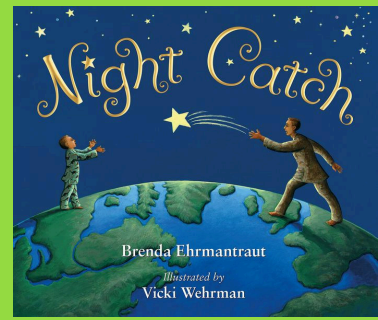


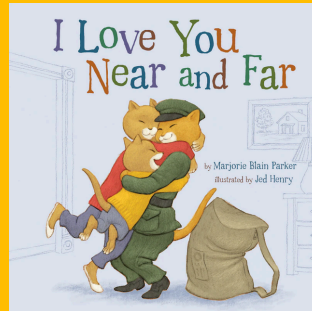
10 BOOKS ABOUT SEPERATION



Night Catch



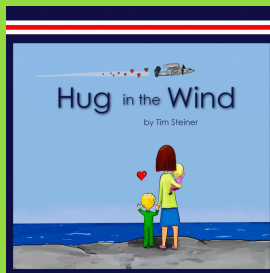
Lily Hates Goodbyes



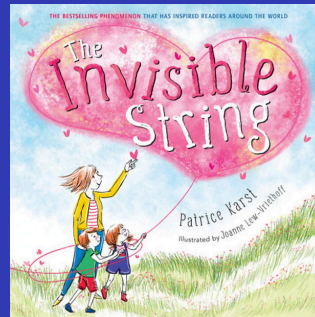
I Love You Near and Far



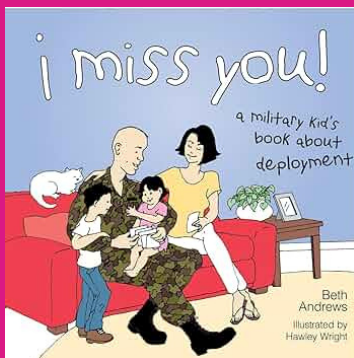
Monroe Tales: It's not Goodbye, It's see You Later



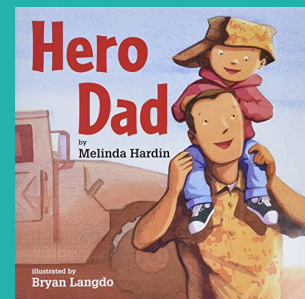
Hug in the Wind



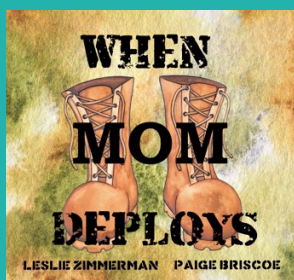
The Invisible String



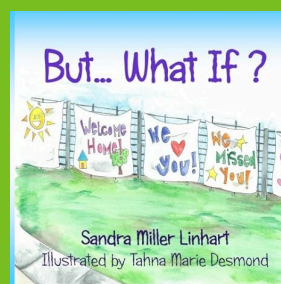
I Miss You!: A Military Kid's Book About Deployment



Hero Dad



When Mom Deploys



But... What If?

Elmo's Deployment Story



Sesame Workshop

10 BOOKS ABOUT ABSENCE

Some of these books are available on YouTube as "Read Aloud" videos.

Night Catch

Author: Brenda Ehrmantraut, Illustrator: Vicki Wegman

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.

Lily Hates Goodbyes

Author: Jerilyn Marler Illustrator: Nathan Stoltenberg

This heartwarming and inspiring storybook helps children ages 2-7 thrive despite a parent's lengthy absence. Lily's daddy is deployed for about a billion days. She feels angry, sad, stubborn, and naughty. Her mommy helps Lily understand her emotions and cope with them in healthy ways. With her mommy's steadfast love, Lily finds ways to be happy despite the separating miles; she bikes and swings and plays the piano. She collects mementos in a Memories for Daddy box and adds stickers to a calendar to help count down the days to daddy's return. When the big day finally, finally arrives, she jumps joyfully into her daddy's arms. Lily loves hellos! This is an updated NAVY version: daddy wears a Navy uniform.

