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**Annie**

Write a message to your graduate in this space. You can write up to a maximum of 20 words.

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**Congratulate a 2026 grad!**

Our annual Grad Tab highlighting Pacific DODEA high schools and their graduating classes will appear in the May 22 edition of Stripes Japan.

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**Celebrating Month of the Military Child**

**CHANGING PERSPECTIVES**

Changing schools.  
 Changing friends.  
 Changing houses.  
 Changing cars.  
 Changing routines.

The military is full of changes that not only service members have to go through, but also their families.

A military child's life is full of changes, but not all are bad. Changing currencies. Changing countries. Changing cultural foods. Changing environments.

The same way the seasons change everything about a military child's life could to and in the blink of an eye.

All of these changes could be good if you just look at it the right way. Changing perspectives.

By Emma Whitead, 9th Grade, M.C. Perry High School

**SETTING MY COURSE ABROAD**

Next to an empty chair, I gaze at the gate where the jetway waits. My body feels dense, Full with the burden I'm forced to carry

"Group 3 passengers to begin boarding"

The friends, families, memories Gone, in an instant flash. Pass scanned, new plans.

I have to board, Setting my course abroad.

By Ferdinand Hernandez, 9th Grade, M.C. Perry High School

**PURPLE PEOPLE**

Floating through the air  
 Purple Flowers Everywhere  
 Always Strong and Brave

By Mikai Rossiter, 9th Grade, M.C. Perry High School

**NEVER FORGET**

Move from place to place  
 Make memories at each stop  
 Never forget why

By Samantha Pardue, 9th Grade, M.C. Perry High School

Grad Dlya

Read more military children stories inside!

Drawing by Oona Vanbianchi, 9th Grade, M.C. Perry High School

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# CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD SOLLARS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

5th Grade • Mr. North



**By Leo C.**

When I moved away to Japan it was hard because I had to move away from most of my family. But I think it was good to move here only because I made some of my greatest friends. These friends helped me get through all sorts of challenges. I've only moved to Japan as a Military child. I am proud of helping some friends and people as a military child. That's almost all I did as a military child but I still have another year to go.



**By Jackson J.**

Something that makes being a Military Child special is being able to move around and see so many new places while moving.

For example during my move from Nebraska to Montana it was fun because I got to go to Mount Rushmore on the way. Then when I got there I found some new friends on the way.



**By Lainie J.**

Being a military child is not easy. Military children have hard lives. I will go over some of my challenges that I had being a military child.

When I was 7 I left Kentucky and then I went to Japan (fun fact I lived there for around 7 years) I also had to leave my childhood crush that I had a good crush on (shout out Connor my childhood crush) My sister though she took it a lot harder she had to leave so many friendships and one of them she was happy to. She has lots of friends. Me on the other hand I did not, but I didn't need to because I always believed that Ellie, my sister, would play with me if I'm lonely. (but that's how they took a term and I moved here now she shuts herself in her room for literally half of the day.)

If my dad didn't take the teaching job here I would have never met my best friend! (shout out to Brooke my best friend) And I would have probably not been here right now! He took the job anyway. I'm happy he did because I wouldn't have met my all of my best friends sadly they left. (and fun fact about me I didn't know Japan was a thing until I moved here) If you wouldn't have took the job I would have never have tried this beautiful food and it's beautiful restaurant called hama sushi is my favorite. And I wouldn't never have been to this awesome place called The Air and Space Museum it's awesome.

There are so many more things that I could have mentioned that are super cool about being a military child. I am very happy that I am a military child.

**By Carver S.**

What makes my life special as a Military Kid are the places that I have lived and the friends I have had. I think it is better being a Military Kid because you move every 3 years and non Military Kids do not move so often or maybe do not move at all. A challenge that I have worked through is moving to a place that I did not know if I would like but did like it. I have liked all the places I have liked that I have lived. If I was not a Military Kid I would not have not done the things I have done or had all the different food I have eaten and the things I have done. This is what makes my life as a military kid special.



**By Giovanni E.**

Being a military child is not easy. Like when one of your parents leaves for a long time. There are pros and cons about being a military child. And life can be hard too.

The pros about being a military child is that you get so many privileges that other people don't have. Like traveling to lots of places or trying a lot of new things. For example when I moved to Japan it was so cool. Some places and things I thought were interesting. It was good. You can get a lot of things from a lot of places you've been to.

The cons about being a military child is when your parents leave. For the parent thing it was my dad. He left to go to work for a long time. It felt different around the house when my dad left. It was stressful for my mom, a mother of 4 including me.

Then one day it struck me. My dad told me that we were leaving for Japan. I forgot why we went. The day I left I had to leave all of my memories behind. I left on the day of Sunday and went to At first thought of all my memories while I was on the plane to Tokyo. When I got off the plane I was tired and felt like I had been on that plane for decades. Then we had to take another plane to Misawa. It wasn't long either because I fell asleep on the plane. When I got off the plane ride, I saw Misawa for the first time. When I got a good glimpse of Misawa I knew that my future was going to be great.



**By Meridian C.**

The reason I like being a Military Child is having and meeting such wonderful friends. There are a lot of really nice people I would have never met if I weren't a Military Child. Although they do move away after a few years, I'm very grateful for how nice everyone was.

Also, I love all the support! Everyone is always nice and has never treated me differently for being a Military Child.

Another thing I love about being a Military Child is free medication. I don't know if all children who are military Kids get free medication, but I'm appreciative that I never get seriously hurt.

Even though being a Military Child is hard at times, like losing friends, parents going on work trips faraway, not being able to access everything, all the benefits that come with it are super amazing and worth it. Can't wait to keep exploring!

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**By Reyna C.**

My life being a Military child is special because I get to move, and I get to meet new people and it is also so fun to try new things. It can just be very hard because you meet new people and then you have to leave. For example, I met my best friend Selena but the sad thing is in a few months I will have to PCS. The saddest thing is if I hadn't met Selena I would still be the sad alone girl but once I became BFF's with Selena I was so happy I wasn't so sad anymore thanks to Selena. Now let me tell you how sad it is when you have to say goodbye. First when you live with your family for 9 years and have to say good bye. When my mom told me that we were moving I cried. I just felt so sad, mad and a lot more emotions so that day I ran to my nana and I told how much I was going to miss her. At the time I was scared that if something happened to my grandparents well I was gone. The day we were moving my grandparents took me and my mom to the airport and I thought I wasn't going to cry but then came the time to say goodbye. I knew that it was going to be hard but I didn't think that hard.

When I said bye to my grandpa I was fine but then I had to say goodbye to my nana just seeing her and my mom cry just made me cry because I was leaving my home town and my family. When I went back to security I was crying a lot I didn't want to go. Now you know why it is fun to be a military child but how hard it can be at the same time.

Hopefully you learned how fun and hard being a military child can be.



**By Hunter G**

Something that makes my life special as a military child is the friends I have. My friends are funny because we have the same interests in video games which leads us to having similar humors. I also have good memories with friends like when Jayden's little sister knocked me out with a belt and also when my friends and I made a game to play at recess too. Friends are one of many perks of being a military child.

**By Cameron T.**

One thing special about being a Military Child is that you get to travel to cool places like Japan. Another thing special about being a Military Child is that you meet nice people along the way. You could also leave nice people because being a Military Child means you have to PCS. Being a Military Child is special because you can also go through cool, tough, and easy challenges. An example of a tough challenge is that your mom or dad might have to go somewhere because of being in the military.



**By Charlton W.**

Being a military child is sometimes not easy, because you have to live far away from family, move away from your best friend, make new friends, get used to new teachers, and live in places that don't even speak your language. For me, the hardest challenge is being far away from family. One side of my family only lives 20 minutes away from each other. The shortest distance I have ever lived from my family is 7 hours. Even when we were that close we only visited them 3 times a year.

Even though there's lots of sad things about being a military child, there are way more better things than worse, like making new friends, visiting cool places, meeting people who have come from amazing places, living in a safe environment, getting amazing teachers, and getting to see new cultures. One thing I love is meeting new people. I made a friend named Collin who would stick with me no matter what I did. There was another friend named Kai who taught me how to do amazing tricks on the trampoline and always encouraged me to keep going no matter how hard things got. Sadly both these friends moved. There's another friend named Jack who always makes me feel special. One time, when we were voting who should get a SOAR award, Jack yelled out "Charlie for president", and one time in the cafeteria he started chanting "Charlie for president." There are other kids who do this and I am so grateful for them. There's lots of other people that made me who I am, but if I name all of them and what they did I would be writing for days.

The other thing that I love about being a military child is visiting cool places. I have been to Arizona, Italy, California, New Mexico, and Japan. Each one has been unique in its own way. I don't remember Arizona or Italy because I was young. So I'll start with California, there were huge buildings and a huge school called Oxford. New Mexico was the hottest place I remember and the most desert. Last, but not least, Japan, I saw the most snow I have ever seen in my whole life.

In all, being a military child has its ups and downs. From meeting new people to visiting new places, but you have to stay away from family. In my opinion though I think it's amazing being a military child.



**By CeCe R.**

Our lives are special because we are Military Children. It might be hard because we lose friends but we can always make new ones. For me I moved away from my old school but when I got here I made a lot more friends.

Being a Military Child is also special because you get to make new friends and travel a lot. It is also hard sometimes because challenges can happen.



**By Mackenzie S.**

What makes my life special about being a Military Child is all the traveling. I got to live in places like Japan, where not many other kids get the privilege to do that. That's what makes it special.

It's also about the friends I make along the way, but that's also the hard part, leaving friends. I have met a lot of good people along the way like my besties in Illinois. Once I moved, it was hard without them, but when I moved I met my other bestie, Abby. Also when I moved, I got to go places. Not just places where I lived, places like Fiji and South Korea. Those places were amazing.

Going to other countries, meeting friends, and experiences are just some of the many privileges about being a Military Child. Being a Military Child is great. I am very thankful to be one.



**By Edmund W.**

What it means to be special to be a Military Child is very simple to explain what it means to be a Military Child. What it means to be a Military Child is to like to be a good person and one of your parents is in the Military to be a Military Child. It also means you're going to have parents TD'ing a lot.

There is a lot to talk about being a Military Child, there is a lot about being a Military Child to be special. Being a Military Child is difficult to explain so I'm going to talk about the stuff we need to cover so there is no time to waste, but first we need to talk about how to be a Military Child in the states. How to be a Military Child in the states is to live on base for 3 years and your parents to be in the military protecting people that are important to the people we love and care about!

Also being a Military Child is good because you're a great person to be a Military Child. How to be a Military Child in Japan is that your dad works in the Military to protect the people that we care about and love in Japan and the states are two perfect things to be a Military! I thank you all for reading this passage with me. I hope to enjoy it!

**By Jammer R.**

What makes my life special as being a Military Kid is that we travel around the world. We travel the world because we can only stay in the states for 3 or more years until you go somewhere else. Another thing is I have good friends because of traveling. I can make new friends because I have to when I PCS. When I move I'm really gonna miss my three friends, Auto, Duiya. And Keisho.



**By Brooke O.**

Being a Military Child is very hard. Every few years I move, and every few years I have to say goodbye to a friend. But every year, I get to go to new places and do new things.

There was a girl named Logan that I've known since 3rd grade. But last year she moved away, and it was really tough to watch her go. And in just a few months, I have to move to Germany and leave all my friends that live here in Japan. I also have to pack up all my stuff and live off of suitcases for a month, and spend 8 hours in an airplane.

When I'm moving though, I get to go visit all my family in America. And when I get to Germany, I can see new sights and explore new places. I'm super excited to go to Germany because I've never been there before! It's close to a lot of amazing things like the Eiffel Tower and a lot of castles! And it gives me the opportunity to eat new foods, learn a new language and explore new places!

Being a Military Child can be tough sometimes, but I like it much better than living in the same place and knowing the same people my entire life! Moving can be super fun, and it also builds resilience. I'm proud to be a Military Child!



**By Liam M.**

One of the toughest things about being a military child is leaving. At first, I liked leaving because I didn't really like where I previously lived. It wasn't so fun, and over here I could just make more friends in Japan, but it isn't the same usually after school. I would go hang out with my friends, but he isn't here, or I would go play games with them, but they aren't here, and another thing is when you move away, you could just play with them online, but eventually you will grow apart or get caught up in school life as a military child is never easy it can be fun a good way to think of it is that you will see those friends again in a different country people have been before but not everyone has always gotten luck. That's all I have to say, other than I don't like jet lag. Thank you for reading this. Goodbye.

**By John M.**

The two things that make my life special as a military child are my house and my friends. The reason why my house makes me special is because I can have a place to live and a place to stay and eat and eat and I can do anything I want at home.

The second thing that makes my life special is that I also made friends along the way and I did like the life of a military kid and I made more friends along the way when I was in America for 5 years.

The third reason why my life is special is my family because I get to spend time with them and my close friends while I'm going to special activities if I meet them and spend time with them.

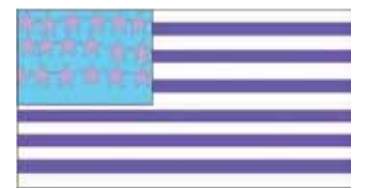
The other reason why I like being a military child is because I like going out with my family to other places with my family and friends.

The last reason why my military kid life is special is because my cousin visits me a lot and I like to spend time with him and I also like to go out with him to the stores and go to a lot of places with him and I like when he visits me and I like to visit him on the holidays if I can do or sometimes he visits me instead because he likes to see me a lot and he likes to play with me.



**By Siwon L.**

My life makes me special as a military child because first of all I get a lot of benefits. Like the military gym and indoor playground, because military people don't have to pay for the gyms and indoor playgrounds. But Non-military people have to pay for gyms and indoor playgrounds off base, and that's the good part. But the bad part is that you have to make new friends every few years, and the good thing is that you get to make a lot of different friends with different personalities. And also when you're a military child you get to travel around the world. There are a lot of pros and cons when you're a military child but I like it more as a military child.



**By Sora**

My life as a military kid is special because I can travel to new places and make new friends. Sometimes I don't want to be a military kid because my dad has to go on a ship and go to work for about 2-3 months. When my dad is gone I feel very sad and. I like trying new things. Even though I only went to Japan and the States, it was very fun.

**By Landon N.**

Something that makes my life special is moving. I have been to places that people can't in a lifetime. I have been to Italy, Ireland, Japan, Israel, Germany, Arizona, California, and Venice. Being a military child isn't just about moving or visiting places, it's also about the great friends you make along the way like Hunter, Leo, Logan, Xander, Coopyr. Not only friends but great teachers like Mrs. Cooper and Mr. North. Being a military child isn't all good. The hardest parts are not seeing my dad as much as I want to see him and other friends moving and the work hours for my parents. The biggest challenge is my dad is retiring soon. I don't know any other life except living overseas and moving. It is going to be hard. A change, but being a military child has prepared me. So when it's time for my dad to retire I'm ready for the change.

**By Jensen 16**

This month is Military Child Month. Some things that make me feel special about being a military child are being able to move to places I have never been to, like Germany, Misawa, and North Carolina. Some things that make me proud are making friends and going through hard times like losing friends because I have to PCS, and moving to new schools with new people.



**By Afua N.**

My life as a Military Child is special because I can travel more and try new things. Japan has a lot of fun things and food like yakisoba and Disneyland. I can also make lots of friends. I moved to England when I was only 5 so I didn't really understand moving. When I moved 4 years later, I missed my friends a lot. I still text one of my old friends. Japan is only my 2nd station.

That's what makes my life as a Military child special!

CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

SOLLARS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

6th Grade • Ms. Andrews

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Ben Lee Grade: 6

Prepare for life  
Until it's that's  
Remember you win it  
Priority first a soldier  
Look it's a bird with a 02 down  
Exact location  
Use your arm  
Put your defense up

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Alan Grade: 6

Prideful people are us  
Uniform, they are  
Respectful us  
Purple joy!  
Lawyer is also a soldier for this month  
Enjoy this month  
US military kids  
Purple for ever

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Eileen K. Grade: 6

Purple up!  
United  
Respect  
Proud  
Loyalty  
Enemy  
Unique  
Positive

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Sofia Grade: 6

Prepare for school  
Until I graduate  
Reading book and  
Pens  
Learn from the  
Elders  
Understand being  
Patient

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Quinn Grade: 6

Paid  
Uniform  
Remember  
Ladder  
Elders  
Understand  
Patient

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Leena P. Grade: 6

Pride for being military connected  
Understanding what it means to be military connected  
Respect to the people who work for the military  
Proud of my parents who work hard for me everyday  
Love for the people who served  
Eager to go to other places  
Unique in my own way by being military connected  
Passionate to meet other people

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Sia Grade: 6

Perfect  
Unique  
Ready for anything  
Prepared  
Loving  
Enthusiastic  
Unbeatable  
Proud

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Reem Grade: 6

Proud  
Uniform  
Respectful  
Pride  
Life is so beautiful  
Eager to help  
Unique  
Proud

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Sarah Grade: 6

Proud army grow  
Uniform  
Around the world we go  
Proud life  
Let them go  
Especially family  
Up we go  
Proud army grow

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Yasmin Grade: 6

Proud army  
Uniform  
Ready to work  
Put up your hands  
Life your flag  
Enemy  
Unique people  
Proud army

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Sydney Grade: 6

People who travel  
Uniform up  
Ready for battle  
Pride to pull up  
Lift your flag  
Equipped weapon  
Up and ready  
Please be careful

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Grace Grade: 6

Proudly a military child  
Understanding what it means to be a military child  
Respectful to the people who served  
Perseverance; being hardworking  
Love the people who serve/served  
Educated about the people who serve/served  
Unique in our own way  
Purple up!

Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)



**Purple Up!**  
Name: Sarah Grade: 6

Proud to be a Military kid  
United one by one  
Rise together fall together  
Pride is what protect us  
Learn before you leap  
Every step the army takes is for why  
Use courage to show your parent your love  
Purple up to show we all

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Yasmin Grade: 6

Present  
Uniform  
Respectful  
Perseverance  
Lead  
Equal  
Uniform  
Pride

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Ellis Grade: 6

Proudly wearing the color purple  
Uniting together  
Respectful and love through each other's journey  
Proud heart in a world of war  
Loyal to family, through distance and time  
Every military child is a star  
Understand every military child's life  
Proudly the courage that respects the life

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Rose Grade: 6

People in purple dressing  
Up in their purple shirts to die  
Respect to all  
People in the military  
Looking  
Extra nice all dressed  
Up in their  
Purple clothes

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Lydia Grade: 6

People in purple  
Up at night  
Reading books  
People in purple come and go  
Looking for a fresh start  
Enjoy everything looking  
Up for the people we love and respect  
Purple today and every day

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Ellis Grade: 6

People in the military  
Unique in the others  
Rounded up around the world  
Please us as it comes  
Learning all kinds of things  
Everyone we go  
Understand the life of the military  
Proudly every time we work

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Drayla Grade: 6

Purple  
Understanding  
Rights  
Pain  
Love  
End  
Uprise  
Purple

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Jane Grade: 6

Proudly we wear the color today  
United to honor the sacrifices made  
Recognizing the strength of military gains  
Praising their resilience and love  
Loving the purple they wear  
Enjoy every day they make  
Understanding the courage they show  
Purple up to support you

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Yasmin Grade: 6

Purple  
Uniform  
Respectful  
Pain  
Love  
Enemy  
Uprise  
Purple

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Lydia Grade: 6

Purple  
Understanding  
Respectful  
Pain  
Love  
End  
Uprise  
Purple

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Abigail Grade: 6

Proudly we wear the color today  
United to honor the sacrifices made  
Recognizing the strength of military gains  
Praising their resilience and love  
Loving the purple they wear  
Enjoy every day they make  
Understanding the courage they show  
Purple up to support you

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Drayla Grade: 6

Pain  
Understand  
Rain  
Pain  
Ladder  
Enjoy  
Uniform  
Patrol



**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nique friends  
**R**estful  
**P**each  
**L**ook  
**E**ll  
**U**nt  
**P**ink

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**eople Moving Along  
**U**nderstanding That We Must All Be  
**R**elocating About A Culture  
**P**ersistent Moving After At least 2-3 Years  
**L**anguage Change  
**E**ncountering Into Different Schools  
**U**sing/Spending Time In Different Languages  
**P**acking Boxes

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**eople moving and moving them  
**U**nder different roofs  
**R**e-learning how to live in different places  
**P**ersevere  
**L**earning cultures  
**E**verything's going fast  
**U**se different languages  
**P**icking apart new friends

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter people  
**R**elocating  
**P**ersistent  
**L**oving  
**E**ncountering  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter people  
**R**elocating  
**P**ersistent  
**L**oving  
**E**ncountering  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**ersistent  
**U**nique  
**R**espectful  
**P**atient  
**L**oved  
**E**ducated  
**U**plifting  
**P**owerful

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**ower through what you can!  
**U**nter people!  
**R**elocating is relaxing!  
**P**ack it's always a bad thing.  
**L**earn a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**se opportunities!  
**P**ositive thoughts are good!

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter people  
**R**elocating is relaxing!  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**se opportunities!  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**eople moving  
**U**nter  
**R**elocating  
**P**urple up  
**L**earn to make new friends  
**E**ducation  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter  
**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**ove  
**E**ver/one  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter people  
**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter  
**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter  
**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
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**R**elocating  
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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

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**R**elocating  
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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
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**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

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**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
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**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

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**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
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**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
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**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect

**Purple Up!**  
Name: Diep Grade: 6th

**P**erfect  
**U**nter  
**R**elocating  
**P**erfect  
**L**earning a word!  
**E**at new food!  
**U**nter  
**P**erfect



See more Sollars stories on Page 6

CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD  
**SOLLARS  
 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
 6th Grade • Ms. Andrews

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

**Purple Up!**  
 Name: [Name] Grade: [Grade]

**P**ride for the world  
**U**nited together  
**R**espect for everyone  
**P**erfect is not a thing  
**L**oving friends  
**E**xciting travels  
**U**nique culture  
**P**ressure happens

**Purple Up!**  
 Name: [Name] Grade: [Grade]

**P**eople can be nice when I am nice  
**U**ltimate to my friends  
**R**ocking with music  
**P**erfect is not a thing  
**L**oving friends  
**E**xciting travels  
**U**nique culture  
**P**ressure happens

**Purple Up!**  
 Name: [Name] Grade: [Grade]

**P**eace for the world  
**U**ltimate to my friends  
**R**ocking with music  
**P**erfect is not a thing  
**L**oving friends  
**E**xciting travels  
**U**nique culture  
**P**ressure happens

**Purple Up!**  
 Name: [Name] Grade: [Grade]

**P**eace for love  
**U**nion with family and friends  
**R**especting others  
**P**erfect is everything  
**L**oving people  
**E**xpecting to go to another school  
**U**niqueness is amazing  
**P**eople are respectful

**Purple Up!**  
 Name: [Name] Grade: [Grade]

**P**laces to go  
**U**nite with family  
**R**espect one another  
**P**erspective  
**L**oving friends  
**E**mpathetic for everyone  
**U**nique experiences  
**P**ositive people and adventures

**Purple Up!**  
 Name: [Name] Grade: [Grade]

**P**urple is the color for military kids  
**U**nifying people in many different places  
**R**esilient and adaptable  
**P**eople in purple travel the world  
**L**oving friends  
**E**ach move is a sad goodbye  
**U**nique to others  
**P**urple is the color for us


Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)

— Celebrating Month of the Military Child —

# M.C. Perry Primary School


1st Grade / Mrs. Perez-Lumbreras

**I am a Military Child**



Being a military child is special because I get to make new friends at different places like I have brand new friends in school like Elina and Ariana. I live in Iwakuni, Japan but I am from Florida. I really miss my mama because she is always funny and I really miss the park in the neighbor hood because we do not have to walk to much and it was so fun. One special part of my life is my family and my friends. When I have to PCS I feel sad and happy but I am adventurous. As a military child, I am brave especially when my daddy leaves to train and I have to help my mommy take care of my baby sister. I love being a military child because I get to learn new celebrations at new places.

**I am a Military Child**



Being a military child is special because I can share all of my exciting experiences. I live in Iwakuni, Japan but I am from Nagoya. I really miss my cousins and my grandma and my dog's names are black and white and my old house. One special part of my life is my cousins and my grandma and grandpa. When I have to PCS, I feel sad because I have to say good bye to my cousins and my friends and my dog's but I am confident and brave and curious and adventures. As a military kid, I am brave especially when my daddy leaves to train and I have to help my mommy take care of my baby sister. I love being a military child because it makes me feel strong.



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**Get Pre-qualified**

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**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to eat new food like sushi. I also can travel all around the world. I live in Japan but I am from Okinawa. I like miss my grandma and my grandpa and my cousins. I also miss my toys but in Texas. One special part of my life is spending time with my family. My friends yesterday also we can enjoy to new homes. We can have a picnic together in the park and I can be strong and brave, smart and speak new language. When I have to go I feel sad and miss because I feel nervous making new friends. I love being a military child.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to see a lot of things like I went to Alaska and Puerto Rico and Virginia and Iowa. I also can speak two languages. I live in Iwakuni Japan but I am from Missouri. I really miss my grandma and grandpa because they hug me and kiss me. It makes me feel special. I also miss my old house and my water and run. One special part of my life is having my friends. When I have to go I feel sad because I will leave my friends and my teacher because she is nice. As a military child I can leave especially when me and my family have to move. I love being a military child because I get to see the whole world.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to move all around the world. I live in Iwakuni Japan but I am from Missouri. I really miss my grandma and grandpa because she always thing that I wanted also, my old house because I had a trampoline. My cousins because they use to play with me. One special part of my life is when I was with my grandma and grandpa also my cousins because my grandma and grandpa let me play on their yard and my cousins because they gave me a volleyball and we always used it. When I have to go I feel happy and sad because we have to leave and make new friends and happy because we get to explore the world and learn new languages. Thank you Daddy for my life.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to meet new friends in new places like I live in Iwakuni Japan but I am from Missouri. I really miss my grandma and grandpa because they always thing that I wanted also, my old house because I had a trampoline. My cousins because they use to play with me. One special part of my life is when I was with my grandma and grandpa also my cousins because my grandma and grandpa let me play on their yard and my cousins because they gave me a volleyball and we always used it. When I have to go I feel happy and sad because we have to leave and make new friends and happy because we get to explore the world and learn new languages. Thank you Daddy for my life.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I can make new friends. I live in Iwakuni Japan but I am from Texas. I really miss my grandma because she makes my favorite food like...

My grandma lives in Texas and she is taking care of her furma and when I move then I can see it. It is going to be soooooo soooooo much fun! One special part of my life is spending time with my dad and my mom. I like resting with my dad and my brother it is soooooo soooooo much fun. When I have to go I will feel excited about my grandma farm. Also I will feel sad because I can't go to visit my friends. I love being a military child because it makes me happy and adventures!

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I can travel all around the world and go to new places. I live in Iwakuni Japan but I am from California. I really miss my papa and my mama because their house makes me feel safe. One special part of my life is my friends and family. When I have to go I feel sad because I need to leave my friends, but I am confident and courageous. As a military child I am brave especially when I had to move to Japan. I am thankful for being a military child because it makes me resilient.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to move a lot of times. I lived in America and I am moving to Japan. I miss my dog, I miss my home. I miss my grandma and my papa. I like my friends, when I have to go I feel sad because I miss my family and I feel sad. I am going to leave my best friend. As a military child I am brave especially when my dad has to leave. I will be brave. I love being a military child because it makes me resilient.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to go to new schools in different countries and try new foods. I live in Iwakuni Japan but I was born in Texas. I really miss my dad's house because there's a small TV. One special part of my life is my birth. When I have to go, I feel sad because I will miss my friends because they mean a lot to me. Me and my friends play a lot. They care about me and I care about them because they are kind, respectful, and kind and helpful. As a military child, I am brave especially when my daddy goes to the boat because I wonder if he is not coming back and it scares me. I am grateful to be a military child because I definitely love to go try new food around the world!

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I travel around the world. I live in the United States. I really miss my dog when I go. One special part of my life is being with my family. I have to go. I feel happy because I can see my friends. As a military child, I am brave especially when my dad leaves. I love being a military child because it makes me strong!

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to travel all around the world, try new foods, and make new friends. I like new friends. All of these things experiences. When I have to go I feel sad because I am going to miss my friends. As a military child I am brave especially when I move to a new home. I love being a military child because it makes me happy.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I can travel to new places like America with my family. I live in Japan but I am from Missouri. I really miss my grandma and grandpa and my dog. My dog likes me. My grandma makes me food in the morning and makes me laugh. One special part of my life is having friends when I have to go. I feel sad because I have to go but to my friends. As a military child I am brave especially when my dad goes to work. I love being a military child because I can spend time with my dad.

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I can see new places. I live in Iwakuni Japan but I am from North Carolina. I like miss my cousins and my dog because my dog died because a rattlesnake bit him. I was sad and that was scary. I have a new dog that makes me happy. My dog's name is Skipper. One special part of my life is staying with my family for ever. When I have to move to a big city there will be a lot of cars. I usually feel happy some time because I like to go on airplanes. As a military child I am brave especially when my dad is gone for work. I love being a military child because it makes me confident.



**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I can make new friends. I live in Iwakuni Japan. I love my school in Japan. I miss my cousin. One special part of my life is my family. When I have to go I feel sad but brave because I love my friends. As a military child, I am brave especially when I go to a new school. I love being a military child because it makes me strong!

**I am a Military Child**

Being a military child is special because I get to make new friends all over the world. My best friend is Ben. I live in Japan but I am from Hawaii. Hawaii is really cool! I miss the house that has a pool at my grandma's. I miss my grandma when I see grandma she gives me a big huge hug. One special part of my life is my teacher. When I have to go I feel sad because I don't know the people there but I am brave. I love my daddy because I have this life because of him. We get to travel all over the world. As a military child, I am brave especially when my daddy goes to work. I love being a military child because my daddy is my hero.

— Celebrating Month of the Military Child —

# M.C. Perry Primary School

2nd Grade / Ms. Colar

by **Madden Latham**

Have you ever wondered what it is like being a military child? Come along with me, and I'll tell you. There are many reasons why I appreciate being a military child.

My first reason I like being a military child is that I enjoy moving and flying in planes. Many kids don't like moving because of the hardships, but I think of it as a new adventure. When you are a military child, you get to fly in an airplane when your parents receive new orders that are not within driving distance. The plane ride to Japan was amazing!

My second reason I like being a military child is that I like to make new friends, it is so awesome! I have many fantastic friends, and we make memories together. We play games, sports, go to parties, and even learn together.

My final reason I like being a military child is to taste food from different cultures. I live in Japan, and Japanese Sushi is so delicious. I also like going to see the Carps games. Have you ever tried real Japanese Sushi? TASTY!

Are you a military child? If so, what do you like about it? As you can see, these are the reasons why I like being a military child.

by **Ysabella Flores**

To start, being a military child is quite challenging. When I was about six or seven years old I had to move here to Japan. My old school was named Great Hearts Elementary and it was quite similar to this school. Sometimes, I have to wait for my dad to come home from work. He can only come home if his work allows him. Sometimes he can only stay for two weeks. I dislike seeing my father leave, but I know it is part of his job. I am strong, military strong! My younger sister is in Yochien. That is a Japanese school for Kindergardeners. My mom works on the base in the hangar. She works hard. I help my mother watch over my little sister, and sometimes I help with the chores. I am a second grader at MC Perry Primary School. I have made many new friends and I learned many new things. That is my life being a military child, and I adore it!

by **Klaire Valencia**

In my opinion, I think being a military child is exciting! As a military child, I get to travel and visit new lands all around the world.

To begin with, when you are a military child, you travel every time your parents get new orders. One day, Daddy received new orders, and my family and I moved to Japan. Living in Japan is awesome. The country is clean with many beautiful mountains. Japan is also very safe to live.

My next reason is that you can explore new places. One time, I went to the Kintai Bridge. It is an important part of Japanese history. Have you ever been to the Kintai bridge before? It is pretty awesome. Plus, you can taste many different flavors of ice cream or other Japanese food while you are there.

My final reason is that I can live in many different parts of the United States of America. Each state is special in its own way.

Have you had an awesome time with your family exploring your new duty station? If you have, then you are a military child!!

by **Lyvia Valenzuela**

I love being a military child because we can travel to Different Countries, and you can too. You can even visit Disneyland in California.

Here is a fun fact for you!  
Dandelions are weeds, but kids like blowing them AWAY.

by **Poppy Encarnacion**

I think being a military child is wonderful. You get to try different foods that you have never experienced before.

Another reason is that it is both enjoyable and depressing. When you move to a new location, you can make new friends at your new duty station. Sometimes you lose friends when you need to move to a new duty station. Saying goodbye can be hard. The cool part is that you can call them or FaceTime from wherever you are in the world. I became friends with Sydney, Klaire, Ariel, Lucy, Ysabella, and Cecil. That is why I love being a military child.

Finally, you get to travel to different places such as Japan or the United States. My family and I live in Japan. We enjoy learning about the culture, visiting historical sites, and learning the language.

That is why I love being a military child!

by **Stella Knight**

Yay! It is my favorite month of the year. It's time to celebrate all of the military children around the world. Celebrating the Month of the Military Child is fun! We have many events and special spirit days just for military kids.

My Dad is in the Navy. He fixes all the planes. When I hear one fly by, I wonder if my Daddy made that one fly again? One day, Daddy called us with the news. I was so happy. He said, "We are moving to Japan!" I was really excited and also sad to leave my friends. I was also a little nervous because I knew that I would need to make new friends when we arrived. I was also super excited because I love cherry blossoms. I read that Japan has these trees all over the country!

You know, because I am a military child, I have lived in many different parts of the United States, like Kentucky and Texas. My family and I have many friends and many memories. Now that I live in Japan, I am making new friends like Poppy, Sydney, Darius, Cecil, Lucy, Klaire, and Ariel. They are kind to me. I also have the best teacher, Ms. Colar. She makes learning fun, and she's funny too.

I am so happy that I am a military child too!

by **Lucy Watson**

Hooray! We are living in Japan. I think being a military child is awesome. I am a military child! There are several reasons why I think it is great to be a military child. My first reason is because I can live in cool places like Japan!

My second reason is that I have the best friends. I love my friends, and I never want to leave them. My best friends are Poppy, Ariel, Ysabella, Sydney, and Stella!

My third reason is that I love my teacher. Her name is Ms. Colar. She is very funny, and she's crazy sometimes, and she can also be calm! My classmates and I enjoy learning together with her.

