

What Is “War”?



Helping Children Understand and
Cope with Military Deployment

War is...

- Open armed conflict between countries or groups within a country.

What is a “conflict”?



Conflict occurs when people cannot get along peacefully.



It would be nice if everyone always got along with each other. But sometimes that just doesn't happen and a conflict happens.

More About Conflict



- When mothers and fathers cannot get along, they sometimes get a separation or divorce.
- When children cannot get along, they might get into an argument or fight.
- When countries cannot get along, they sometimes get into a war.
- Divorce, fight and war are examples of conflict situations.


Avoiding Conflict



Most of the time, people and countries work out their disagreements and avoid conflict by:

- Trying to talk it out and understand each other.
- Each one giving up some of what they want (compromise).
- Making an agreement or peace treaty.

Why do we have to have a war?



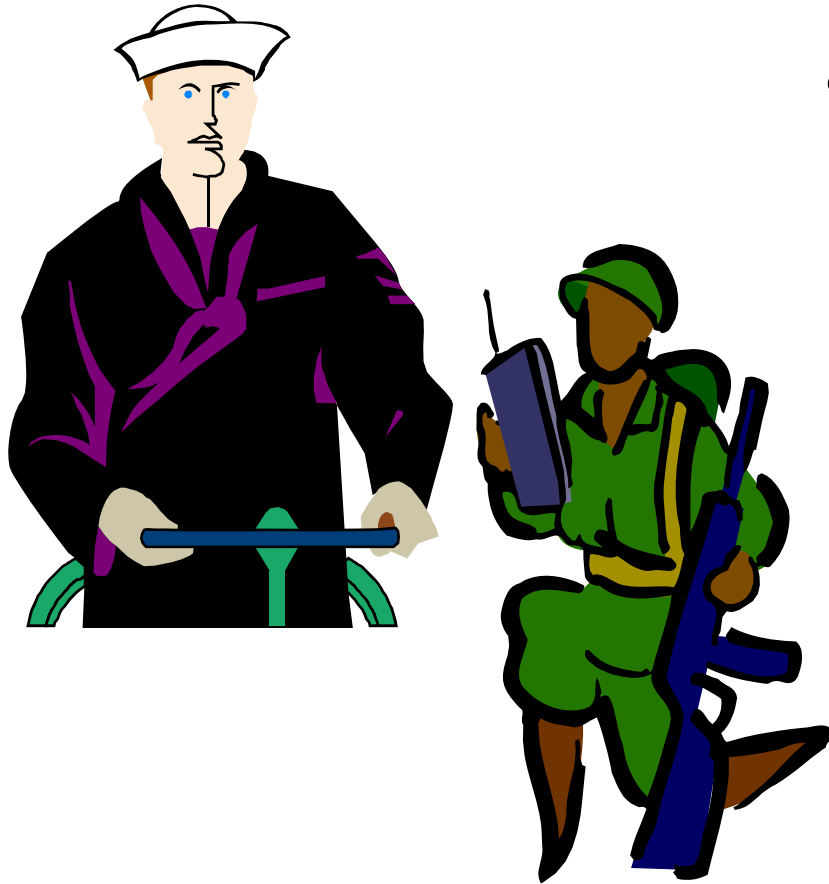
- Sometimes there are bullies who break the rules and treat others badly. A parent, teacher or police officer may need to step in and help stop the bad treatment.
- When countries or their leaders break the rules, military workers may be needed to help stop them.

When countries aren't able to work out their disagreements peacefully...



- Military men and women may have the job of going to another country to stop or prevent bad things from happening.
- This may result in a conflict or war.

Who will fight in a war?



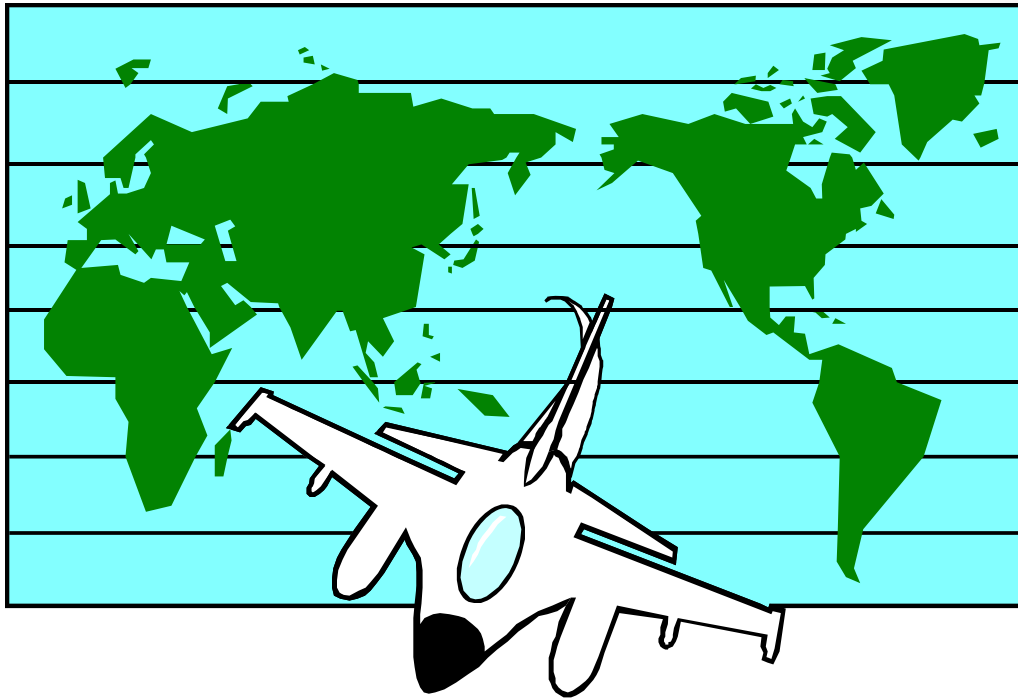
- Men and women who work in the military have the job of serving and protecting their country by fighting in a war.

