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**Children's Books for Young Children in Military Families**

[**Child Care**](http://articles.extension.org/child_care), [**Military Families**](http://articles.extension.org/militaryfamilies) September 16, 2015 [Print Friendly and PDF](http://www.printfriendly.com/)

Children's books are such a great way to help children deal with change - and military life certainly has plenty of that!  Here are some books that can help young children deal with different changes that may occur in their families. **The books in bold** have a specific military theme and include characters in military families. Others are recommended because of how well they deal with emotions from a child's perspective. Even though the situation doesn't involve a military element, children will relate to the emotions of the situation. Most of these will be appropriate for children **aged 2 to 5** unless otherwise indicated.

**Military Life**

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

**Deployment/Separation**

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

**Relocating: Preparing**

* Goodbye House by Frank Asch
* Moving House by Anne Civardi
* Mouse Moves House by Phil Roxbee Cox
* Will I Have a Friend? by Miriam Cohen

**Relocating: Adapting**

* Augustine by Melanie Watt
* I Love You All Day Long by Francesca Rusackas

**Homecoming**

* **Home Again by Dorinda Williams**
* **When Daddy Comes Home (age 5+) by Kristie Algeo**
* Countdown 'til Daddy Comes Home by Kristin Ayyar

**Strong Emotions**

* When I Feel Sad by Cornelia Spelman
* No Matter What by Debi Gliori
* My Many Colored Days by Dr. Seuss
* The Way I Feel by Janan Cain
* When I Feel Angry by Cornelia Spelman

**Injury of a Parent**

* Sparrow by Dorinda Silver Williams
* **Our Daddy is Invincible! (age 5+) by Shannon Maxwell**
* **That's My Hope (age 5+) by Marlene Lee and Lil Ingram**

**Death of a Parent**

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

**Activity Books**

* **My Dad's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Boook for Young Children (age 4+) by Julie LaBelle**
* **My Mom's Deployment: A Deployment and Reunion Activity Boook for Young Children (age 4+) by Julie LaBelle**
* Help Me Say Goodbye: Activities for Helping Kids Cope When a Special Person Dies (age 4+) by Janis Silverman