My final reason is that I love my family, which includes Charlie Watson, and she's in the Navy. My dad is Matt Watson, and my little sister Junie. Those are the people that I love most! These are the reasons why I LOVE being a military child. What do you like about being a military child?



by **Vivian Dillon**

I love being a military child. Do you love being a military child? My dad is in the United States Navy. He is going on a ship very soon. When your military parents leave for duty, we refer to it as a deployment. It is hard when your mom or dad goes away on deployment. Sometimes your parent may not always be home during special events at school, to celebrate holidays, or even be there for your birthday!

Another reason I love being a military child is that I can make new friends everywhere we move. I have many nice friends in America and now in Japan.

My final reason is that being a military child is also tons of fun! Because I live in Japan, I get to eat different foods. I have eaten sushi, ramen, and curry.

These are the reasons why I think being a military child is fun!

by **Ariel Lopez**

Hi everyone! My name is Ariel Lopez. I am a military child! I am so excited to be a military child. Do you want to know why?

First, it is because my dad is in the United States Marine Corps. This makes me a military child. Guess what? My dad is a strong Marine too. My dad helps other people in his battalion. He works very hard, and I am proud of my Dad. This makes me happy.

Second, I love my awesome school and community. My school helps me learn and helps me stay engaged. I enjoy playing during recess with my friends Poppy, Cecil, and Lucy. My community is also very fun. We have many events like the 5K run, special movie nights, glow parties, an indoor pool, and much more!

My last reason I love being a military child is that I can try new foods. When we live overseas, we live in different countries. I now live in Japan. I get to enjoy sushi, ramen, Japanese sweets, and gyoza. They are delicious!

It is for these reasons that I love being a military child!

by **Darius Ussin**

Vroom! Did you hear that? The sound of a giant military plane engine getting ready for takeoff. Guess what? I am on it! I love being a military child for many reasons. My first reason is that I can travel on enormous planes. I always hope to get a window seat because I am so thrilled by the awesome views outside of the planes.

Another reason I love being a military child is that I make new friends in many different countries and continents. That's super cool! I have the best friends ever! Have you ever lived on a different continent and not always in Japan or the United States of America?

My final reason why I love being a military child is that it's fun to travel. It is very cool to be in different countries on different continents. Currently, I live in Japan, which is part of Asia. My family and I travel to many other countries in the Far East. We experience the culture, learn a new language, and taste many unique foods. In Japan, there's a squid and tomato-flavored ice cream!

These are the reasons why I think being a military child is the absolute best! So now you know why I love being a military child.

by **Andrew Wethered**

Hello, my name is Andrew. Do you love being a military child? I do. I enjoy living in my military community and just being cozy inside my house. Sometimes, I go outside and play with my friends. I mostly enjoy being cozy and riding in planes.

I live in Japan now. It is a beautiful country. I have tried many Japanese foods, but my favorite is chicken nuggets. I do like Japanese candy. There is a yummy taffy here called Hi-Chew. It has so many cool flavors.

Guess what? I go to MC Perry Primary School. I am a second grader. I have many friends at my school. My teacher is cool and crazy too. I like to give her gifts. So, as you can see, this is why I love being a military child.

by **Matthew Skolek**

The reason I like being a Military child is because I am able to travel all around the world. The food around the world is very delicious.

by **Liam Buenaventura**

Have you ever wondered what it feels like to be a military child? I think it is amazing to be one. My favorite part about being a military child is that I can move to different duty stations all over the world. Now, we live in Japan, and it has been the best. My family and I have traveled to many different parts of Japan. I have learned a lot!

My least favorite part is when my Dad has to go on deployment. My Dad is a police officer. Sometimes he works really long hours and nights. I know my Dad is keeping watch and making sure that we are safe.

This is why I think it is amazing to be a military kid!

by **Sydney Laskey**

Do you see that? The beautiful pappus blowing off the soft white puff ball of the dandelion. That is a symbol of me. I am a military child traveling here and there. I bloom wherever I go. Do you want to know a secret? I love being a military child!

I am so happy that I am a military child because I get to go to new places like Tokyo, Korea, and China. Visiting new lands can open your eyes to view really unique places. The tasty food you get to try is awesome like yakitori, udon, and ramen.

There is an unhappy part to being a military child. The part we do not always like to talk about is deployment. It is an extremely sad part when our parents deploy. We also move every three years. When we move, we lose our friends, but on the bright side, we make new friends at our new destination. How many places have you traveled to?

by **Mark Govea**

Do you know a military child? Well, after reading this, you do! My name is Mark, and I think that being a military child is really nice.

My first reason is that I get to go to new places. One time, I got to go to Miyajima Deer Island twice. The first time I got two toy kunaia, and the second time I went to the aquarium and I got a penguin plushy. I truly enjoyed seeing all the deer and learning about the different fish that can be found in the deep waters of Japan.

My second reason is that I get to meet new friends. Since first grade and second grade, I've been best friends with Madden and Stephen. They are cool kids, and we enjoy hanging out together!

My third reason is that I get to try new foods. When I went to Okinawa, I went to a restaurant named Red Lobster. I really liked it! The food was fantastic.

It is for these reasons that I like being a military child.

by **Rylen Ransom**

Wow! I see a big blue jet, and I think it is cool. They have wings and they are flying. When I see them, they make me happy. I love jets. I also like riding on trains. I like to eat new foods. I also like traveling. I sometimes like moving. I also like going on buses. I like playing sports like basketball. I also like going to new schools. It is so fun! I can meet new friends and teachers. Are you a military child? If you are a military child, do you like it? I like being a military child!

by **Ezra Grippa**

Hello I am Ezra! Let me tell you why I like being a military child. First of all, I like that you travel all around the world. Sometimes your mom or dad has to go to another country and it could be hard. You often have to help your mom or dad. You also get to try new foods when you move to a different country. That's why I like being a military child.

by **James Skolek**

Do you know what it feels like to be a military child? Let me tell you, I love being a military child.

My first reason is because I get to meet new people. I love to move around. I used to live in America, but my family and I moved to Japan. I love learning and speaking languages. I can speak Japanese, English, and Spanish.

My second reason is that I get to try new foods. In Japan, I have tried shrimp, sushi, and mochi. They are so yummy!

My last reason is because I got to meet new friends. When I am with my friends we enjoy playing outside. Also, I have a house in San Diego. There I have many friends too.

These are the reasons why I love being a military child!

by **Stephen Phillips**

Do you like being a military child? Because I truly do! It is exciting because you get to move, but it's sometimes disappointing. You meet new friends, and you enjoy your community until one day your parents say, "We have to move!" Sometimes it is awesome when you have to move because you can learn how to do new things. I also enjoy being able to make new friends everywhere I move. I have many friends! Being with my friends makes me feel special.

My favorite part of being a military child is that I get to live or visit different countries on any continent. When you are at your new destination, you can learn and experience their culture, food, and language.

This is why I love being a military child!

## Yokosuka Middle School

5th Grade / Mr. Howell

### Shore Duty

My dad is on "Shore Duty" now, and he comes home every day, not out at sea or somewhere far away, so we can have dinner together.

I came to Japan when I was in kindergarten, but I never moved again. I've always been here. Being a "new kid" is a thing of the past.

Now this is my home ground! Dad in his uniform is waiting at the front door, providing a sense of security.

Family time in Japan. The daily life of a military child continues here in Yokosuka, Japan.

Written by Madison A. Bogalie  
5th Grade, YMS Yokosuka, JP  
April 2025

Celebrating Month of the Military Child

I never lived on a military base until I was in 7th grade when I went to be with my dad in Bahrain. I was there for one year. While living there, I met lots of really nice friends and started playing basketball. Because of the opportunities that I had there, my basketball skills improved tremendously. My team went 6-0 on the year and brought back the trophy. During this run, we practiced with the 15U boys who went 5-1 and only lost one game to the only other American school (American School of Bahrain). After the season, everyone on the teams transferred to other schools. Being in that environment made me fall in love with basketball, and now it's going to be a sport I want to play for as long as possible. Now I live in Iwakuni, Japan. But the best thing about being a military kid is that I never lose touch with my friends because I get to travel with my current team. For example, I recently travelled to Yokosuka, and I met a friend from the team in Bahrain. It felt like a full-circle moment. It also feels really cool to think about my friends from Bahrain. For example, I can think of my friend Kyle, who lives in Thailand. I also think of my two friends, Jerell and Jaylin, who are in Georgia. My last example is my friend Luca, who is in France. It's very cool that I have friends all across the world. In conclusion, being a military student has many positives, such as traveling the world and meeting different types of people. Unfortunately, it does have a few negative aspects. Moving away from the home where my heart is and making a new home in another country.

- Jayce Brown



- Azuki Oliver

My life as a military child is good and full of opportunities and great friendships. Throughout my life I lived in Japan and California. I was born in Naha Okinawa in October 2010 and lived there until I was about 2 years old. We then moved to America for the first time. I lived in San Diego where my family and I were stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. While living there, I was introduced to many opportunities to participate in sports which then led to building many friendships. I started playing soccer and basketball when I was 6 years old for the Youth Programs in the area. I liked playing sports because of the friendships I made when interacting with other people on the team. I got lucky and moved an hour away stationed in Miramar but went to a different school. In 3rd grade I stopped taking open opportunities of playing sports and when I finally decided to take open opportunities, Covid-19 occurred shutting everything down around me. I didn't play sports for the next couple of years until I was in 6th grade. Then I moved to Japan, I wanted to play basketball more and I started to make friends along the way because of the opportunities here. Then in 7th grade, my Dad introduced me to track, I wasn't really open to it because it was something new and not familiar with but I enjoyed doing it again in my 8th grade Year. I think being a military child is a great feeling having many opportunities in different activities. I also think you grow mentally stronger by letting go of Friendships but gaining new Friendships.

- Tommy Coker Jr.

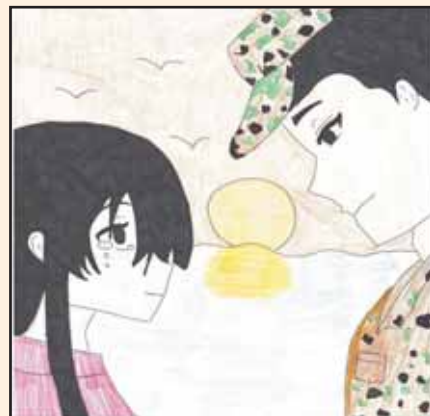
## Celebrating Month of the Military Child

# M.C. PERRY HIGH SCHOOL

### 9th Grade • Ms. Sullivan

Being a military child has shaped my life in many ways, especially through moving. When I was 3 years old, I moved from Alaska to Japan. I was too young to remember much, but it was the start of a life full of change. In 2018, I moved to California, where I had to adjust to a new place, new school, and new friends. Then in 2021, I moved back to Japan again. Moving so much hasn't always been easy. Leaving friends behind is one of the hardest parts. Just when I get comfortable, it feels like everything changes again. But because of this, I've learned how to make new friends quickly and not be afraid of new situations. Living in both the United States and Japan has given me unique experiences. I've seen different cultures, tried new foods, and learned how people live in different parts of the world. These experiences have made me more open-minded and understanding. Being a military child also means making sacrifices. There are times when my family has to deal with long separations or big changes. Even though it's hard, it has made my family stronger and closer. Overall, being a military child has made me more independent and adaptable. Even though moving can be difficult, it has helped me grow into a stronger person, and I'm proud of the life I've lived.

- Maxim Byers



- Dinah Sanchez



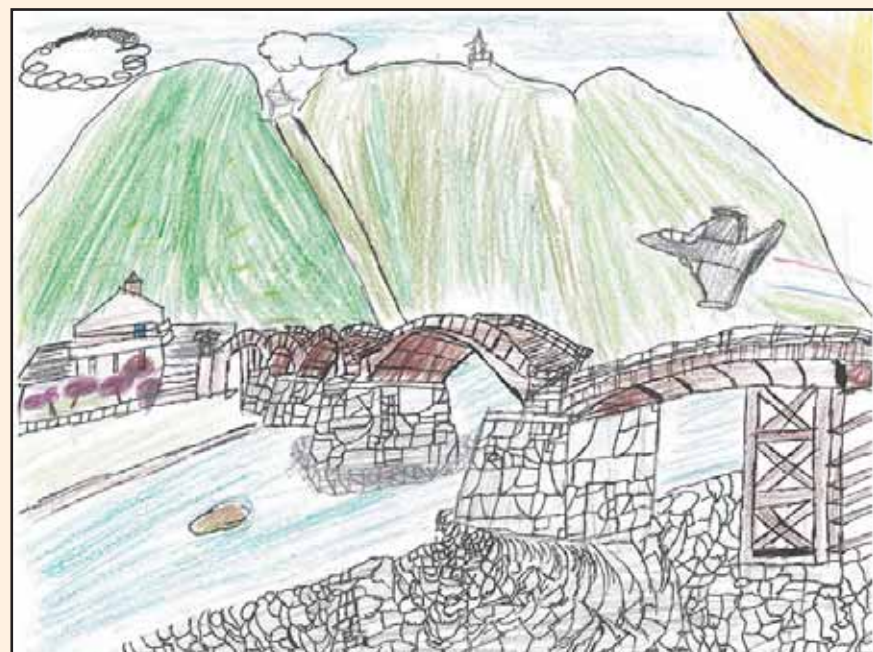
- Lilia Oliveira

It's Really Not That Hard  
 "Being a military child is not that hard." The biggest thing they all try to tell me until they experience the hardships of family, friends, and the emotional battles that you constantly need to face. When my mom tells me, "It's easy, you'll make new friends", I always sit there and think, Yeah, when I move and have to start it all over again. But, they still say...

"Being a military child is not that hard." Until you are face-to-face with your loved ones, saying goodbye for months just praying that they will make it back alive, or for your birthday in time. I mean, Dad, look how much I've grown, the birthdays you've missed, the tears I shed because you weren't there. My school talent show, which I won, the one where you couldn't even see me walk onto the stage and take 1st place. And all they have to say is....

"Being a military child is not that hard." I pleaded with them to silence their voices and listen to my own, because being a military child is not easy. Yes, there are perks, and yes, it does hurt. Those service members sacrifice their lives for their families, even knowing that they cannot be in their children's lives all the time. So yes, being a military child is really just that hard. Even though I love being one, and to think that if I weren't, I would not have met the amazing friends, teachers, and people in my community that I have around me.

- Jaden Colar



- Anthony Rodriguez

The life of a military child can be hard for some but many others enjoy it. For me, being a military child was tough at times but I eventually learned to enjoy it. The hard parts are moving a lot and having to make new friends after you have already had good ones. I used to have really good friends in Virginia but had to say goodbye to them because we were moving to Japan. Another challenge for military children is that either their dad or mom goes away for deployment and being separated from a parent is hard. It is also hard because I don't get to see my American family often since we moved. When we first got to Iwakuni we had to live at the TLF for a month which is like living in a hotel. It felt crowded and our luggage didn't arrive until a few weeks later which was a negative because sometimes having something familiar makes me feel at home. But then we got a house off base and I started to feel okay. Later I started 6th grade which was not so bad because I made friends pretty quickly and started to understand how things worked in DoDEA schools.

When we moved to Japan, I also realized it would not be too bad because I am half Japanese. This means that I also have a Japanese family over here as well. I discovered that there are a lot of opportunities like traveling to different countries, meeting new people, and maybe moving somewhere that would be cool to explore.

- Noah Dobbs



- Xavier Zacharias

One of the last times before I moved was in Washington State, I was sparring with my friends in the gym. After my Dad retired from the military, I'd expected that we would stop moving around so much and I would finally be able to make long term friendships; and in other words, for the first time, I felt grounded. Unexpectedly, my father had found a job offer in Iwakuni, Japan, and we were set to move somewhere around October.

After I'd moved to Iwakuni, the time difference between Japan and the states was too immense to consistently keep in touch with my old friends and we slowly grew apart from each other. And even though we are staying in Iwakuni for an indefinite period of time, I can't say the same for other people in my community, and I feel that I'm still unable to create long-term friendships with people I tend to gravitate towards.

Sometimes it's hard to let go of people I enjoyed being around and shared many fond memories with, and sometimes I find myself trying my best to keep in touch with them even when it's obvious our relationship is slowly coming to an end. However, there's a Chinese saying "有缘千里来相会" (Yǒuyuán qiānlǐ lái xiānghuì), which translates to: "If fated, people will meet a thousand miles apart." This saying means that people come into your life because fate brings them there, often to teach you something valuable, and that I've learned to appreciate the time that you shared together and the experiences and lessons they brought with them.

- Sophia Kelley

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- Tasi Shimizu



Changing schools.  
Changing friends.  
Changing houses.  
Changing cars.

Changing routines.

The military is full of changes that not only service members have to go through, but also their families. A military child's life is full of changes, but not all are bad.

Changing currencies.  
Changing countries  
Changing cultural foods  
Changing environments.

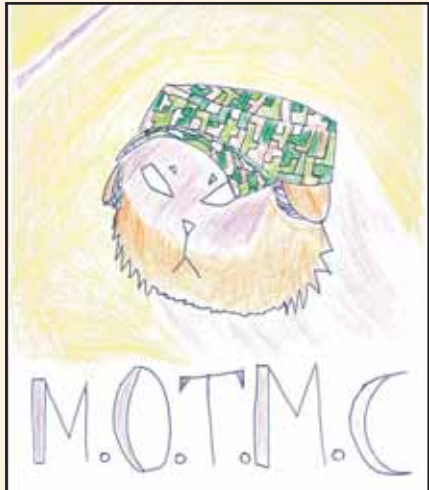
The same way the seasons change everything about a military child's life could to and in the blink of an eye. All of these changes could be good if you just look at it the right way.  
Changing perspectives.