I Love You Near and Far

Author: Margaret Wild, Illustrator: Ann James

A heartwarming story of letting go and starting anew, with a unique illustration style that allows room and space for the reader's imagination.

Monroe Tales: It's Not Goodbye, It's See You Later

Author: Schuyler Croy

When Monroe's owner must leave for a while, he worries that the time apart is going to be tough. While jumping sky-high for a ball to wading through a large pile of leaves and even getting ready for his owner's return, Monroe learns that this is only a "See You Later" and not a forever "Goodbye". Embark on a journey with a fun-loving dog named Monroe whose owner goes away on a military deployment. Get lost in all the experiences and emotions Monroe faces as he learns that these trips are temporary absences and not forever. "Monroe Tales: It's Not Goodbye, It's See You Later" allows young readers to relate to high-spirited Monroe as he navigates the struggles many children face when a family member leaves for an extended period of time.

Hero Dad also available as: Hero Mom

Author: Melinda Hardin Illustrator: Bryan Langdo

Some superheroes wear rocket-propelled boots, drive super-powered cars, and have X-ray vision. But other superheroes wear army boots, drive tanks, and go away for long trips to make the world a safer place. It's a tough job, but superheroes can do it.

Hug in the Wind

Author: Tim Steiner

Hug in the Wind touches the heart of every military family with this encouraging picture book of a parent's hug sent home wrapped in the wind.

The Invisible String

Author: Patrice Karst Illustrator: Joanne Lew Vriethoff

Parents, educators, therapists, and social workers alike have declared The Invisible String the perfect tool for coping with all kinds of separation anxiety, loss, and grief. In this relatable and reassuring contemporary classic, a mother tells her two children that they're all connected by an invisible string. "That's impossible!" the children insist, but still they want to know more: "What kind of string?" The answer is the simple truth that binds us all: An Invisible String made of love. Even though you can't see it with your eyes, you can feel it deep in your heart, and know that you are always connected to the ones you love. Does everybody have an Invisible String? How far does it reach? Does it ever go away? This heartwarming picture book for all ages explores questions about the intangible yet unbreakable connections between us, and opens up deeper conversations about love.

I Miss You! A Military Kid's Book About Deployment

Author: Beth Andrews Illustrator: Hawley Wright

Military families face stressful times that are unique to the military lifestyle. One of the most challenging situations, both for children and parents, is when a father, mother, or sibling is deployed for military service and must be away from the home. Children often experience sadness, anger, fear, anxiety, and loneliness, and they do not understand their own feelings or know how to express them. This book is designed to help children especially, but also their parents, during such difficult times.

When Mom Deploys, also available as: When Dad Deploys

Author: Leslie Zimmerman, Illustrator: Paige Briscoe www.lesliezimmerman.org

The children of military personnel face the trauma and anxiety of separation due to deployments. Parents are often not equipped with the knowledge or tools that they need to provide comfort through these challenging times. In an easy to understand and entertaining format, this book opens the conversation about deployments. Parents will be able to give children an understanding of what is occurring and empower them to continue to grow and learn and develop their own inner strength and coping strategies.

But... What If?

Author: Sandra Miller Linhart Illustrator: Tahna Marie Desmond

Dealing with the separation and reunion anxieties associated with military deployment, this book is a solid favorite among all branches of military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Reserves, and National Guards. Will Daddy remember me? Will I remember him? Homecomings are wonderful reunions, but they can also be stressful at times. Daddy is coming home, but he's been gone a long time. Will he recognize Bean? Will Bean be able to pick Daddy out in a sea of soldiers? This charming children's book written by the award-winning author, Sandra Miller Linhart, and illustrated by the accomplished artist, Tahna Desmond Fox opens up a dialogue between the military child and his or her caregiver, and makes military separations and reunions a more positive event.