

Books about Deployment

Sammy's Solider by Sarah L. White

Families across the country are experiencing the joys and hardships that come with having a soldier and Americans are grateful for their sacrifices. The purpose of this book is to normalize the deployment process for the children of our service members. It is designed to help children of all ages realize they are not alone and soldiers are appreciated for the work that they do. This is one of many books showing support for our service members and their families.

Daddy's in Iraq, but I want him back! By Carmen R. Hoyt

An hour is a long time to a small child. How do you describe the length of a military war deployment to a preschooler? When attempting to tell my son that his Daddy was not going to be gone for just a week or seven wake-ups, but for several months, I longed for a better way to lay it out for him. I felt a need for this story to be written when my three year old, Jack, became very insecure upon his father's deployment to the War in Iraq. I wished there was a way to help him "get his little arms around" the situation. It was new for me also and I didn't know how to help him. When my husband returned safely, I wanted to write the story. I wanted to document this time in our family's life; to put parameters around the situation for little people, who have no idea what's going to happen or why. Hopefully children can use our story to help deal with these deployments by seeing that there is a beginning, middle and thank God, an end to their parent or loved one being gone.

Daddy will you miss me? By Wendy McCormick

Kindergarten-Grade 3 Four weeks seems like forever to a youngster whose dad is on a business trip in Africa. Rituals such as the father whispering his sons name to the wind and sending kisses across the ocean and the boy marking off the days on the kitchen calendar help pass the time. When the child and his mother feed the winter birds, he imagines his father watching giant African birds and when he follows animal tracks in the snow, he imagines the man following lions across the sand. When the day finally arrives for the narrator, his baby sister, and his mother to go to the airport, the boy is the first to find his father and leaps into his arms. This gentle picture book will be reassuring for children coping with a brief separation from a parent and is ideal for Fathers Day displays. The nameless child's first-person narrative is gentle and depicts a contemplative lad. The illustrations, done in warm, homey shades, are executed in crayon pencil and depict the boy's world as one filled with love and parental support and concern.

Daddy is a Solider by Kirsten Hallowell

It is very simple and easy for him to understand. The book is narrated by a little boy who is very proud of his dad's job even though it sometimes makes his dad travel far away. It briefly explores the feelings a child may feel in this situation.

A Year Without Dad by Jodi Brunson

A Year Without Dad was written to be a comfort to any child who has a parent serving in the National Guard. Whether the parent is away during war or peacetime, military separation can be a scary time for a child. What children will learn from reading this book is that it was not such a scary time for Ryan and his little sister Anna. Reading through the book season by season and being able to read about Dad coming home at the end will make the year seem to go by more quickly. After reading this book to your children, we encourage you to create a diary or scrapbook of your own. Your children and your soldier will be able to cherish it always.