- Emma Whitehead

Boxes by the door

New skies but same old goodbyes  
Home moves, love stays still

- Elijah Seay



- Zander Seubert

A Saving Grace

For me, being a child in the military sometimes feels like I'm being saved from something terrible. Almost as if I'm being tortured for eternity, but all of a sudden a giant god picks me up and takes me away to somewhere nicer. I think this feeling came up when I moved back to America. My father received orders to return there, which meant we all had to move. It wasn't very fun. I had lost all my relationships and had to start over. It was very difficult for me. On my first day there, I was just introduced as a kid from Japan. Nobody really paid attention to me, everyone just looked at me for a few seconds and moved on with their day. It wasn't until later in the school year when the worst came. One day, I decided to express an interest of mine. People heard this and thought it was weird. Apparently, it was so weird to them that they felt the need to bully me for the rest of my time there. People called me names, talked about me behind my back. They spread rumors that just weren't true. It hurt me. For a while, I found it very hard to be happy there. Not even the teachers helped me, they just acknowledged it and did nothing. I couldn't take it anymore. I just gave up trying and let them mistreat me.

But then, a saving grace occurred.

It was almost a miracle. Probably one of the happiest moments of my time there. Dad got orders back to Japan. It was as if the hands of the military picked me up from my state of melancholy and took me away. Granted, my life was much better when I moved back here.

It's moments like these that make me glad to be a military child.

- Eliseo Rodriguez



- Lauren Dastugue

Maybe I don't like talking too much about my day  
But you should've told me you guys were thinking about moving away  
You work your way or maybe it's because you don't wanna do it my way  
Or its that you stopped liking me since I got here, but now your here  
I know i'm not like this, when things don't go how I wanted  
Your waiting for me to face it, and now I am  
But I ran out of happiness that I had, now suddenly  
You're acting like nothing happened, can you tell me where you got the idea?  
Yeah, you say you never miss home, but you don't really care how bad its hurts  
When you left me out of it, left me out  
Still taking a while to be happy, once we moved away  
But you moved on faster than the earth could revolve the sun,  
I swear I would stare at my phone just to see what I was missing,  
But now that I've seen all, I don't really know what to feel  
You know I was never like this, when I was little you cared a lot  
And now, you act like nothing happened, but now I don't care what you think  
Now suddenly, I have new experiences I've never had  
Could you tell me what would have happened if I stayed back  
Yeah, now I could say I love my new friends, but it doesn't really matter to you  
When I have to forget about the old ones, the old ones  
Why did I think I would stay? Why did I think I had that future?  
The old you would never want this, cause we all know thats true  
Now suddenly you act like you care, could you tell me why you replaced home,  
Yeah, I may say I like this new place, but deep down you don't care  
If I want the old place back, the old place back, my original home.

- Anthony Ramos Cintron



- TaNeah Walker

Floating through the air  
Purple Flowers Everywhere  
Always Strong and Brave

- Mikai Rossiter

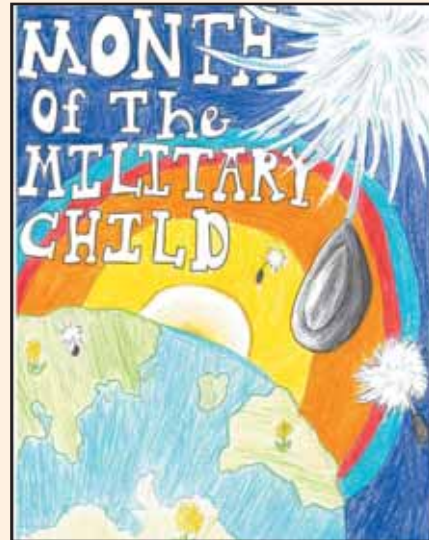
Growing

Being a military child is an opportunity many of us are blessed with. Although some people may not realize it in our moments, we are gifted with the chance to make new friends, memories, visit places, learn new languages, and try new foods. I'm so grateful that I am one of many that are gifted with the chance of being a military child. Despite the fact that people think about it negatively, moving and meeting new people is a great part of life that one day, we will all have to do. There are many perks of being a military child, including learning how to socialize at a young age, experiencing different cultures, learning new languages, meeting new people, making great memories and visiting beautiful places.

- Olivia Thomas



- Jezelle Beltran



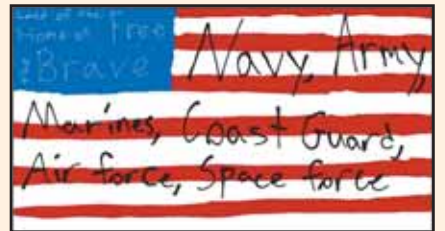
- Vivian Bucci

There are many challenges when being a military child because of being apart from family members and being apart from friends who don't stay long-term. This also comes along with opportunities that let you travel the world and make new friends, which is the upside, meaning even if you lose some friends, you make new ones. Being away from family is even harder. There are times when you can't even visit them because of how far you are, like being in Japan while they are in Virginia. I would like to thank the people who serve our country and support our nation, no matter what. Thank you.

- Evelyn-Rae Yocum



- Nikolai Agosto



- Ayden Parker

I remember my first time moving to Japan. I watched people pack up my house, my room was just an empty space. We stayed in a Navy Lodge for weeks, waiting for our plane. We left our dogs and got on the plane. The plane ride was one of the longest 12 hours of my life. When we first got to our house, it was small; it was different. I had never lived in a place with people this close. On the first day, I remember seeing about 10 kids my age playing on the street. From that moment they were my friends until the day I moved. I would go out and play with them every day until the streetlights turned on. We would play basketball, baseball, tag- every game we could think of-until I had to move again. I remember thinking, "Is the next place going to be the same?" Now, coming back to Japan on the same old base, I pass my old street seeing a new group of kids playing. This place never changes and it never has. Same theme with a new group of kids.

- Nathaniel C. Reust



- Zoey Clark



- Meliyah Bevet



- Mason Bell

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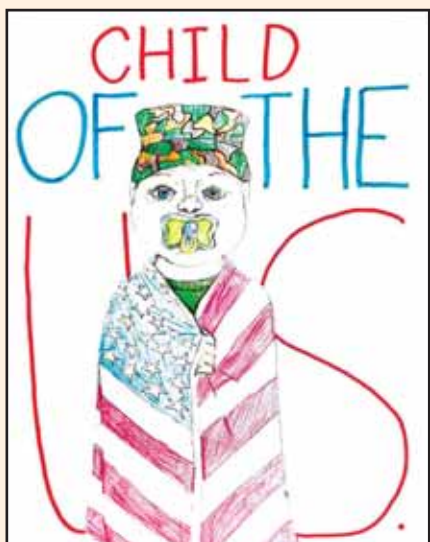
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**M**y dad is part of the military as a chief. This means we get a lot of opportunities to have fun times. Although it is a hard time for him, and at times he's out for several days, which does make me sad. But life does come out better than before he left.

I was born in Japan and lived there for a bit until my family had to move to Virginia. In Virginia, Dad was gone for most of the time. So it was just me, my mom, and my brother at home. My mom was crying because of hard times. After Virginia we moved to Rhode Island where life there was a significantly better place to live in. Dad was actually there with us during those times. We had fun in those times like going to movies, malls, and arcades. Then we moved back to Yokosuka Japan where I was from. It was also good there for a while. Then we temporarily went to Hawaii. Although that move was for reasons other than fun, I enjoyed it there.

Later we went back to Yokosuka, which I still miss, because we moved to Iwakuni. It is my second year living here in Iwakuni. I get to go places like Hiroshima a lot. I also get to cross the famous Kintai Bridge and get chances to go to Fukuoka and Sasebo. We also occasionally drive to the mountain area, and I get to see a scenic tour. I am doing great here overall.

- Andrew Iliescu



- Alonna Wagner

Next to an empty chair,  
I gaze at the gate where the jetway waits.  
My body feels dense,  
Full with the burden I'm forced to carry

"Group 3 passengers to begin boarding"

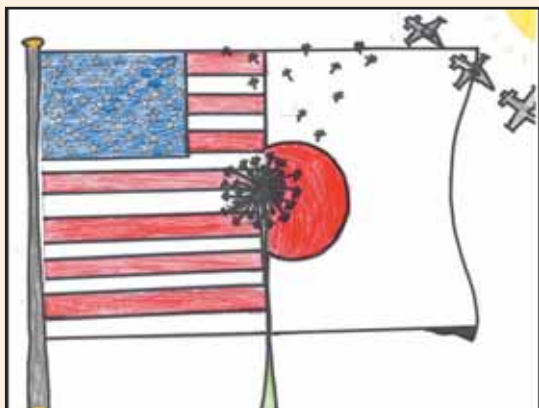
The friends, families, memories  
Gone, in an instant flash.  
Pass scanned, new plans,

I have to board,  
Setting my course abroad.

- Ferdinand Hernandez



- Sophia Wolfe



- Ava Burford

Celebrating Month of the Military Child

M.C. PERRY HIGH SCHOOL

9th Grade • Ms. Sullivan



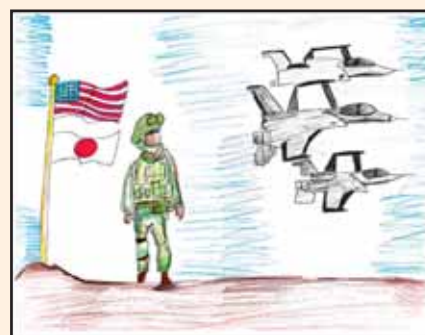
- Evie Garcia



- Max Navarro



- Hibiki Dampier



- Rebecca Pressman

I had never unpacked a suitcase until I was fourteen. That was the year my family moved to Japan, and everything changed. Before Japan, life felt good: same school, same friends, same neighborhood. Then my Step Dad received new orders, and suddenly we were crossing an ocean. I left behind my friends and my family, and the only house I had ever called home. When I came to Japan, it felt like stepping into a different world. The signs were in words I couldn't read or understand. The food tasted weird and good at the same time and the voices around me sounded like a language I've never heard.

Starting high school here was tough. I was the new kid, trying to make friends while figuring out bell schedules. I missed my old life so much. I learned to navigate bus stations, saw Cherry Blossoms for the first time, the weather was nice, and even loved all the gas stations because all the food was so fresh.

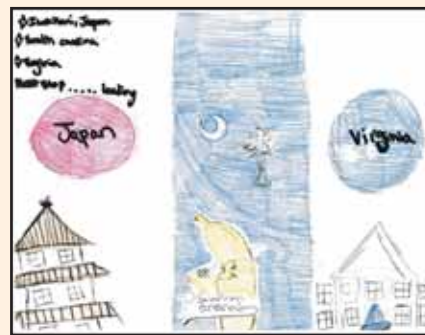
The hardest part is still the distance. Our family is asleep when I'm awake because of the time zones. When my step dad deploys, Mom stays strong for us, and I try to do the same helping with chores, encouraging my younger siblings, and keeping a brave face during video calls. Being a military child means saying goodbye more often than most people my age.

Japan showed me that change can be nice. The cherry blossoms remind me that even after the hardest seasons, something new and lovely can bloom. I'm kind of proud to be a military child. It has made me stronger, more open, and ready for whatever comes next.

- Gianni Medina



- Josephina Johnson



- Hailey Lasky

Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)



You're sitting at the door, your mind feels poor,  
The same old boxes by the floor  
Waiting just to see where you guys are going next at the airport,  
Thinking about your friends, wondering if you will ever see them again,  
You're sitting there, a lack wanting to go back,  
It's the same every time as a military child  
Where will we go? I don't know,  
I need a style.

- Dior Payne



- Zoe Boyer



- Audrina Tello





# Joan K. Mendel Elementary School

## 1st Grade · Mrs. Bailey

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel sad because my mom and dad have to leave a lot. I always have to leave my room and make new friends. Being a military child makes me feel happy because I can go so far and see what the military does. Being a military child makes me have a lot of feelings.  
 Kingston B.

**The Military Child**  
 I am a military child because I am brave. I can do hard work. I can be sad when I leave a place but I make friends fast. I make good friendships.  
 Elias J.

**The Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel strong. I am strong because I am brave. I am a military child because I never give up. I never give up because I am smart. Being a military child makes me feel best. I feel best because I get to be a hero.  
 Jackson G.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel brave because I stay at home. I am a military child because I am strong.  
 Jose H.

**I am a Military Child**  
 I am a military child. I feel loved because my family shows it to me. I am thankful for my family. I like being a military child because I like making new friends.  
 Cali N.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel sad. I feel sad because my mom has to leave home. Being a military child makes me feel thankful. I feel thankful for my country because they have let a young boy and his dog live being a military child.  
 Khaleesi H.

**I am a Military Child**  
 I will feel sad because I feel alone. Being a military child is the best and making a new friend is hard.  
 Allyn G.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel happy. I am a military child because I am brave. I am a military child because I am strong. I am a military child because I am brave. I am a military child because I am strong.  
 Adriel S.

**I am a Military Child**  
 I sometimes feel shy and I sometimes feel strong like I can take the world if I want.  
 Jasic S.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel sad because my dad leaves a lot. I feel happy because he comes back. Being a military child is fun.  
 Mason B.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel brave because I can move to other places. I can go to hotels. I leave the hotel to my new home. After a couple of years I leave to a new place.  
 Elijah S.

**I am a Military Child**  
 I sometimes feel happy. I love this by myself. I like to travel to different places like being a military child.  
 Rhys M.

**The Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel brave. I feel brave because it makes me stronger. Being a military child is helpful because I do the hardest. I feel loved because my mom and dad love me. Being a military child because I love my family.  
 Bentley R.

**I am a Military Child**  
 I am a military child because I feel brave and unstoppable. I feel playful because my brother and my dad chase it to me. I never give up even when things are tough. I am a military child because I try my best.  
 Grider B.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel sad because my dad has to go for one month away. I do the dishes when he's gone. I feel happy when he gets home. I feel kind because I let people use my toys. Being a military child makes me feel like a hero.  
 Jacob M.

**The Military Child**  
 Being a military child makes me feel like I am a hero. I feel like I am a hero because I have friends. I also feel loved because my mom and dad love me and they feel happy because I have my family. I feel helped because I can go to school. Being a military child makes me feel like a hero.  
 Kenli C.

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# Joan K. Mendel Elementary School

1st Grade · Mrs. Wesley

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military child is I like to make new friends. I also like to help people. I like to learn.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military child is I like to ride my bike and make new friends. I like to help people. I like to play.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is making new friends. The best thing about being a military connected child is riding my bicycle. The best thing about being a military connected child is travel to different countries.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is trying new things. I like going on adventures. I like making new friends.

**I am a Military Child**  
 My best thing about being a military connected child is I like with my dad is so kind. I like with my mom is kind. I like with I make friends.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is seeing traveling around the world. Next is making new friends. I like being a military child.



Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is I like to be with my mom. The best thing about being a military connected child is I like to be with my dad.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is get to play. I like making new friends. I like to play with my friends.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is going to different countries. I like exploring different countries. I like making new friends.

**I am a Military Child**  
 I AM A MILITARY CHILD BECAUSE I HELP MY FAMILY AND I LOVE MY FAMILY AND I GO WITH MY FAMILY EVERYWHERE.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military child is making friends. I like going to new countries.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military child is you get to explore and play.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military connected child is to travel. I like to make new friends.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military child is to travel.

**I am a Military Child**  
 The best thing about being a military child is being helpful.

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# Joan K. Mendel Elementary School

1st Grade · Mrs. Whidby

**I am a Military Child**  
 I was to be in America  
 now I in Japan we  
 now parties to  
 celebrate military  
 children I am a  
 military child

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child  
 takes courage. A  
 military child can be  
 brave. Being a military  
 child is fun. I am  
 a military child.  
 Emma

**I am a Military Child**  
 My dad is in the military  
 We move to a lot  
 of places. I lived in  
 Las Vegas Florida and  
 Japan.  
 I am a Military  
 Child. Leah/Lo

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child  
 is fun we get to have  
 parties I get to watch  
 some new festivals  
 that with this is why being a  
 military child is fun

**I am a Military Child**  
 A military child is brave.  
 A military can make new  
 friends. A military can be  
 brave when their mom  
 is gone. A military child  
 travels the world. A  
 military child is brave.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child  
 means you can see  
 your eyes when you  
 see them.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child  
 you are very very nice and  
 help people when they need the  
 help. When someone even  
 you make them happy when  
 someone is happy you  
 bring some good when  
 they are.

**I am a Military Child**  
 A military child can be brave.  
 Because we work hard. Military  
 children travel a lot. We live  
 our USA. That is why military  
 child is brave.  
 From: Emily

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child feels like  
 being responsible. It is important  
 because it means being help full. It  
 means being strong and getting along  
 with each other. And being nice  
 to each other. That's what a  
 military child feels like.

**I am a Military Child**  
 Being a military child help me know  
 what to say when kids want to  
 know about the military. We have to  
 travel a lot to different states and  
 different countries. It is my responsibility  
 to respect the nation. When we move we  
 have to leave our best friends and  
 make new friends.

**I am a Military Child**  
 A military child can be  
 brave. A military child  
 moves a lot we met  
 new friends. We love the  
 USA. This is why  
 military child can  
 be brave. Kai

**I am a Military Child**  
 I like to be a military child because  
 I am brave I brave because  
 I like to stand up when I am  
 shy. I like to be kind and  
 respect others. This is being  
 a military child.  
 Sky

**I am a Military Child**  
 I like to be military child because  
 we help the US. I live in  
 Japan. I am kind to people forever.  
 I meet new kids. This is a  
 military child. I love them.  
 Victoria

**I am a Military Child**  
 A military child can be  
 brave. My dad is in  
 the military. I have  
 to be away from  
 my grandparents.  
 beta a military  
 child can be brave.

