different kinds of uniforms to fight the different kinds of fires they may face. They might have to fight a house fire, wildfire, car fire, oil spills, gasoline fire, and even airport crash fires! There are different uniforms, equipment and fire trucks to battle these different kinds of blazes!



## CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Chief is the top-ranking officer at the Fire Department. He is in charge of the men and women in his command. He oversees and directs the firefighters and EMT's at each fire and rescue call. The chief started as a firefighter and worked his way up to the rank of Chief. He is highly trained and has many responsibilities.





## FIRE ENGINES & PUMPERS

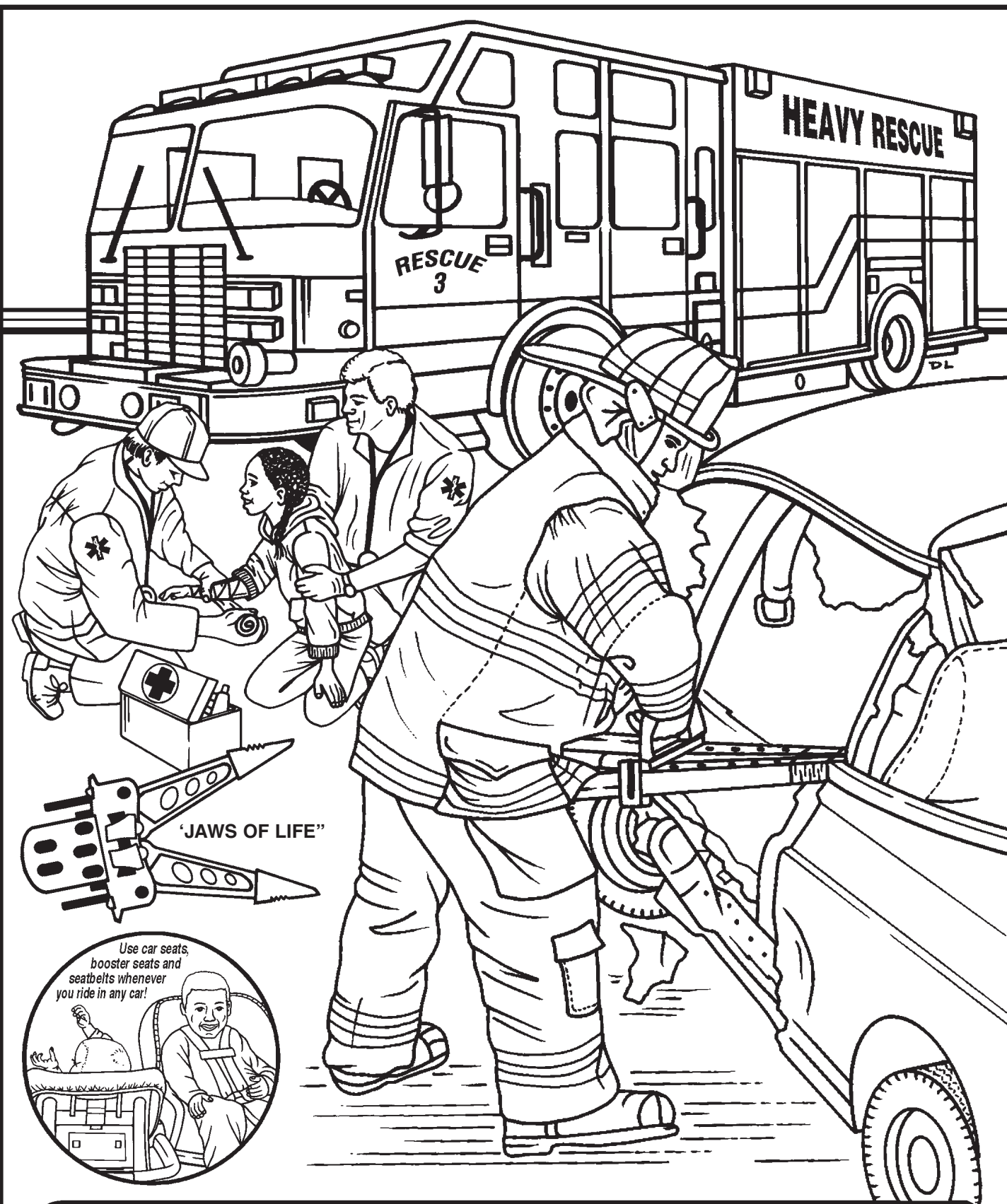
Engines and pumpers are fire trucks that are used to spray water on a fire. Sometimes they hook their hoses up to hydrants and then pump the water through hoses. The nozzle at the end of the hose can spray 1,000 gallons of water a minute! These trucks also carry firefighters and equipment to the scene.