Do you know someone who works in the military?

- ___ a parent?
- ___ a grandparent?
- ___ a neighbor?
- ___ a brother or sister?
- ___ an uncle or aunt?
- ___ a friend?
- ___ someone else? Who?



Military men and women may go far away to other countries during a war.

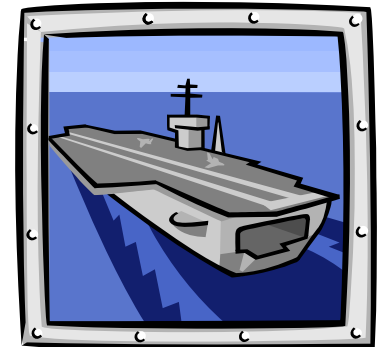
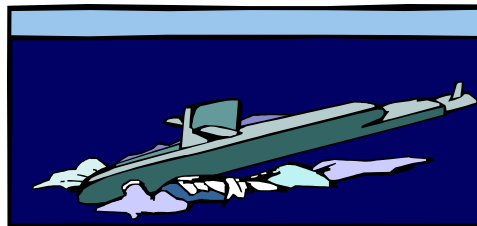
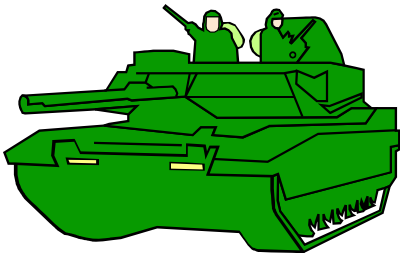


Where does your friend or family member work? Find it on the world map.

Military Personnel Do Many Different Jobs



- Some work on ships.
- Some work in jet planes.
- Some work on land.
- Some work on submarines.
- Some work in buildings to support the troops.



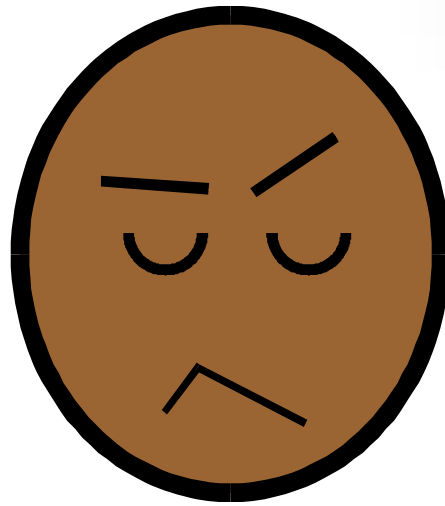
*What work does your friend or
loved one do?*

How do you feel about that? Who can
you talk with about your feelings?



*While your family member is
away, you may feel...*

- Lonely
- Sad
- Confused
- Scared



It's OK to have these feelings. Talking to someone you trust may help you feel better.

It May Also Help to...



- Write letters to your family member.
- Write in a journal or diary every day.
- Draw pictures or take photographs of family events to share when he/she gets home.
- Try to keep doing your best at school.
- Ask questions to help you understand.
- Join a support group at school.

It's Important to...



- Stick with your normal routine.
- Help out around the house.
- Get enough sleep, healthy food and recreation.
- Avoid watching upsetting TV or news programs.
- Be nice to your brothers and sisters. Support each other.

*Try to focus on the good times
with your loved one.*

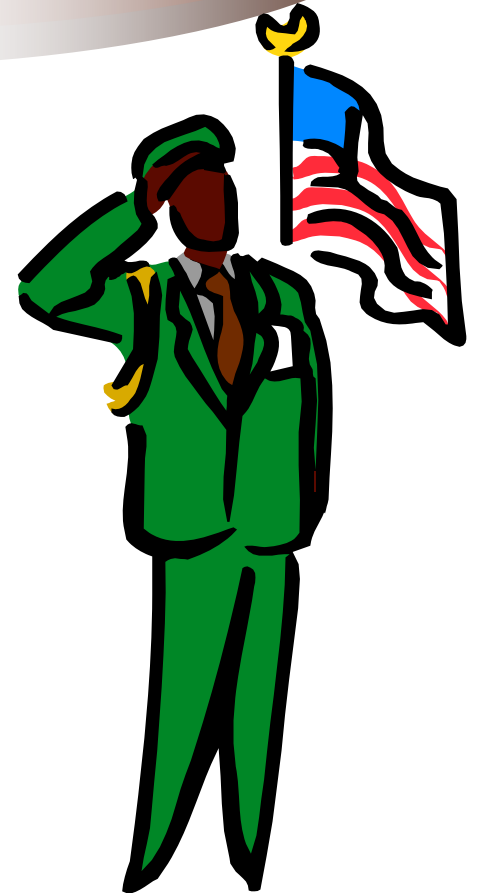


**PAST
MEMORIES
&
FUTURE PLANS**

Be proud of yourself, your family member and your country.



Our military forces are fighting to protect our peace and freedom.



The End



Helpful Resources and References

- American Academy of Pediatrics
- PBS Mister Rogers' Neighborhood
- Scholastic News and Teacher/Parent Resources

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