**I am a Military Child**  
 A military child can be  
 brave. we make new friends  
 I get to move to different  
 This is how to be a military child.  
 Henryki

**I am a Military Child**  
 We are moving to  
 to I of the school  
 to make new friends  
 & so I am a military  
 child.  
 Peytonia

Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)





CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2nd Grade / Ms. Penberthy

Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I'm a military child and this is what it's like for me. I get to move to new places like Japan and Chicago. I get to try new foods like sushi, ramen, and udon. I meet new friends and classmates when I move. Some of the cons are my dad got deployed when I was born. When I move away, I have to say goodbye to my friends. Sometimes we miss family events like Father's Day. That's what it's like to be a military child.  
 By Sadie



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 Do you know what it's like to be a military child? Mine's my experience about being a military child. It is sometimes hard being a military child because I have extra responsibilities, like making bottles for my baby sister. Another hard thing about being a military child is that my dad misses special events like my birthday because he was deployed. Another hard thing about being a military child is when my dad is on deployment for a long time. There are also good things about being a military child. I get to try new foods like an oni bowl and Japanese pancakes. A good thing about being a military child is having new friends and schools like the Sullivan and Santa. I also get to learn new things in a new culture like speaking Japanese. These are some of my experiences about being a military child.  
 By Aris



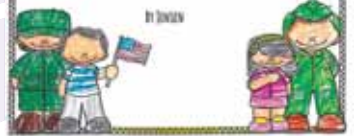
Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I'm a military connected child. My mom works for the military. Some of the pros are I went to a new school and learned new things. I moved from Indiana to Japan. I moved into a really cool house. I was in kindergarten. Now I'm in second grade. I have been in Japan for almost 3 years, and I'm 7 years old. It is good to be a military connected child.  
 By Addison



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I am a military child because Dad is in the Navy. Sometimes it makes me sad because I have to move and I don't want to move. I miss my family. It makes me sad when my dad and brother leave. Even though moving can be hard, there are also good things about being a military kid. I like to learn anime in Japan. I'm happy when my dad comes home! I like meeting new friends. Being a military kid is fun.  
 By Gavin



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I AM A MILITARY CHILD. BEING A MILITARY CHILD CAN BE HARD, BUT IT CAN ALSO BE FUN. SOME FUN PARTS OF BEING A MILITARY CHILD ARE VISITING MY COUSINS, MEETING NEW FRIENDS, AND GOING TO A NEW SCHOOL. I LIKE MAKING NEW FRIENDS AND TRYING NEW THINGS WHEN WE MOVE. THERE ARE ALSO SAD PARTS OF BEING A MILITARY CHILD. I MISS MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE MOVE AWAY TO A NEW PLACE. BEING A MILITARY CHILD HAS GOOD PARTS AND HARD PARTS. SOMETIMES IT IS FUN, AND SOMETIMES IT IS SAD, BUT THAT'S WHAT IT IS LIKE BEING A MILITARY CHILD.  
 By JIMMY



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I'm a military child. There are many cons and pros. One of my cons is when my dad gets deployed. It makes me feel sad. Even though there are some bad things there are good too. One of them is when I go to a new school, I make new friends like Ariana. I also like to travel. I went to Chicago, Hawaii, San Diego, Japan and Thailand. I'm afraid if my dad goes to war but it's kind of a pro because he's protecting our family. These are some of the cons and pros of being a military child.  
 By Hana




Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 Being a military child is hard. It is hard because I leave my friends and I miss them. Calling them makes it easier to be apart. It is sad because I miss my old house. Before I moved, I was so close to school. I miss my family because they still live in California and I moved to Japan. Even though moving can be hard, there are also good things about being a military kid. Being a military child is fun because I can travel to the Bahamas and learn new languages. I can also make new friends.  
 By Sonahli



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I am a military child. Sometimes being a military child is hard. My dad goes on deployment. I go to new schools, and I miss my friends when I move. There are also good things about being a military child. I kind of like being a military child. My parent comes back after a while. I visit my family when I move to Japan. I visit my Grandma, Grandpa, and Granny. I go on adventures when I move. I get to make new friends! Even when it is hard, being a military kid is fun, and I am happy to be one.  
 By Audra



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I am a military child because my dad works for the Navy. I miss living in the states because my favorite chips were there. I miss my cousins and my old school. Even though moving can be hard, there are also good things about being a military kid. I went to Yokohama, Tokyo Disney, Disney sea, the zoo, and the Silkworm museum. I like protien chocolate bars here in Japan. We move alot so I have to be adapted to my environments.  
 by Shawn



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 Being a military child is hard. Being one is hard because when I move I'm away from other family members. It's ok to be sad as a military child. When I move I miss my old friends, but I get new friends and culture. Also one more way it can be hard is when my dad has to make sacrifices. My dad could get deployed. Finally my dad could go in war and I would miss him. There are some cons and pros, and that's why it's hard and easy to be one.  
 By Aaron



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I am not a military child, but my parents work with the Navy. Because we travel, I get to learn new things and see new cultures. I have been to China, the Philippines, Brazil, Hawaii, and Japan. Sometimes I feel sad because I miss my family and friends, and I have to say goodbye when friends move away. There are good things too. Going on base feels safe. I can make new friends, and I like supporting the military. I have been staying in one country for a while now. This is what it is like to be a military-connected child.  
 By Vera



Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)




Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS LIKE TO BE A MILITARY CHILD? SOMETIMES IT CAN BE SAD. I MOVED FROM MARYLAND TO JAPAN. I HAD TO LEAVE MY FRIENDS, AND SOMETIMES I CANNOT SEE MY FAMILY FOR A LONG TIME. THAT MAKES ME FEEL SAD. BEING A MILITARY CHILD CAN ALSO BE FUN. I MADE NEW FRIENDS AFTER I MOVED. I GET TO LEARN ABOUT NEW CULTURES. I CAN EAT NEW FOODS LIKE SUSHI, DRAGON FRUIT, RAMEN, AND CHIKEN-TER-DA. THAT IS WHAT LIFE IS LIKE FOR A MILITARY CHILD.  
 BY SILVIA




Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 Being a military child has its pros and cons. I miss my uncles and aunts because I moved away also friends and family. But I love trying new foods. I tried sushi and ramen. I made new friends when I went into a new school in Japan. My favorite part about a new school is learning science.  
 By Cael



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 Do you know how hard it is to be a military connected child? The hard parts are saying goodbye. My dad is in the military, and my mom used to be in the military. It was hard to leave my friends, especially my best friend, when I moved to Japan. I had to donate half of my stuffed animals because we could not fit all our things when we moved. My mom and dad also have to learn a new language called Japanese. The good parts are traveling and seeing new places. I have moved five times. I have lived in California, Texas, Florida, and Japan. I have been to many states. This is what my life is like as a military connected child.  
 By Nova R.



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 Being a military child is hard because I have to move away. I moved three times. I have lived in Okinawa, Guam, and Japan. I miss family members. My dad can be deployed and away on TDY. But I have some pros. It can be fun because I meet new friends. I also learn new cultures, go to new schools, and eat new foods in a new country. I got to eat sushi and at the food court at Cooca Mall in Yokosuka. This is what being a military child is like for me.  
 By Mila




Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I am a military child. Some hard parts of being a military child are leaving my friends. It is also hard when my dad gets deployed and misses my birthday. Some good parts of being a military child are learning about new cultures. I have fun learning Japanese. I like going to new schools and meeting new friends, like my friend Evelyn. When my family and I got to a new place, I got to explore and learn new things about the area. Moving to Japan, I got to enjoy eating new foods like sushi, ramen, udon, and tempura. This is what it is like to be a military child.  
 By Levi S.



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 I am a military child. Some good things are making new friends, traveling, and getting a new home. Some bad things are leaving friends and leaving my old house. My dad leaves but he comes back. I like being a military child.  
 By Kazuo



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 My dad and big brother are in the military. Being a military child is fun. It is fun because I can learn new things. I get to eat new foods like ramen, soup, sushi, and sausage. I can learn new languages like Filipino and Japanese. When I moved to Japan I met lots of new friends. Sometimes it is not fun, like when I had to move away from Japan to Virginia. I really didn't want to go to Virginia, but I got to see my Grandpa and Grandma. Also, when my dad left on the boat, he stayed on the boat for 2 years. I was sad because I didn't get to see him. I miss my friend Kat, who lives in Bahrain, because I moved.  
 By Isabella



Mrs. Penberthy's Grade 2, Sullivan School  
**STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!**  
 My dad is in the Army, and I am a military child. There are good things about being a military child. I miss a lot, so I get to try new foods in different countries. In Japan, I get to eat sushi. I also get to meet new friends. I can learn new languages, and Japanese is my favorite language. There are also some hard things about being a military child. Sometimes I feel stressed when I have to move because I don't know the language very well. I miss my friends' birthdays because I move away. I miss my family too, like my grandma and grandpa, and my friends because I am gone for a long time. That is what it is like to be a military child.  
 By Elizabeth







CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2nd Grade / Ms. Yamaguchi

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Kalina

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is that I can make new friends. One friend that I made is Freya. A bad thing is when I had to leave my dog in Virginia. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Emerie

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I play with Chris and Hayden. A bad thing is when we have to be away for a long time. A good thing is I like the new friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Samuel

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is you make new friends. I play with Chris and Hayden. A bad thing is when you leave friends. I miss Hally and Zach from Italy. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Selma

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I make new friends. A bad thing is when I have to leave my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Blaklee

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I make new friends. The names are Fern and Kalina and a bad thing is leaving my dog.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Addison

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I get to see my dad. A bad thing is when I have to be away from my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Emeralda

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I play with my friends. A bad thing is when I have to be away from my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Jayden

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I play video games with my dad. A bad thing is when my dad had to leave for 1 month. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Dune

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I make new friends. A bad thing is when I have to be away from my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Good Bad

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when you get a bigger house. You have more space. A bad thing is when you have to leave your friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Freya

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I get to go on a cruise and see the world. A bad thing is I had to leave my friend like a soldier. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Mina

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I get to see my dad. A bad thing is when I have to be away from my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Christopher

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I make new friends. A bad thing is when I leave friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Vander

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I get to eat my favorite food. A bad thing is when I have to be away from my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Thu

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when I get to see my dad. A bad thing is when I have to be away from my friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Good Bad

A good thing is that I got to see my cousins, Lillah and James. A bad thing is I had to leave my cousins in Virginia. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Eleanor S

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when you get to meet new friends like school friends or neighbors. A bad thing is when your dad has to leave for a long time like a soldier or war. Now you know about being a military kid.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID  
YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

Alexia

Being a military kid can be good or bad. A good thing is when you get to see new friends. A bad thing is when you have to be away from your friends. Now you know about being a military kid.

CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2nd Grade / Mrs. Tanaliga

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Aze Finney

Hey you! Yes, you! Do you want to learn about a military connected child? It's hard and fun because I will miss my friends, but I will make new friends. I will miss my dad when I go to places I don't want to go. I will see my dad after one year. I have to leave my dad when he goes to work. Now you know what it is like being a military connected child. It is hard but fun.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Zain Cleveland

Hi, my name is Zain. Do you want to learn about being a military child? It is fun but sad because your dad has to go out in the sea. It is fun because you get a nice man and dad. Being a military child in Japan is the best. This is what it's like for me being a military child.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Yuzu Athina Watt

Hi, I am Yuzu. I am a military child and I like it. It is fun and hard, because I need to say goodbye to my dad. He was gone for three years when I was two. I missed him so much. It is still fun to be a military child because you can make so many friends and you get to go to another country. These are the reasons I like being a military child.

STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Vana Clark

Hi, I'm Vana, a military child. It's fun being a military child. First, you can go to fun places, like Hollywood, Japan, and Washington! Next, you can have great food, like hamburger steak! Lastly, you can have nice experiences, like field trips! Sometimes your mom or dad goes on a ship for months or a year. But this is what it's like as a military child for me. The End



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Van Maxwell Sevilla

Being a military kid is fun. It is fun because I move around the world and learn about different events. I can have fun learning experiences about different cultures in different places. The people can teach us different languages. That's why being a military kid is fun.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Tristan Pollock Durning

Being a military connected kid is hard and fun. It's hard because you leave your friends and neighborhood behind. It's hard because you leave your family and teacher. It is fun because we can move and try new food and places. It's fun because you can make new friends. Now you know why being a military connected kid is hard and fun.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Sophie Fujita Kip

Hi, my name is Sophie Fujita Kip. I am a Military connected child. Do you want to know why I have both happy and sad feelings about it? I felt sad when I thought my cats were not coming to Japan. They had lots of checks. I was sad when I left my friends in America behind. I am happy because I wanted to go to Japan and that made me happy. Are you a Military child or a Military connected child like me?



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Skylor Nguyen

Hi, my name is Skylor. Do you want to learn about a military kid? If you want to learn then I will tell you. I am a military kid. It is fun to be a military kid because you can travel to new places but the hard thing is when my dad goes for a long time I miss him so much but sometimes I call him and my dad says "I miss you! And he comes home soon. Now you know about a military kid.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Sawyer Smith

Being a military kid can be hard. I had to leave my friends behind. I had to leave my cat behind. I have to walk everywhere. I MISS MY FRIENDS!



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: River Rey Ordozco

I'm a military child. It's really hard being one because I have to leave my family, my friends, my school, and my home. Next, my dad has to leave us. We barely get to face chat with him, and he never gets to text back to me. Last, it's scary going to a new school and a new country when we move. Now you know how it's like being a military child.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Lila Kate Lathus

Hey there! I'm a military kid. This is my normal life. My dad works on a ship. We travel a lot and go to new places with my family. Sometimes we even go camping and fishing. This is my normal life as a military kid.



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STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Jayren Carrey Zarroga Raymond

Hi, my name is Carrey. I am a military child. It's fun but hard too. I like being a military child because I have military friends and they are nice. Being a military child is hard because sometimes your dad needs to go somewhere far for three months. Being a military child is fun because sometimes you can go to your dad's ship. Being a military child is hard because sometimes you need to take a vaccine shot. This is why being a military kid is fun and hard.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Jaxon Yargo

Hi, I am Jaxon. I am a military kid. My dad works in the military. He is very brave and strong. When he goes to work I feel sad but not any more because I know he'll be safe. At the military my dad works very hard. When my dad comes home I become happy. Also my mom is the best cook in the world. If you try her food you'll love it! So try my mama's food. It's really good. Now you know about my life as a military kid.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Helen Ray

I love being a military kid but sometimes it's hard. Your mom or dad goes on deployments, or you lose your best friends. Sometimes it's also fun because you can travel to new places, and learn tons of new things. You can also make more friends. That's why I love being a military kid, even if it's hard.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Eren Garcia

Hi, My name is Eren. I am a military connected kid and it is hard. I will miss my friends when I move to America. It is also hard because I can't play Pokemon with my best friend anymore. This is why being a military kid is hard.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Edward Lee Lizarraga

My name is Edward Lizarraga. Being a military kid is emotional because I have memories of family and friends that we left. It's hard and fun because I move away from my family, house and friends, but also fun because I get a new house and I make new friends. I learn new stuff and traditions wherever we go. Now you know what it's like to be a military kid.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Naomi Garcia

Hi, my name is Naomi. I am a military kid. The military is fun. I get to visit many places. Being a military kid is exciting because I get new friends and new teachers. I am sad because my Japanese best friend moved. I made a new best friend. Now you know why it is fun to be a military kid.



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Carlo Foward

I am a military kid. I am happy because you move around the world. Also, you get new friends. Sometimes you make special friends. I miss my old city. Stay strong, military kids!



STRENGTH AND COURAGE OFF THE GRID! YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M A MILITARY KID!

The Sullivan's Elementary School, 2nd Grade

By: Cameron O'Neill

Are you a military kid because I am. I am a military kid because my dad is in the Navy and he is on a ship. The ship is the USS John Fenn DDG 113. I'm sad when my dad goes on deployment for a long time. My dad deployed from June to November. And right now in 2026, he left in January to the end of May. It is hard when he is gone, but I am happy to be a military kid.



CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

# SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## 2nd Grade / Mrs. Arrant



**Military Child**  
By: Harvey

Dandelions leave  
So do you, but you have a purpose  
Come home safe.

**Military Child**  
By: [Name]

Think of an awesome child  
I see a military child like you  
Leaving a place can be hard as a nut  
I love being a military child  
Thought it's hard being a military child it's also fun  
Changing the food because you get to try new food and make new friends  
Read a book about a military child you will love it so much you will  
You will love being a military child

Army  
Cherry  
Navy

**Military Child**  
By: [Name]

For being a military child we have to face challenges. I have to move, meet new friends, and fly on planes. But I like to be a military child because we can move to different countries and learn about different cultures. Flying on planes feels very challenging because it is a long flight. I still like flying on planes and eating new food. Deployment is even more challenging, like riding a rollercoaster. This is what it is like being a military child!

**Military Child**  
By: [Name]

The thing about being a military kid is that we have to move a lot. It is like we left in a flash. Another thing about being a military kid is that my dad is on a deployment and he is gone for months, but it felt like years. A positive thing about being a military kid is that we get to travel a lot. Those are things about being a military kid.

