

Children's Books

for young children in military families



Children's books are such a great way to help children deal with change – and military life certainly has plenty of that! Here are some books that can help young children deal with different changes that might occur in their families. **The books in blue** have a specific military theme and include characters in military families. Others are recommended because of how well they deal with emotions from a child's perspective. Even though the situation doesn't involve a military element, children will relate to the emotions of the situation. Most of these will be appropriate for children **aged 2 to 5** unless otherwise indicated. A link to a site where each book can be ordered is embedded in the books title for convenience; it does not reflect endorsement of the merchant.

Relocating: Preparing

- [Goodbye House](#) by Frank Asch
- [Moving House](#) by Anne Civardi
- [Mouse Moves House](#) by Phil Roxbee Cox
- [Will I Have a Friend?](#) by Miriam Cohen

Relocating: Adapting

- [Augustine](#) by Melanie Watt
- [I Love You All Day Long](#) by Francesca Rusackas

Military Life

- [Love Spots](#) by Karen Panier
- [My Mommy Wears Combat Boots](#) by S. McBride
- [Captain Cat](#) by Syd Hoff
- [H is for Honor: A Military Family Alphabet](#) by Devin Scillian
- [Hero Dad](#) by Melinda Hardin
- [My Sailor Dad](#) by Ross Mackenzie
- [My Daddy is a Guardsman](#) by Kirk Hilbrecht
- [My Mommy is a Guardsman](#) by Kirk Hilbrecht
- [Don't Forget, God Bless Our Troops](#) by Dr. Jill Biden

Deployment/Separation

- [Lily Hates Goodbyes](#) by Jerilyn Marler
- [Dear Baby, I'm Watching Over You](#) by Carol Casey
- [Night Catch](#) by Brenda Ehrmantraut
- [Boo Boo Bear's Mission: The True Story of a Teddy Bear's Adventures in Iraq](#) by Mary Linda Sather
- [We Serve, Too!](#) by Kathleen Edick
- [Sammy's Soldier](#) by Sarah White
- [A Paper Hug](#) (age 4+) by Stephanie Skolmoski
- [Bearable Moments](#) (age 4+) by Christopher Judd
- [Stars Above Us](#) by Geoffrey Norman (age 4+)
- [Sometimes We Were Brave](#) (age 5+) by Pat Brisson
- [When Daddy Goes Away](#) (age 5+) by Kristie Algeo
- [A Year Without Dad](#) (age 5+) by Judi Brunson
- [I Miss You: A Military Kid's Book About Deployment](#) (age 7+) by Beth Andrews
- [Love, Lizzie: Letters to a Military Mom](#) (ages 7+) by Lisa Tucker McElroy
- [Pilot Mom](#) (age 7+) by Kathleen Benner Duble
- [The Wishing Tree](#) (age 7+) by Mary Redman
- [The Kissing Hand](#) by Audrey Penn
- [The Invisible String](#) by Patrice Karst

Homecoming

- [Home Again](#) by Dorinda Williams
- [When Daddy Comes Home](#) (age 5+) by Kristie Algeo

Activity Books

- [My Dad's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Book for Young Children](#) (age 4-9) by Julie LaBelle
- [My Mom's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Book for Young Children](#) (age 4-9) by Julie LaBelle

Strong Emotions

- [When I Feel Sad](#) by Cornelia Spelman
- [No Matter What](#) by Debi Gliori
- [My Many Colored Days](#) by Dr. Seuss
- [The Way I Feel](#) by Janan Cain

Death of a Parent

- [The Hero in My Pocket](#) (age 5+) by Marlene Lee
- [Klinger: A Story of Honor and Hope](#) (age 7+) by Betsy Beard
- [Love Never Stops: A Memory Book for Children](#) (age 4+) by Emilio Parga
- [The Tenth Good Thing about Barney](#) (age 5+) by Judith Viorst

Child care professionals: More resources, info and opportunities to learn and connect are available from the **Military Families Learning Network!** Visit our project page to find out more.

<http://blogs.extension.org/militaryfamilies/child-care/>

This list is not intended to be exhaustive and is not an endorsement of any book. This material is based upon work supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Office of Family Policy, Children and Youth, U.S. Department of Defense under Award No. 2009-48667-05833.