

Military Service Resource List for Grades K through 4

Books

Nonfiction and Biography

- Brave Like Me, 2016 by Barbara Kerley (Author).
When someone is serving our country far from home, everyone in their family must be brave. This book speaks to all kids in this situation in telling the story of a boy and a girl with parents away on duty.
- G.I. Dogs: Judy, Prisoner of War, 2018 by Laurie Calkhoven (Author).
Join Judy on her incredible journey from puppy to soldier to POW as she narrates her story of survival and heroism.
- H is for Honor: A Military Family Alphabet, 2006 by Devin Scillian (Author), Victor Juhasz (Illustrator).
This book explores the branches of the Armed Services and speaks from the heart about the honor, privileges and sacrifices of military families everywhere.
- Jefferson Barracks: Images of America, 2011 by Sandie Grassino (Author), Maj. (Ret.) Art Schuermann (Author).
Since it was founded in 1826, Jefferson Barracks has stood for nearly two centuries as a symbol for many aspects of America's history. It played a huge role in all the countries conflict and remains an important depository of the Nation's history.
- Memorial Day (Rookie Read-About Holidays), 2002 by Jacqueline S. Cotton (Author).
Introduces the history of Memorial Day and explains how it is observed today.
- Pearl Harbor: Ready to Read Level 3, 2001 by Stephen Krensky (Author), Larry Day (Illustrator).
Written in simple yet clear language, the book teaches readers about the political scene before and after the bombing of Pearl Harbor by the Japanese in December 1941, and how this event shaped our country's place in the world.
- Primary Source Accounts of the Vietnam War, 2006 by Kim A. O'Connell (Author).
Looks at the Vietnam War through the eyes of soldiers and others involved. The author uses letters, diaries, and other documents to give the reader a more personal view of this war.
- Primary Source Accounts of World War II (America's Wars Through Primary Sources), 2006, by John Richard Conway (Author).
Explores World War Two through the documents of the time, from diary entries and letters to song lyrics and speeches.

- Primary Source Accounts of the Korean War (America's Wars Through Primary Sources), 2006 by John Richard Conway (Author).
Looks at the history of the Korean War through the letters, diaries, newspaper accounts, songs, speeches and literature from the time.
- Secret Agents! Sharks! Ghost Armies: World War II, 2017 by Laurie Calkhoven (Author), Valerio Fabbretti (Illustrator).
Before Julia Child was a famous chef, she was cooking up shark repellent during World War II! That isn't the only exciting and interesting story from the war. Tactics that included inflatable army tanks, costumes, and fake radio transmissions.
- Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero, 2017 by Patricia McCormick (Author), Iacopo Bruno (Illustrator).
As cannons thundered and shells flew, the little horse marched into battle—again and again—becoming the only animal ever to officially hold military rank (becoming Sgt. Reckless) and receive two Purple Hearts.
- Sergeant Rex: The Unbreakable Bond Between a Marine and His Military Working Dog, 2012 by Mike Dowling (Author), Damien Lewis (Contributor).
The inspiring story of a U.S. Marine and his dog Rex, a bomb sniffing German Shepard, who forged a bond of trust and loyalty while serving on the war-torn streets of Iraq's most dangerous city.
- Veterans Day (Rookie Read-About Holidays), 2002 by Jacqueline S. Cotton (Author), Nanci Vargus (Consultant Editor).
Explains the history of Veterans Day and why it is observed and suggests ways of honoring veterans on this special day, such as flying the flag, attending parades, buying poppies, and visiting hospitals.
- Veterans: Heroes in Our Neighborhood, 2013 by Valerie Pfundstein (Author), Aaron Anderson (Illustrator).
Fosters mindfulness of, and appreciation for, the brave service men and women who are also our family, friends, and neighbors. These are the men and women who bravely served our great country and now humbly serve in our communities

Fiction

- America at War: Poems Selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins, 2008 by Lee Bennett Hopkins and Stephen Alcorn.
More than 50 poems exploring war, from the American Revolution to the Iraq War. Includes Walt Whitman, Langston Hughes, e. e. cummings.
- Night Catch, 2014 by Brenda Ehrmantraut (Author), Vicki Wehrman (Illustrator).
When a soldier's work takes him half-way around the world, he enlists the help of the North Star for a nightly game of catch with his son.
- Poems in the Attic, 2015 by Nikki Grimes (Author), Elizabeth Zunon (Illustrator).
During a visit to her grandma's house, a young girl discovers a box of poems in the attic, poems written by her mother when she was growing up.
- Postcards from a War, 2009 by Vanita Oelschlager (Author), Mike Blanc (Illustrator).

A young boy and his grandfather collaborate on building a scrapbook with postcards the boy's mother sends him from her overseas deployment.

- Silent Music: A Story of Baghdad, 2008 by James Rumford (Author, Illustrator). As bombs and missiles fall on Baghdad in 2003, a young boy uses the art of calligraphy to distance himself from the horror of war.
- The Veterans Day Visitor (Second Grade Friends), 2008 by Peter Catalanotto (Author, Illustrator), Pamela Schembri (Author). With Veterans Day coming up, Emily's grandfather volunteers to talk to her class about the holiday and the people it honors.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- Arlington National Cemetery: Explore the cemetery and its history. (Brochure)
<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Portals/0/Web%20Final%20PDF%20of%20Brochure%20March%202015.pdf>
- Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery: Jefferson Barracks is the oldest National Cemetery. (Brochure)
<https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/pdf/JeffersonBarracksNationalCemetery.pdf>
- Military Kids Life: a print magazine for kids whose families are in the military.
<http://www.chameleonkids.com/magazine/>

Online Links

These sites have a rich array of resources, including background information, simulated experiences, and much more.

- The Pritzker Military Museum: This resource has an outstanding collection of artifacts and information as well as rotating exhibits you can view online. Students can listen to music from the WW I era and explore personal narratives from soldiers in Vietnam, and much more. There is an extensive digital archive for research purposes.
<http://www.pritzkermilitary.org/>

Background information for the Educator

- National History Day website: This section contains classroom resources, links to research sites to help students get started, as well as resources to help teachers bring primary sources into their classroom every day. <https://www.nhd.org/teacher-resources>
- National Cemetery Administration Veterans Legacy: This is an educational outreach program that provides resources and links for educators.
<https://www.cem.va.gov/cem/legacy/index.asp>