**Being a Military Child**  
By: Chloe Doerr

It can be hard being a military child. There are some good and bad things. One good example of being a military child is that you get to make new friends. Another awesome part is that you go to new places. One final example is that you get to learn new languages and new cultures. One negative part about being a military child is that family and friends might leave. Another hard part is that you might not like the food. A final challenge of being a military kid is you have to move everywhere. That is the life of a military child.

**Military Kid Haiku**  
By: Timothy

Military kid  
is nice you can eat new food  
like sushi and eat!

**Being a Military Connected Kid**  
By: Dayton

Being a military connected kid is hard for me because my mom has to go on a plane to Sasebo for a week many times. My mom gets off work so late it's like she is there all day. One example of her working a lot was when she got a phone call in the middle of the night and had to fix a light bulb. That is why being a military connected kid is hard for me.

**Military Child**  
By: Miu Lassiter

Moving a lot is sad  
It makes me sad  
Leaving friends is sad too  
I am military child, I feel the same way as you do  
To new school to new house  
A military child is as hard as a math test  
Riding planes is as easy as eating a piece of cake  
You now know how it feels to be a military child

**Happy to be a Military Child**  
By: Savannah

Making new friends  
Inspire to be a military child  
Leave friends and family  
It's fun to become a military child  
To meet new people  
Amazing cultures to learn  
Ready to eat tasty food  
You are smart and hard working

**Military Kids**  
By: Kailani

Military kids go through change. You move every 3 to 4 years, but it is ok because you can make new friends. Also you get to try new foods. Trying new foods is delicious, sweet, crunchy, and good. New school and you will get smarter. And that is the life of a military child.

**MILITARY**  
By: Josephine

Making friends  
It's so hard to leave friends  
Lots of time in the air  
It does give us an opportunity to try new food  
The times are hard when parents leave  
And when parents come back our hearts fill with joy  
Ready to go, lets have some fun  
You can read a letter or a picture, and that it all you can do

**Military Child**  
By: Patricia Baybayon

Military child.  
Make lots of friends all the time.  
Happy to be one.

**Check out more military children stories at**  
[japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)

**Military Child**  
By: Marley Herrera

What being a military child is like leaving your school, home, and friends behind is like losing your favorite thing. Another thing is deployment when your mom or dad leaves and sometimes it's sad, but it's ok to be sad. One last thing about being a military child is there's also different food, culture, and places to see. Now you know what it feels like to be a military child.



**Military Child**  
By: [Name]

I am happy to be a military child because we get to meet new friends, go to new schools, and see new places. I love being a military child because we get to eat some different foods. It's ok to be sad when your parents leave for deployment. It's also ok to be sad when you miss your friends. Even though you are sad, you might see them again! I hope you are happy to be a military child just like me!

**Military Kid**  
By: Jasmine Simmons

Move a lot  
In new places  
Leave friends and family  
It's okay to be sad  
To leave your favorite country  
A military kid is as difficult as a math test  
Retirement means your parent comes back  
You have some ceremonies to be honored as a military person.

**The Military**  
By: [Name]

Memories of places I go.  
It is hard to be a military child because of the deployment.  
Like carrying a big rock.  
It is sad to leave friends while missing.  
Tired but fun times of being a military child.  
A poem that represents being a military child.  
Right and left moving the feet.  
You're right, it is challenging to be a military child.

**The Military**  
By: [Name]

My family moves a lot.  
In the military sometimes you have to sacrifice.  
Leaving family is hard.  
It's ok to be sad.  
The military is as tough as a tiger.  
As the military they respect the families of the military.  
Retire from the military is when you stay at home and go out more.  
You have to leave friends and family when you are in the military.

CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3rd Grade / Ms. Maggio

**Life of a Military Child**  
By: Quinn  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

**Moving**

My parent goes on deployment or out to sea.  
In some situations you do not want to leave but you have to pack your bag.  
Living in different places is fun, you can go to other countries around the world.  
In all different places we make friends.  
In the best place after at least 3 years.  
Amazing places I get to go.  
Remaining friends over and over in heart.  
Yes it is great to be a military child!

**APRIL**  
MOMC Month

**Working for the Navy**  
By: Oliver  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

This is but it's like being a military kid, I don't like being a military kid because I miss my friends a lot. It makes me sad. I used to live in Florida. My mom works at NAFAC Japan. My bike can't run anymore. The only thing that is good is the cherry blossoms. That is what it is like to be a military kid.

Sullivan

**You Are A Military Child**  
By: Kai  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Learning new cultures  
You are a dandelion  
Meeting new people

April is your month  
Traveling is the best thing  
April is the best.

**A Military Kid**  
By: Massimo  
Sullivan Elementary School  
3rd Grade

I lived on base in America and Japan. I make new friends. I like being a military kid.

**Military is the Best!**  
By: Zayne  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

Monday, purple up!  
Making new friends, being friends,  
Meeting new people.

Celebrate April!  
Traveling is a great thing!  
Navy is the best!

Loving some old friends.  
Give me a dandelion  
Making new best friends!

**The Navy**  
By: Rosalind  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

The Navy is good.  
The Navy is the greatest.  
The navy is kind.

Moving upsets me.  
Making new friends is scary.  
Deployments are sad.

**Navy**  
By: Abbie  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

No worrying about having no friends, instead be brave so that you can get a friend.  
Accept moving to different countries.  
Very fun to move to different places.  
Yes! Have the most fun time while you're here.

**Be Brave!**

**Being A Military Child**  
By: Xander  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Let me tell you how it's like to be a military child. If you're a military child you will experience moving. Moving feels sad or uncomfortable if you never moved before. You will also experience leaving friends behind which feels sad. The best thing is learning new cultures. When you learn new cultures it feels intimidating when you don't know what language they're speaking. Now you know what it's like to be a military child.

**Military**  
By: Ryan  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Lost friends on the way  
We celebrate in April  
Monday's purple up!

Have a new friend now  
Give me a dandelion  
Moving out of town

**Sullivan**  
By: Keiden  
The Sullivan School  
3rd grade

Deploying parents  
April is the most fun month  
April is the MOMC

**Military**  
By: Sydney  
The Sullivan School  
3rd grade

My heart is in the military  
I'm a military kid  
Like you!  
I meet people everyday.  
Talking to people you don't know is very scary!  
All people think that it's bad, well it's not!  
Rose, you're as brave as a dandelion.  
You're a military kid!

**Navy**  
By: Jordan  
The Sullivan school  
3rd Grade

Nowhere you will lose.  
A day is not a day if you did not have fun.  
Vacation is the best.  
You are the vibe.

**MOMC**  
By: Kianna  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

Navy is working  
April is the best.  
Visit a new friend.  
You are a dandelion.

**Wow!**

**Life of a Military Child**  
By: Evelyn  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

New languages like Japanese  
A community of Navy people  
Visiting all the places around the world  
Yummy food all around town

**Set Boy's Cover**  
By: Warren  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

Leaving my best friend  
Mom, Dad go on deployments  
Sometimes I feel sad

**Military Kid**  
By: Raisa  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

I will tell you what it is like to be a military child. One thing is the new friends. Being a military child means you have to be brave like a lion because you make memories together with your friend. Finally, you do not want to move but you have to. Now you know what it's like to be a military child.

**Military**  
By: Madison  
The Sullivan School  
3rd Grade

Missing your parents from deployment.  
In the navy it can be sad sometimes because you have to say goodbye to friends.  
Living in different places.  
It can be hard to make new friends.  
Trying to say goodbye to your parents.  
A new life in a new country.  
Relocating to a different country.  
You should never give up.

Month of the military child

Be brave!

CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

# SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## 3rd Grade / Ms. St. Germain

**Depot**  
By Catherine Kasperberg  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Don't feel sad that your parent is deployed. I know it might feel like someone missed your team.  
Every time you go to their parent to be back in their arms again.  
People miss feeling their parent hug them once again.  
Lots of people don't know that they have a super power and that super power is being able to make new friends outdoor and under than everybody who isn't a military kid.  
Over one million people are military children in whatever you feel like you don't belong just remember you are a military kid.  
You can do, you can be great, just remember that you will be in their arms again.



**NAVY**  
Name: Abby Kasperberg  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

**Not getting to see your mom or dad when they are out to sea.**  
**Active duty always supports our country — The USA!**  
**Very understanding you like hope that you wish you got from your mom or dad.**  
**You will always be strong even if your mom or dad is gone.**



**Military Connected**  
By Avery Lind  
Grade 3 at German  
The Sullivan School

Being a military connected child is great. When makes it so great is that my mom served on a military base by teaching other military kids and military connected kids. In addition I get very happy to be a military connected kid because I support the military. That's why I like being a military connected kid.



**Navy**  
Avery Lind  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Never give up when military people leave out to sea.  
Always stay strong when they leave.  
Very important sailors are there for you.  
You can be brave and protect people when sailors are gone.



**Navy**  
By Noah  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Never staying for over three years.  
Always moving a lot.  
Very sad every time they leave.  
You'll at least be happy to have new friends.



**Naval**  
Chloe  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Missing the military.  
Everyone helps and support the military.  
Like people who support the military.  
People like my dad for helicopters.  
Fun teachers like more back military kids.  
Dad is the best.  
Love the military.



**World of the military ship**  
By Eric Anthony Cruz San Nicolas  
The Sullivan School Grade 3

Love and respect for the country.  
Everyone military people are proud enough to know what they need to do.  
Being a military child support your parents.  
I am so happy and love being a military child.  
Thank you for your service.  
Admiring the other people and their things.  
Military people who help others.  
Very proud help our military base.



**Military**  
Mica Parilla  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Making connections to the military even when your dad is in the military.  
Important work helps the country.  
Leaving your home because of the deployments.  
Invisible military kids help that family.  
Tough decisions with best feelings while your parents are gone.  
Active duty are called to service.  
Remember me to be strong when my dad is deployed.  
Three years and you parents come back from places.



**Military**  
By Morris  
Grade 3 St. Germain  
The Sullivan School

Military people are helpful.  
I am connected to the military.  
Love them working hard.  
I wear purple shirt.  
The military are smart because they're sailors.  
A military are strong.  
Really help us survive.  
You are working hard.



**NAVY**  
Sophia  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Sea being a military child is hard,  
but you are strong.  
Are you strong? Are you happy?  
You are a girl. You get to work for fun places.  
Very very sad to miss, but you are strong, are strong.  
You make your parents miss. You make them happy.  
I bet you if they are out and they see you they will start being happy.



**Navy**  
Name: Noah  
The Sullivan School

Was so important.  
Was happy to see.  
You can be a hero.  
You can be a hero. You can be a hero.



**Military Child**  
By Zoey  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Military is our protector.  
I am a military child.  
Like wear purple shirt.  
I love the military.  
They protect our country.  
And they protect me.  
Really hardworking.  
You are connected to the military.



**Military Child**  
By Christopher Gury  
The Sullivan School grade 3

Men and women help people survive.  
Inspiring navy people inspire other navy people.  
Look at the navy people. They are so kind.  
I feel special because my dad is helpful in the military.  
That navy people by that best even when they are tired.  
At the military you have to work and serve people.  
Remember if your parents are in the military they are special.  
You are a gift for the world.



**Deployment**  
By Andrew Dang  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Deployments are long and spending.  
Separated from a lot of work and little sleep.  
Plenty of kids waiting for their moms or dads to come home.  
Missing their dad or moms even when they are away.  
Outside they look at the deployments. It reminds them about military life.  
You are all even when they are gone they still will come back.  
Many people leave the country to keep on safe.  
Every military child goes through their moms or dads going out to sea.  
Not many people know that they have a superpower but they do.  
Being a military child.  
Till your mom or dad comes back, stay strong.




**Military**  
By Lincoln  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Military ships fight to save us.  
I love the military.  
Sailed to the Navy.  
I love the sea.  
Thank you for helping our country.  
Always appreciate the Navy.  
Support the military.  
You are the best navy.



**Navy**  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Not getting to see your family for weeks at a time.  
Always protecting your family and friends and the country.  
You can always go to the ocean and working better and better from your friends.  
They always moving and not getting to see your family in 3 years.



**The Child**  
By Isaac Fried  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Celebrate when parents come back.  
Hardest people volunteer to be in the military.  
In a few months, parents come home from deployment.  
Every day I miss my dad when he's gone.  
Parents miss their loved ones and are happy when they come back.



**Military Kid**  
By Cullen Collier  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

I'm a military child. When my dad has duty I'm sad but when he comes back I'm happy. I can also live on base because my dad works for the navy. I like to live on base because my friends live there. We play soccer and play at the park. That's how my life as a military kid.



**Navy Life**  
By Louella  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

Navy Life is hard but you are strong.  
A life that is sometimes hard, but awesome.  
Very sad to lose friends but easier to make new ones.  
You make the world a better place.



**My Military**  
By Daniela  
The Sullivan School  
Grade 3

My dad teaches people in the jail.  
I hope he doesn't get up. He has only 7 years left.  
Love the military.  
I appreciate my dad working so hard.  
Telling my dad thank you for protecting us.  
A military people helping us without danger.  
Really working hard.  
You are the best military.

**Military**  
I will wash you.



Check out more military children stories at [japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)

## CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

## SULLIVANS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## 3rd Grade / Mrs. Hunt &amp; Mrs. Tovar

I love being a military child. I get to make new friends. A lot of people move around. I get to travel. I went to New York. Sometimes my dad is gone for 1 year. He is gone right now. I enjoy visiting dad's ship and sometimes we eat together on the ship. It makes me happy and sad to be a military child.

By Romulo B.

It is cool being a military child because I move to different places, and I try new food. First, I like that we move to different places. For example, I have moved from California to Japan. I like traveling around the world because it is so fun and I also get to go to the Philippines.

When I move to different places I like to try new food. I like trying new foods because it is fun. For example, when I arrived in California I'm always eating new food like spaghetti. Here in Japan I tried new foods like karaage, and ramen.

Sometimes it can be sad being a military child. It can be sad because my dad leaves. I'm sad because sometimes he cannot call. For example, when he leaves I'm sad and I would cry but he sometimes calls and that makes me happy. He will always come back. In conclusion, that is why it is cool being a military child.

By Maxcine V.

I think being a military child is exciting. First, I make new friends. When I go to the park I see new people and I ask them if they want to be my friend.

Next, I try new foods. When I go to visit the states I try different cheese sticks to eat. Here in Japan I try sushi, ramen, and clam soup!

Sometimes I am sad because when my dad leaves to go on the ship he is gone for a week or more. I'm very happy when he does finally come home and I can see him. That is why being a military child is exciting.

By Aurora B.

I feel loved and special to be a military child. It is my dad who is in the military. I feel loved because I get to make a lot of friends. I have friends here in Japan. I play with my friends at SAC, the park, and church. My best friend at school is Jude. I feel special because I get to do fun things. Some fun things I get to do are going out to dinner. I also got to go to Kyoto. This is why I like being a military child.

By Brendan

Being a military child is fun. Here are my reasons why I love being a military child. I always get to move to different places. I've moved to North Carolina, Texas, and Japan. I always get to try new food wherever I go. The new foods I tried were peanut butter sandwiches with strawberry jelly, and the 7-11 pink sandwich with cream and sprinkles. I have met a lot of new people. I meet new people because I like to make new friends. This is why I like being a military child!

By Chloe D.

Hello, I will be telling you about my life as a military child. I like being a military child because I get to go to new places, make lots of friends, and try new foods. I like that I can travel to new places I don't know. For example, I traveled to Japan from California. I also get to make a lot of new friends. Having a lot of friends means I have company all the time. My friends are always being nice to me all the time and we get to play a lot. I also have met new people when I go to new schools. Sometimes I get sad because I will miss my friends when I move, but I like moving to new places. I am sad saying bye to my friends, but happy when I make new ones. When I am at new places I get to try new foods. Some of my favorites are chicken, rice, and yakisoba.

Even though being a military child is fun, it can be sad too. It is sad because my dad has to be deployed for work. I have to wait months until he comes back. Sometimes he comes back at night, but I get to see him in the morning. My mom works a lot too, so sometimes it makes me sad when she is not home too. This is why my life as a military child is fun and sometimes sad.

By Ian

It is hard being a military child. Sometimes I don't like being a military child because my dad has to deploy a lot. My dad has to go on a ship and go to different countries and continents. When he deploys, it makes my family and I sad because he has to go for a few months. But, I am happier now because he came back recently.

We have to move to different places. I like to see new places, but I don't like having to learn new languages all the time. For example, I learned Japanese, but when I moved I forgot it. Now I will have to move to Spain and learn a new language to communicate with others.

It is hard being a military child because when I make friends I usually have to move or they have to move. It is fun making new friends, but I get sad if one of us has to move. All in all, being a military child can be fun, but overall it can be hard and it makes me sad.

By Jude P.

This is why being a military child is special to me. It is special because I get to make new friends, try new food, and learn new things. This is why being a military child is special to me.

This is my first reason being a military child is special to me. First, I get to make new friends. I get to make new friends when I go to the park and I see new people. I ask if they want to be my friend. This is my first reason being a military child is special to me.

My second reason being a military child is special to me is because I get to try new food wherever I go. For example, here in Japan when I go to Gyu-Kaku I try new meat to cook. Sometimes I even try different sushi.

My third reason being a military child is special to me is because I get to learn new things. One example is that if I did not move to Japan, I would not have learned Japanese. I even got to learn how to fold different origami.

These are all my reasons being a military child is special to me. It is special that I meet new friends, learn new things, and try new food. That is why it is special to me to be a military child.

By Larkin H.