## APARTMENT & OFFICE FIRES

Apartment and building fires are difficult to fight because they are so big and there may be many people trapped inside. Firefighters use trucks called Tower Ladders. These trucks have ladders that can reach the 8th floor. That's 100 feet high! Some reach even higher! The Chief directs the firefighters from his command vehicle.



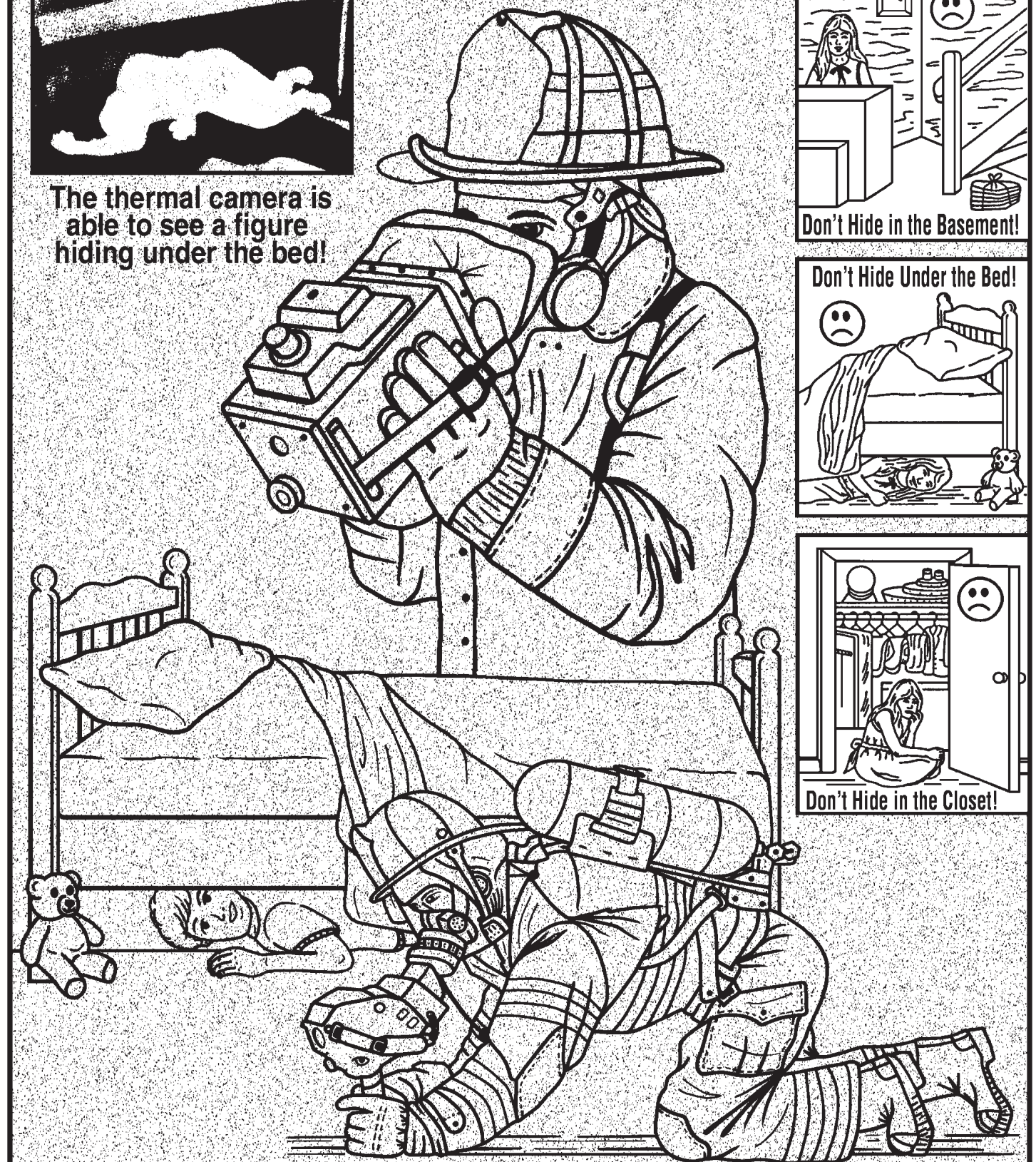


### THE “JAWS OF LIFE”

The “Jaws of Life” is a hydraulic tool that can cut open a car by spreading the metal apart! It works a bit like a giant can opener! This trained firefighter is using them to free a trapped driver and his passenger. EMT’s can then stabilize them both, put them in ambulances, and transport them to the hospital.



The thermal camera is able to see a figure hiding under the bed!

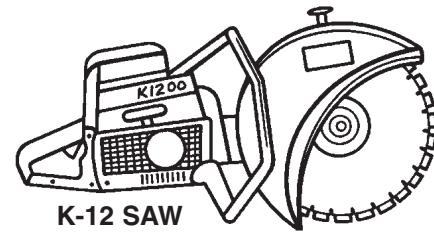


### THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS

Fires cause thick smoke as well as flames. There is “Zero Visibility” in a fire. This Firefighters is using a thermal imaging camera to look for a missing victim. The child is hiding under a bed, which is very dangerous! In a fire you must get outside quickly! Have practice fire drills by turning out the lights. Always crawl low under smoke.



AIRPLANES DROP WATER OR CHEMICALS TO STOP THE WILDFIRE



K-12 SAW



TREE LIMB SAW

DIGGING A TRENCH  
WITH A SHOVEL TO  
STOP THE FIRE FROM  
JUMPING THAT LINE.

## WILDFIRES

Wildfires occur in forests, parkland and grasslands. They usually begin when lightning hits a dry brush area or strikes a tree. Unfortunately, people cause many wildfires through careless use of cigarettes and camping equipment. Specially trained firefighters use special equipment and trucks designed to fight these fires.