I like being a military child because I get to move to different fun places, make new friends, and try new foods. I like to move to different places like California, Florida, and Japan. I also get to travel to different places like the Philippines. When I move I get to make new friends. I can start a conversation with someone and ask if they would like to be my friend. I also like to try new foods like sushi and karaage. Sometimes it is sad because my dad leaves for work. That is why I like being a military child.

By Maddox

Hello, today I will tell you about my life as a military child. I like being a military child because I get new friends, I get to see amazing places, and I get to try new foods. I don't like being a military child because my father leaves on deployment and I leave my friends. Now I will tell you about my full life as a military child.

My life as a military child is sad because my father has to leave home to go on deployment and I always feel sad and lonely. He leaves and comes back three months later! (Fun fact, that's one fourth of a year! It's a long time.) Another thing that's sad about being a military child is that whenever I leave or move somewhere I always have to leave my closest friends. It's hard to get more friends. Again, I feel sad and lonely.

My life as a military child is fun because I get to make awesome new friends when I move. My friends were always so kind to me. My new friends are too. I feel happy and free. Sometimes my friends become my best friends! I then come over to their house and play video games. Another good feeling. Whenever I move somewhere I get to see new places. It's always a beautiful site. I feel like I could do anything! It's amazing. The last thing that's fun is I get to try delicious foods! Sometimes I don't like the food but that's ok. This is why my life as a military child is fun and sad.

By Matthew C.

In my opinion, I think being a military child is great. First, it is great to be a military child because I get to go on the ship. Next, it is great because we get to visit my dad and eat food on the ship with him. I like being a military child because we get to move and go to a new school. Also, I get to make new friends. Lastly, I enjoy being a military child because we get to go to different places. For example, we get to travel to Japan and all around Asia. That is why being a military child is great.

By Noa

In my opinion, being a Military child I feel excited, sad, and nervous.

I feel excited being a Military child because I get to try new food and go to new places. I have moved to Japan, Korea, and Italy. My favorite food that I have eaten was udon which is from Japan. I also like other foods too, but udon is just my favorite food. I'm also excited to make new friends. Every time I go to new places I make like 20 friends.

Sometimes I get nervous because my dad has to go away on a navy ship for a month. I can only call him or text him and that also gets me nervous because sometimes he can't answer me. Sometimes I get nervous getting on an airplane because I get sick. Even though I get sick, I still like when we move to different places. Being a military child is an adventure.

By Rila B.

I love being a military child. One reason is it makes me feel loved and happy when I get to make new friends and try new things. For example, I get to meet lots of new people and friends when I move. It makes me feel happy and loved because I can play with them. Another reason I like being a military child is it makes me feel safe and cared for. For example, I can get cool items from different places and it makes me feel cared for. I get excited to try new food like sushi, ramen and desserts. Overall, that is why I love being a military child.

By Sadie

I like being a military child because I like making friends, exploring new places, and learning about new cultures.

I like making new friends so we can learn new things from each other and talking with my friends. I like playing with my friends and sharing ideas with my friends. Me and my friends can go to school together and go to fun places. I love making new friends.

I like exploring new places is so much fun. I go to Tokyo, temples, and shrines. I can explore new places like mount fugue and so many fun places. I love exploring new places.

I like learning about new cultures. I like learning about new places. I can learn so many new cultures like how they live, how they eat, and how they talk. I love learning about new cultures.

I love being a military child. It is so much fun. I can make new friends, explore new places, and learning about new cultures.

By Sierra E.

I like being a military child. It makes me feel special, loved, and happy. For example, I get to visit new places like Hawai'i, Kyoto, Tennessee, and Virginia. Even though I will miss my friends, I still might be able to see them again because we're military and military connected children. I think that it is really important to make new friends when you PCS. Another example is, some people don't feel nervous anymore when they have new friends. Most people have playdates to hangout and play outside with each other. Sometimes you move somewhere and you don't know that some of your friends might be moving there too. I think that visiting new places makes fun new memories. For example, I get to buy souvenirs from the new places I go to. You can get traditional souvenirs, crazy stuff, and regular souvenirs like stickers. It doesn't really matter if you are nervous to go on vacation, it matters that you have a good time there. I like being a military child because I get to experience new and fun things. I get to try new foods and desserts. That's why I really like being a military child.

By Sophia T.

Being a military connected child is fun because you are loved, you are safe and sometimes sad but, most of all you are special and can do more things that you have never done before. My first reason it is fun is because I can go to different schools and meet new people. For example, I moved to Japan and got to make a lot of new friends which made me feel happy and loved. It is also hard because sometimes my mom has to go away for her work. That makes me feel sad. I also like being a military connected child, because I can try new foods in different places like Japan, Germany, Australia, Cuba, Hawaii and Africa. I have tried new foods like mochi, good ice cream, pizza, coconut drinks, and many more. All of these places have all kinds of new foods that you can try. My third reason being military connected is fun because you can visit people all over the world. You make so many friends in the world that can teach you more things than you know and you can visit them. It's fun being a military connected child because you get to do so many cool things that make you special.

By Zoey P.

I feel happy being a military child. I like going to new places. Going to new places feels fun. I like going to Sapporo. It is exciting to visit other places because you can have fun there too. Going to other places is cool because you can buy souvenirs. When you go to other places it is cool because you can try new food. Trying new food is yummy and you might find a new favorite food. So that is why I feel happy going to other places to have fun. To sum it up, this is why being a military child is fun.

By Alex W.

I think being a military child is special, sad, and makes me nervous. I will tell you why I feel special, sad, and nervous. My first reason is that I get nervous because if I go to a new school, I will not know the people at the school. For example, I moved from Texas to Japan and I didn't know anyone, so I was nervous. I feel special being a military child. I feel special because I could move and see different places. I feel sad being a military child. I feel sad because if I move I will have to say goodbye to your best friend. In conclusion, I think being a military child is special, sad, and nervous.

By Alyssa A.

I like being a military child because it is fun. My dad works for the military on base. I like to be with my family. I like to spend time with my mom and dad. I also like to be with my sisters. We like to travel and I really like to go to Tokyo. Mommy always drives the car to Tokyo. This is why being a military child is fun. I like to move to different places, it makes me feel happy. I like trying different burgers around Japan.

By Amo



I feel awesome and special to be a military child. One reason I like to be a military kid is that I'm smart and kind. For example, I help people I don't know. I am also a hard worker. I work very hard on math and sometimes it's challenging for me.

My second reason I feel awesome and special to be a military child is because I am important to my family. For example, my family loves me for what I do every day and how I try my best. We go on super cool adventures together. We have been to Guam, Hawaii and Japan.

My third reason is that I am happy to have friends and family. My friends support me and my family loves me for what I do. Another example is that I am special because I'm brave, strong and smart. This is why I like being a military child.

By Chuck

I like being a military connected child because it's fun. First, I like being a military child because you get to do new things and try new foods. For example, I also go to new schools. In the summer I get to learn more Japanese by going to Japanese school.

My next reason is that I can travel to new places like Oklahoma, Texas and Iwakuni. I get to celebrate my birthday in different places. For example, my dad celebrates my birthday and takes me to my favorite place to eat Chick-fil-à. I get presents and eat snacks. Also, I get to explore on my dad's ship and that is fun.

My last reason I like being a military child is because I get to play sports like soccer, football, basketball and baseball. Sometimes I'm sad because my dad leaves for 3 months and he misses a lot of my games. Sometimes I'm sad when he misses an entire season. I'm happy though because when he is home we get to go camping with my dad. When I move away from my friends I get new friends and that makes me happy. When I get to leave Japan and meet my friend in Korea that makes me happy too. I like to get to play with my friends outside and go to Coaska Mall to play crane games. That is why I like being a military connected child.

By Jax

- I am happy being a Military Child.
- I am trying new food every day.
- I love my family so much.
- I moved to Yokosuka.
- I am sad because I miss my dad.
- I am shy about making new friends.
- I am safe.
- I love moving to new places.
- I am so special for being a military child.

By Khari

Life as a military connected kid makes me feel amazed, sad and happy. I will tell you why it makes me feel that way.

First, I feel amazed because things in different countries are cool like the Great Buddha. I think that different countries have cool religions. Like when I went to Kamakura I saw a Buddha. When I went to Tennessee, I went to Dollywood.

Next, it makes me sad because you have to move. Like once when my mom got a job in Japan, I was sad because I had to move. I had to leave my really close friend that lives in America. I also feel sad because I had to leave my pets. I wish that I could bring my cat to Japan but I could not because he would throw up a lot in the new environment. I also feel sad because I cannot see my family.

Last, I feel happy because I get to go and move to different countries. If my mom did not get a job here, I would not be able to travel in Japan as easily. I also feel happy because Sullivans is a really good school. I also feel happy because I have very nice friends here. Lastly, I feel happy because I get cool souvenirs here. That's why I feel amazed, sad and happy.

By Margot R.

I like being a military child because it is fun. My first reason is because it is fun to travel. I like traveling because I get to move and meet new teachers and friends. My second reason is I get to try new foods and see if I like it or not. I like trying new food because I don't like to eat the same food for a long time. My third reason is because I get to see cool places like landmarks and national parks like Mount Fuji, Mount Everest, and Mount Rushmore.

I like being a military child because it's fun. I am happy when I get to visit places to see my best friend. I like being a military child because I can also visit places to see my grandpa and grandma or my cousins. I like being a military child but sometimes I'm sad when my dad has to go on the ship. So that is why I like being a military child.

By Maya J.

I like being a military child. The first reason I like being a military child is I get to go to new places like Florida, Virginia, Washington D.C, Washington State, and Japan. I also get to buy souvenirs from all the places I visit.

The next reason I like being a military child is because I enjoy meeting new people. I am shy, but I like making friends. I am sad because I have to leave my new friends behind when I move.

The last reason I like being a military child is because it is super fun! Some of the fun things I get to do is go to theme parks like Universal Studios and Disney. I like trying new foods and going to new restaurants. These are the reasons why I like being a military child!

By Maya S.

In my opinion I think being a military child is exciting. It's exciting because you get to see new places and make new friends. You also get to try different foods all around the world.

First, I like being a military child because you get to see different places. I have traveled to the other side of the world. These are the places where I have lived Okinawa, Japan, Chula Vista, California and Yokosuka, Japan. I have visited a lot of places in Asia to see different places. For example, I visited lots of interesting places like Kyoto, Osaka, Philippines, Tokyo and Yokohama in Japan.

Next, I like being a military child because you get to make new friends. I have made new friends all over the world. Some of my friends are all over the world. Some are in Okinawa, Chula Vista and Yokosuka. Not all my friends are military so they don't move.

Lastly, I like being a military child because you get to eat different foods all over the world. I've been to a lot of places and had delicious foods, but I have a favorite food in Chula Vista. For example, my favorite food in Chula Vista is carnitas fries. I have been to a lot of places in Japan and I picked my favorite. My favorite food in Japan is ramen.

Being a military child is exciting because you get to see new places, try different foods in the world and make new friends. That's why being a military child is exciting for me.

By Reese P.

This is why I like and do not like being a military child.

Sometimes, I am happy because I get to try new foods. I was in Arizona, now I am in Japan, and I feel sad. Also, sometimes I get sad because some of my schools get cut short. In my last school, my mom told me that we are moving to Japan. I feel worried because my dad is going on deployment. That is how I feel about being a military child.

By Michael H.

In my opinion, being a military child feels exciting. The reason why I think being a military child is exciting is because I get to move into new places. My second reason for being a military child is being sad because you might miss your friends or family. My last reason for being a military child is being loved! When you move to a new school someone might want to be your friend. My last example is when someone says "you want to be my friend". That makes me feel loved. That's why in my opinion being a military child feels exciting.

By Jamina

Hi this is why I like being a military child. I like that I get to travel with my family around Japan on a train. We go to places like Disney Land, Kyoto, and Tokyo. I'm sad sometimes when my dad has to go away for work. It makes me sad when he leaves me. I'm happy when my dad comes back. I also like that I get to try new foods like tiramisu. It is now my favorite dessert. This is why I like being a military child!

By Tiernan

## 4th Grade

What it means to be a military child to me is that we make a lot of big sacrifices! If you do not know what we mean, check it out! We are different from other nonmilitary kids because they most probably do not have to say goodbye to their loved ones multiple times over the course of the years. This is what stands out to me as the most heartbreaking thing we have to go through, and sometimes it makes me feel very sad.

I have moved with my family five times before turning ten years old. That is more times than the average 10-year-old, except for my fellow military friends, of course. Imagine that with every move, we have to say goodbye to our neighbors, friends, schools, and all we knew to start all over again.

I can say that being a military child has also provided me with the opportunity to learn new cultures, visit multiple countries, and embark on adventures that have been fun and memorable. My favorite so far has been being able to experience the Christmas markets in Europe and, more recently, going to Guam, where my mom and dad got married and lived during their first years together, and where my dad served his first years in the Navy.

Living in a military family feels like a never-ending roller coaster—one that makes you scared, excited, joyful, and weary all at the same time. It feels like living on an ongoing adventure, with all the certainties and uncertainties that make you appreciate all the moments in front of you, as they feel like they are flying by.

By Camila Carrillo



Do you wonder what it's like to be a military child? Have you felt scared, excited, and sad at the same time? Or imagine going on a new adventure often? Or say goodbye a lot to your parents? A military child goes through a lot of feelings.

First, the feeling of excitement knowing you'll get to live somewhere new. You can eat different foods and visit new places. It is exciting to make new friends. Moving somewhere new means you'll go to a new school. Also, military children travel a lot. Next, the feeling of sadness, fear and stress comes. Being a military child means you will be far away from your families and friends, changing schools often, and trying different foods. This can be stressful. Staying in a new place you're not familiar with can be scary.

Furthermore, you feel sad saying goodbye to your family and friends. Because of deployment, you might not see your parents often. At times you might not see your parents for 6 months or longer. Also, you might not be able to talk to your parents for a while. This makes a military child feel sad.

Overall, military kids are adventurous, brave, and resilient. Military kids move a lot, face different challenges at the new place, and learn how to adjust quickly. Military kids adjust to a new house, school, and culture. Being a military child helps you learn new things. This is what a military child goes through.

By Audree Itugot



My name is Luca Nardi, I am a military child living in Yokosuka, Japan. Being a military child has good things and bad things about it. One good thing is that you can explore new places and cultures. Also, you can make new friends from all over the world. So that's why I think being a military child is cool. Being a military child could also be hard and difficult, like parent's deployments and them always being away. Also, not living near other family members. It can also be difficult having to say goodbye to friends and make new friends. In conclusion, being a military child can be difficult but also has many good things about it.

By Luca Nardi

April is the month of the Military Child, and that means April celebrates (and shows) how much people appreciate military children. Even though I'm a DoD civilian child, I go to the Sullivans Elementary School with many like me and other military children and learn a lot from them!

When I just moved here in Japan, I thought it was quite different from where I came from. Now, I'm familiar with this place and my school! I learned that home is not just a place, it's wherever my family goes. Also, when I said I was a DoD civilian student, I meant that my daddy's work is linked to the military, which I'm proud to know that my family is helping in our own way.

By Zya Sablan

I attend a military school, and even though I'm a civilian, this place has become very special to me. Because my parents work and help support the military, I was given the chance to study with children of service members. From the start, they made me feel welcome, like I belonged, even though there were only a few of us who were not military kids.

Being with military kids taught me many things. They are very strong, even when things are hard. They move to new places and make new friends. They smile even when they miss their moms or dads. I learned that being brave does not mean being loud. Sometimes being brave is quiet.

The hardest part for me is saying goodbye. For my friends, moving to a new place or school is normal. For me, it's painful every time. When my closest friend had to move away, I tried to act okay, but I cried a lot. School did not feel the same without her. Every laugh felt a little incomplete.

I miss the simple moments the most playing at the park, watching movies together, and having sleepovers at her house. Those small memories mean everything to me.

Military kids are strong in ways that really inspire me. Because of them, I learned that real friendship does not disappear with distance. Even when friends move away, the memories stay, and the connection stays in your heart.

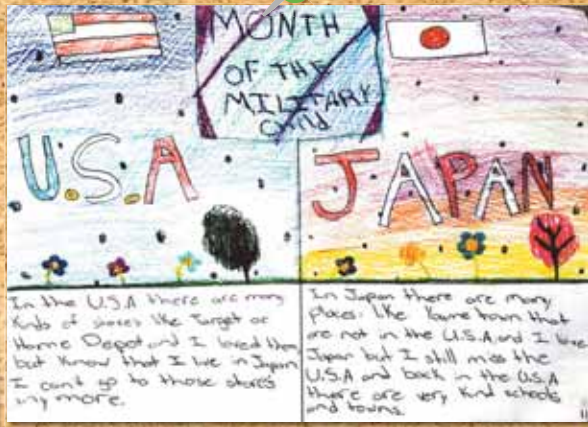
By Chyla Jayeanne Penolan

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# CELEBRATING MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD Iwakuni Intermediate School

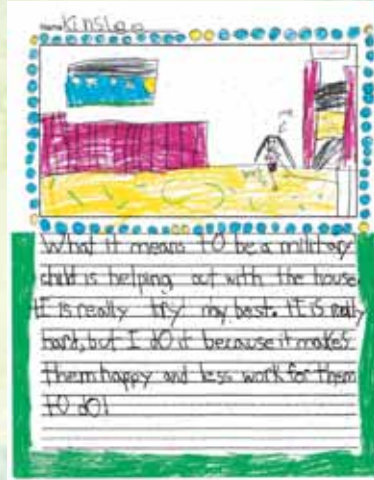
Art class  
Ms. Colburn



celebrating Month of the Military child

1st Grade  
Mr. Greenman

# John O. Arnn Elementary School



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1st Grade  
Ms. Fernandez

Celebrating Month of the Military Child

# John O. Arunn Elementary School



My Dad is in the military. I miss living in the U.S. It was sad leaving my friend Henry. I make new friends in Japan. I wish I could go back to the U.S.