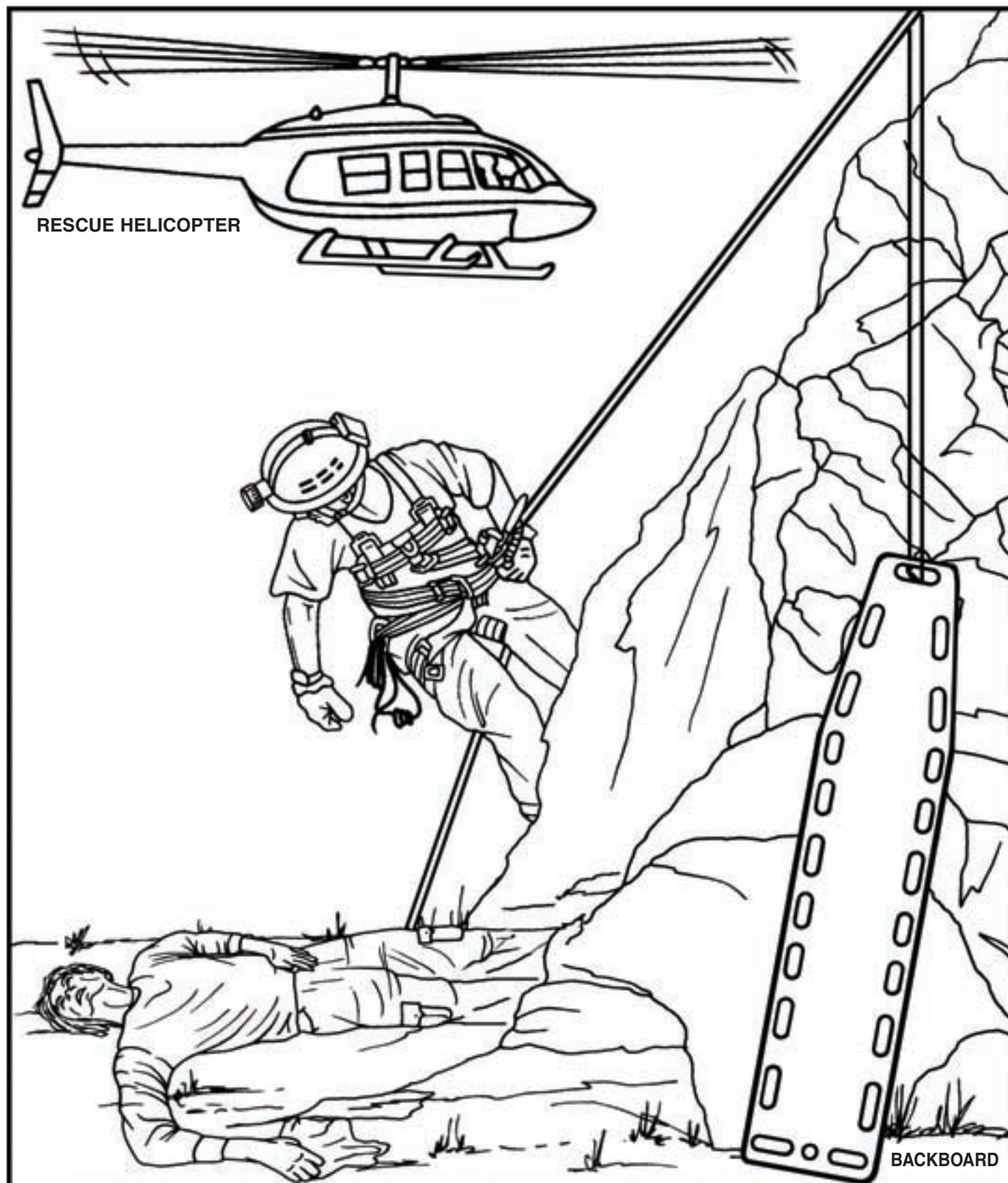


AIRPORT  
CRASH  
TRUCK

## AIRPORT CRASH RESCUE TRUCKS

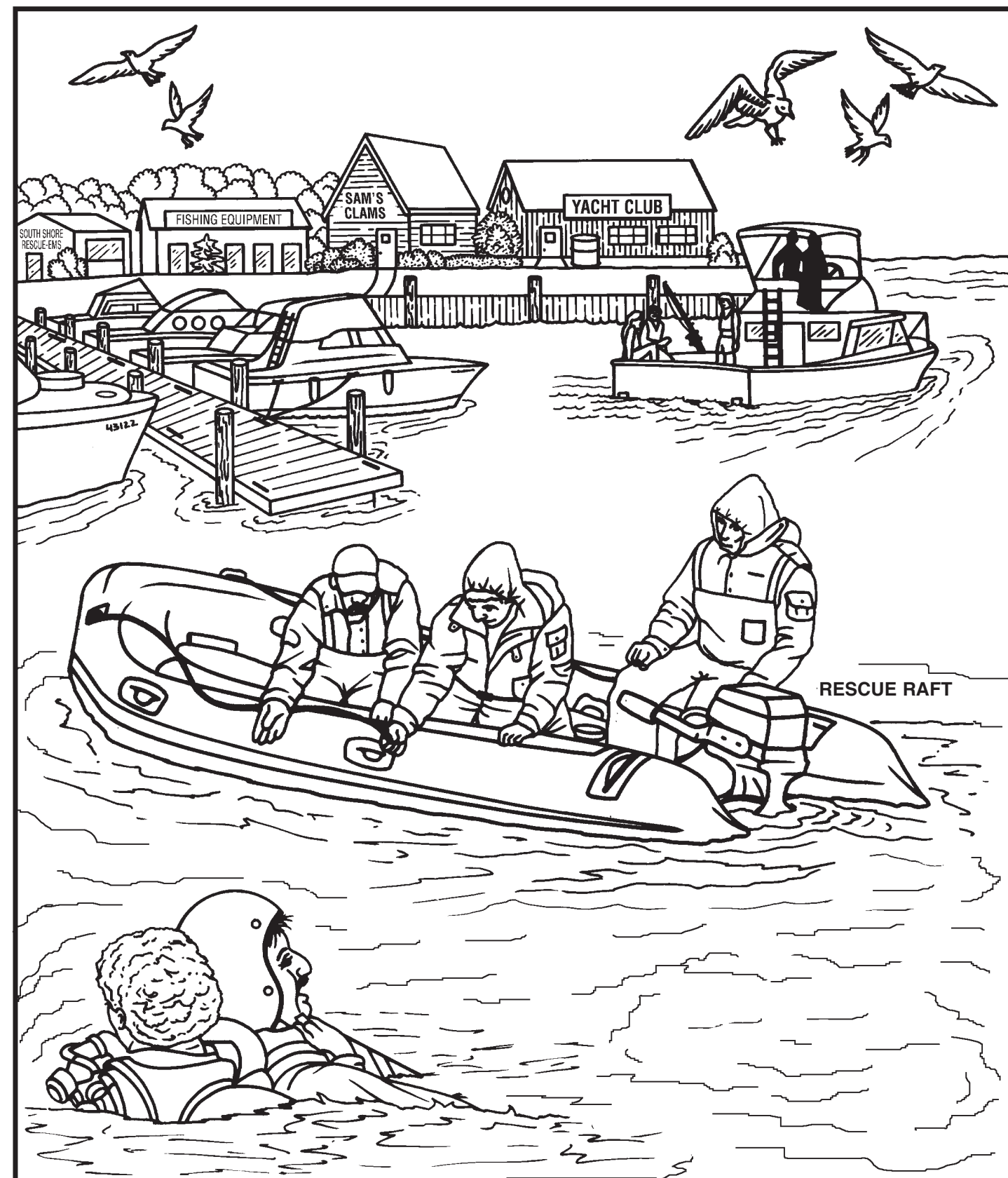
Airport Crash Trucks are extremely powerful! Even though they are big and very heavy, they are fast and can travel over rough terrain outside the airport. These trucks carry large tanks to carry either water or a fire fighting foam. They also have powerful pumps to spread the water or foam over long distances.





### EMERGENCY RESCUE & EVACUATIONS

Some Firefighters and EMT's are trained in search and rescue. Harnesses, ropes, and backboards are special pieces of equipment that are used to rescue people that are lost or injured in forests, ski slopes and mountains. Helicopters can rescue the injured and fly them to the hospital. This hiker is being rescued. He will be OK!



### SCUBA GEAR & WATER RESCUE

Boats are used to rescue people that have been in a water accidents. Here, a diver in scuba gear is rescuing a fisherman that fell overboard. Once the fisherman is on board the rescue boat, the EMT's stabilize him. He will go to a hospital for a check-up. He is cold, but will be back with his family tonight!