I like Japanese food. Sushi is yummy. It's fun in Japan.

My dad is in the military. I get sad when I leave my friends but then I make friends around the world.

What it's like to be a military child making new friends, I try new food, we move to different countries, parents going away. It's hard learning new languages because some languages are hard for me. I love being a military child.

I want to go to the beach in the summer. I want to go back.

When I was at camp it was nice and I got to go to a ship. I was staying in a tent. It was so fun. I got to see the white party. It was so nice. I love traveling. It is so amazing!

I'm moving to the U.S.A. I like people who are nice. How Mr. Donalds in the U.S.A. I want to be a baller in the U.S.A.

When I go to a restaurant, the food is good. I like exploring new places. Friends are good together. Going to new schools is fun.

I live in Japan. I love eating sushi. I like to visit in Japan because I love the beach.

Exploring different places is fun because you might see something new. You get to eat new and yummy foods that could be healthy and good for you. Food could be really yummy.

I made a friend after I got off of the plane. We went to the beach. After the beach we went to the restaurant. I fell happy by making a friend but I felt sad when I left.

My dad is in the military. Sometimes he goes to meetings. I get to meet new friends all over the world.

I am a military child!! I feel so happy that I am a military child! I went to a restaurant where a toy baller took delivery your food. My best experience was being on the best baseball team ever! Partying in the pool is amazing.

I like making new friends. On vacation I tried a new drink. I like trying new food. I like being with my sisters.

When I get to Illinois, I want to visit the city and explore. After I explore I will journal about my adventures. I want to learn Spanish. When I get to Illinois, my best sister named Ami will be 1 year old and we can have fun new tricks.

I like having Japanese friends. The parks in Japan are nice. I get to be in Japan. I get sad when my dad goes away.

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I feel good in Japan. I like the beaches. There are rabbits in Japan.

I like Japanese people. They are so nice. I like it my favorite food.

I am going to make new friends. It is going to be fun. Eating new food is going to be yummy. Living in Japan is the best!



celebrating Month of the Military Child

# John O. Arnn Elementary School

3rd Grade  
Ms. Cooper

Moving a lot  
Intelligent  
Learning around the world  
I'm strong and mighty  
Thankful for my family  
Awesome at making new friends  
Responsible  
Youthful

Cool  
Helpful  
I'm Joyful  
Loving  
Caring

Miracle  
I Deas  
Loving  
Imagination  
Thankful  
A Wesome  
Responsible  
youthful

caring  
Honest  
I love this year  
Learning  
Dahcjh

Mindful and smart  
Intelligent  
Loving and cute  
In different places  
Thankful  
A Wesome  
Responsible and responsible  
Young

Cool and kind  
Heartful  
In a different house  
Liked  
Darling and sweet

By: Mabel

Mighty and tough  
Integrity  
Learn new things  
Imagination on work  
Talk on phone to family  
Athletic  
Responsible every day  
Young and wise

Courageous  
Helpful  
Improve on work  
Listen and grow  
Daniela Rivera

By: Jensen Daniela Rivera

MOVING MILITARY  
Integrity  
Learning  
Independent  
Trustworthy  
Athletic  
Responsible  
YES to good stuff

Creative  
Healthy  
Improvement  
Loving  
Don't be mean

BY: ARISS CARSON

Motivated  
Idle at home  
Light Leated  
I eat good food  
Tiny but strong  
Army child  
Ready to go  
Young

Creative Minecraft kid  
Happy  
I go to alot of stuff  
Lunar moon kid  
Deal maker

Integrity  
Loving  
I am patient  
Truthful  
A Wesome  
Responsible  
you are strong

Cool  
Helpful  
I'm Joyful  
Loving  
Caring

By: Colleen Aubrey

Intelligent  
Loyalty  
Into curries  
Typing  
A Christian  
Responsibility  
Your helper  
Honest  
Integrity  
Like to learn  
Do tasks

All about  
Me a military  
child!

By: Jenavive walley

Integrity  
Loving  
Travel  
Truthful  
Artist  
Respectful  
Yes to fun things

Caring  
Helpful a lot  
Important  
Learning  
Delightful

By: Noelen Hayashi

Moving around the world  
I am safe  
Leader  
I am strong  
Truthful  
Active at reading  
Responsible  
You are brave

COOL at making friends  
Honest  
Integrity  
Listens to important things  
Decides hard decisions

BY: Logan Eklund

Mighty  
Integrity  
Loving  
Travel  
Truthful  
Artist  
Responsible  
Yes to fun things  
Caring  
Helpful a lot  
Independent  
Learning  
Deductive  
and curious

By: Emma Lopez

Making friends  
Intelligent  
Loyal  
Independent  
Traveling around the world  
Active  
Responsible for my belongings  
Young and sometimes scared but brave  
Creative  
Helpful  
Integrity  
Little but mighty  
Deciding tons on decisions

All About  
My MILITARY  
Life

By: Bella Schenck

Moves a lot  
Integrity  
Loves family  
Intelligent  
Tackles challenges  
Awesome  
Ready for adventures  
Youthful in life

Creates wonderful crafts  
Helpful  
Independent  
Likes to make big decisions  
Daring

Military Children

By: Laila Stewart

Mighty  
I struggle but I live through  
Listening but not looking  
I travel but don't forget  
To the people who are good  
A person who is strong  
Reminds people to do good  
You are especially one of them

Child work hard  
Helping others when they are struggling  
I know we struggle but there is a way  
I love we are, but strong  
believed big decisions

MILITARY  
Rock!

stay strong

By: Ethan Bousip

My life of a Military Child  
Integrity  
Loving  
Travel  
Truthful  
Artist  
Responsible  
Yes to fun things  
Caring  
Helpful a lot  
Independent  
Learning  
Deductive  
and curious

My life of a Military Child  
Integrity  
Loving  
Travel  
Truthful  
Artist  
Responsible  
Yes to fun things  
Caring  
Helpful a lot  
Independent  
Learning  
Deductive  
and curious

By: Nolan McEath



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# Stripes Sports Trivia

Before making a switch in the 2014-15 season, what name did the Charlotte Hornets franchise go by?

**Answer**

Charlotte Bobcats

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### DID YOU KNOW?

For many in Japan the harbinger of summertime is the sight of the first freshly caught bonito fish at the market. In May, chances are you'll see many locals asking for the fish at markets and restaurants. It's eaten as sushi, sashimi or "tataki" (lightly seared but still raw) with soy sauce, ginger, garlic, wasabi or green onion.

Kanji of the week

川  
Kawa/sen [river]

### Language Lesson

I have headache.

Atama ga itai desu.

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### The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

#### ACROSS

- It may be raw
- Gilbert of "The Conners"
- Plant support
- "Giant" author Ferber
- Make arrangements
- Glass-polishing powder
- Stabbing in the back
- Leafstalk angles
- Not quite right
- Forever
- Computer capacity
- Unmusical
- Mary Kay rival
- Do away with
- Tend the sauce
- Daisy-like flowers
- Type of terrier
- Prosecuted again
- Through the ears
- Turns to ashes
- Steep-sided hills
- Calcutta wear
- Draft source
- In \_\_\_ of (rather than)
- Arranges in sequence
- Old name for Tokyo
- Former Secretary of State Albright
- Laser's kin
- Dye-yielding shrubs
- Like a nonagon
- Ran off with
- Comprehends
- Truth alternative
- Canary's kin
- Opening for a coin
- Ogler

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17			18						19			
20					21			22				
23			24	25								
	26	27			28			29	30	31	32	
33	34				35			36				
37					38		39					
40					41		42					
43				44				45				
	46	47				48			49	50	51	
52	53	54						55	56			
57						58		59				
60						61			62			
63						64				65		

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#### DOWN

- Hinder, legally
- Fluid build-up
- "Star Trek" warp drive fuel
- "\_\_\_ and the Real Girl" (2007 film)
- Bond, e.g.
- 1979 sci-fi classic
- Tirade deliverers
- "Rugrats" brat
- Doctor's orders
- University in San Marcos
- Seed cover
- "A View to a \_\_\_" (Bond film)
- Effortless
- Oregon city on the Columbia
- Bridge call
- Fill with anxiety
- Very thin pasta
- "Voices Carry" pop group
- Emerald \_\_\_
- Actor Jonathan \_\_\_ Meyers
- Javelin paths
- "Will be", in a Doris Day song
- "It is what it is" and others
- Business interactions
- Springer or Brittany
- Merlin of football and TV
- \_\_\_-one: long odds (2 wds.)
- Tractor surname
- Court call
- M, to Einstein
- Penny \_\_\_
- Last name in fashion
- Assistant
- PA time zone

#### Answers to Previous Crossword:

K	N	O	B	M	O	B	S	A	S	T	E	P
I	O	W	A	S	P	E	C	S	A	U	D	I
L	A	N	C	A	S	T	E	R	P	U	R	G
T	A	S	K	S	E	P	I	C	E	N	T	E
			S	H	A	D	V	O	C	A	L	
A	M	U	L	E	T	B	E	N	T	E	U	R
P	U	N	I	S	H	M	E	N	T	A	N	N
P	L	E	D	E	A	T	E	R	M	E	T	E
L	A	V	E	N	I	T	R	I	C	A	C	I
E	N	E	S	I	N	E	T	U	R	K	E	Y
			N	A	T	A	L	R	E	L	Y	
P	A	T	R	O	N	A	G	E	P	L	O	W
O	F	F	E	R	N	O	S	T	A	L	G	I
S	T	U	N	K	D	R	I	P	I	R	M	A
H	A	L	T	S	S	E	N	D	S	E	P	T

### SUDOKU

Difficulty: Medium

Edited by Margie E. Burke

#### HOW TO SOLVE:

Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answer to Previous Sudoku:

2	9	3	7	6	8	5	1	4
7	6	1	4	2	5	8	9	3
8	5	4	9	1	3	2	7	6
1	7	2	8	4	6	9	3	5
4	8	9	3	5	7	1	6	2
5	3	6	1	9	2	4	8	7
6	1	5	2	3	9	7	4	8
9	2	7	6	8	4	3	5	1
3	4	8	5	7	1	6	2	9

6	2			8		3		
3			2		1			4
		9		5			2	3
	8			3			9	
			7			5		
1								
			8			2		
2	5		1			6	7	

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Celebrating Month of the Military Child

3rd Grade Ms. Binkley

# John O. Arunn Elementary School



Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Lyta Hughes

My family is strong.  
I love being a military child.  
Love is mighty in the military.  
I am strong.  
To be brave you need to be strong.  
Anyone has the right to fight.  
Ready to fight for our safety.  
You got this.  
Can you support the military?  
Help support your people.  
It is important to keep you safe.  
Love is what makes you strong.  
Do your best and never pressure.

Military Child Acrostic poem  
Name: Gemma Griesgraber

**Military kids rock**  
I love being a military kid  
Long deployments  
I am unstoppable  
Take a risk.  
Aggressive.  
Run fast.  
You can do it.  
Childhood.  
Hard work pays off.  
Including them.  
Love again.  
Decisions are hard.

Military Child Acrostic poem  
Name: Gemma Griesgraber

**Military kids rock**  
I love being a military kid  
Long deployments  
I am unstoppable  
Take a risk.  
Aggressive.  
Run fast.  
You can do it.  
Childhood.  
Hard work pays off.

Name: JASMINE IOWE

M motivated to move and try something new  
I like to move and seeing new places  
L Leaving can be sometimes fun  
I I'm excited to make new friends  
T Time to move and see new cultures  
A Army's protect are country and love that they do that  
R Retired from the Navy  
Y You fought for us  
C challenged but you helped me  
I I like speaking new languages  
L Learning new languages is fun  
D Discovering new things

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Emory Lynn Charles

Military Children Are The Best  
I Am Brave  
Leaving Home Town  
It Is Good To Make New Friends  
Time To Be A Winner For Your Family  
Adventure Is A Good Thing  
Retirement  
You Can Do Your Best  
Citizenship  
Hard things Can Help You Get Better  
I am Leaving  
Leaving Can boost your confidence  
Dad's Help You Get Better

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Rowyn Higbee

Mighty like warriors  
I am strong  
Losers are not us  
I'm strong  
Trustworthy military children  
Amazing like God  
Really awesome like the military  
Young military children  
Cool and amazing  
Hardworking military  
I am awesome  
Loyal soldiers  
Daring kids

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Theo Smith

Move if you have to  
I like living in Japan  
Living the life of a military child  
It's okay to relocate homes  
Teamwork makes the dreamwork  
Amazing military child  
Resilient, brave and strong  
You are brave  
Children are awesome  
Hardworking military  
Involved in community  
Loving, caring and passionate  
Does the right things

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Genesis

M mighty and strong  
I like to move.  
L love new places  
I I'm sad to lose friends  
T Tired of moving  
A An exciting flight  
R Really tired  
Y You excited about moving  
K Kids move for a reason  
I I'm scared about crashing  
D Determined to always have fun  
S survivors are what we are  
T Too good  
R Represent our country  
O oh my g\*\* we are so smart! not quitters

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Emory Lynn Charles

**Military Children Are The Best**  
I Am Brave  
Leaving Home Town  
It Is Good To Make New Friends  
Time To Be A Winner For Your Family  
Adventure Is A Good Thing  
Retirement  
You Can Do Your Best  
Citizenship  
Hard things Can Help You Get Better  
I am Leaving  
Leaving Can boost your confidence  
Dad's Help You Get Better

Name: Ren

Military people are strong  
Inventors like Thomas Alva Edison  
Losers are not us  
Invaders are not us  
Tradition we make  
Adventures we do  
Ready to fight  
You represent my country  
Cool people are us  
Having friends is fun  
Informal people are us  
Lucky life  
Doing fights to win the war

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Adiel M

**Mighty as a rock**  
In combat we are good  
Losers are not us  
In war we win  
Tradition is what we do  
Adventures we have  
Represent our Country  
Yeah we're the best  
Cooler than anyone else  
Have you ever left home  
I Encourage Warriors  
L Left to war  
Do you want to leave

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Rowyn Higbee

Mighty like warriors  
I am strong  
Losers are not us  
I'm strong  
Trustworthy military children  
Amazing like God  
Really awesome like the military  
Young military children  
Cool and amazing  
Hardworking military  
I am awesome  
Loyal soldiers  
Daring kids

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Zuzu Barson

**Mighty Strong.**  
I love my family.  
Love is a good feeling to feel.  
I can never wait to hear where we go next.  
The school is a military school.  
A base is where I live.  
Races of everyone is greatest for me.  
You love everything about it.  
Challenges can help you in the future.  
Helping is great.  
I love playing with my friends.  
Love is a blooming flower.  
Dads or, and moms go to work.

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Korben Brown

Moving when it is tough  
I am going to make new friends  
Loving my Community  
I will protect my love Ones  
The People will never give up  
And the Army Will protect everyone  
Remember when it's tough don't get don't give up  
Yes people Will Fight For the whit  
Care for other People  
Hate will try to get you but you can fight back  
I will live my best life  
Live your Dreams  
Do the right thing

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Lillian Porter

Make new things.  
I can help out.  
Like to move to new places.  
I can try new things.  
Try my best.  
Aim at your dream!  
Right way.  
You are a military child!  
Come across hard things.  
How are you  
I am brave.  
Love new things.  
Do your best!

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Adigal Biggs

Mercy and kindness  
Insisting on trying something new  
Legendary Fighter for freedom  
Important Person for everyone  
Trustworthy Strong people  
Amazing Adventures  
Respect for all People  
Years of Winning with help  
Courage makes us Stronger  
Hardworking brings us the best  
Inspirational people who fought for our freedom  
Loving and caring  
Doesn't give up

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Annela M.

**Military kids are strong**  
I am brave  
Leaving home  
It's still fun!  
The travels  
And the excitement  
Road to adventure  
You are awesome!  
Change is hard  
Having new friends  
In the Army  
Loving the Army  
Don't give up!

**Check out more military children stories at**  
[japan.stripes.com](http://japan.stripes.com)

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: ...Japhin Thomas

Make new friends  
It is ok to miss home  
Lots of new food  
I do not like to move  
Time to move  
A beautiful country or state  
Re-start  
You are strong  
Challenge to say bye  
How do I do this  
I am brave  
Love meeting new friends  
Doing this can be hard

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Skai Davis

My mom works in the Army  
I am a brave kid  
Like staying at the army  
I am warrior  
The military is cool  
Anyone can win the war  
Really thankful  
You're really brave  
Could you work in the Army?  
Help other people  
I'm strong  
I like working  
Do you like the military



Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Autumn Harne Date: April 7th 2026

**My savior**  
Incredible people  
Leaving countries  
I don't like moving  
Travel around  
A warrior  
Respect the Army  
You're the best  
Caring for the military  
Have fun  
I love the Army  
Live life  
Different things can be ok

Military Child Acrostic Poem  
Name: Jasmine Cardona Date: April / 7/ 2026

Military Family  
Incredible kids  
Leaving countries  
I'm incredible  
Traveling around the world  
Amazing students  
Running fast  
You are brave  
Children Rock!  
Help people in need  
I will never give up  
Leaving could be hard  
Do your best at work

