

Wreaths Across America

Lesson Plan

Teacher:	Date: Month of April-Month of the Military Child
Grades: 1-3	Lesson: The Month of the Military Child; "Find a Way to Serve"-Recognize & Celebrate the Military Child

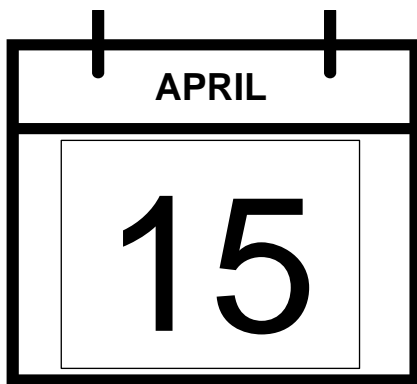
<p>OBJECTIVES: NCSS 1. CULTURE Through the study of culture and cultural diversity, learners understand how human beings create, learn, share, and adapt to culture, and appreciate the role of culture in shaping their lives and society, as well the lives and societies of others. 4. INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY Personal identity is shaped by family, peers, culture, and institutional influences. Through this theme, students examine the factors that influence an individual's personal identity, development, and actions.</p>		<p>STRATEGIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing/Coloring <input type="checkbox"/> Writing <input type="checkbox"/> Think/Pair/Share <input type="checkbox"/> Collaboration <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion <input type="checkbox"/> Small Groups <input type="checkbox"/> Large Group <p>*Before conducting this lesson, make sure you are aware of students who may have parents deployed in the Military, or who may be Gold Star Children.</p>							
MATERIALS:	Computer/laptop; internet (with access to YouTube); Smart Board; copies of the Month of the Military Child Word Search Puzzle; copies of Coloring Sheet with Thank You Note; copies of the Military Child Info Sheet; copies of the Military Child Acronym Worksheet								
Engage: Hook the students	Think/Pair/Share Activity- Pair the students with a partner. Explain the T/P/S directions. The students will think of their answer, get with their partner, and share their answer. Read the Military Child Info Sheet (p.2) aloud. T/P/S Question: What do you think it would be like to move to a different place every 3 years? Not just across town, but to an entirely different state or country? What things do you think you would like? What things would you dislike?								
Explore: Students make sense of a concept through observations.	Play the Read Aloud Book, <i>I Move A Lot And That's Ok</i> , Shermaine Perry-Knights, Author; https://youtu.be/Jz5PLqV9FFU?t=10 Discuss the different acronyms the author uses in the story. Handout the Acronym Worksheet-this can be completed as a class for 1 st grade, and individually for 2 nd and 3 rd grades; Discuss the sacrifices military children make because their parent is in the military-have students color the Thank You Note and write a note thanking a military child for their "service"; Complete the Military Child Word Search.								
Explain: Teacher introduces formal vocabulary and language to students.	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>sacrifice</td> <td>honor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>base</td> <td>Dandelion</td> </tr> <tr> <td>military</td> <td>freedom</td> </tr> <tr> <td>military brat</td> <td>Gold Star Child</td> </tr> </table>	sacrifice	honor	base	Dandelion	military	freedom	military brat	Gold Star Child
sacrifice	honor								
base	Dandelion								
military	freedom								
military brat	Gold Star Child								
Elaborate: Students apply what they have learned.	Students should complete the Military Child Info/Acronym Worksheet, Students should complete the Month of the Military Child Word Search; Students should complete the Coloring/Thank You Sheet								
Evaluate: assessment.	Acronym worksheet, Word Search, Thank You Note, Discussion								
Enrichment/Service-Learning Project	In April, make posters and signs, place them up around the school celebrating military children. Wear Purple on Fridays throughout the month of April. Hold a school assembly, inviting the parents of military children to the assembly. Recognize each parent and their child, give them a special certificate or letters thanking the parent and the child for their sacrifices. Purple Up!!! On April 15 th , celebrating all military children!								

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MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD INFO SHEET

The month of April celebrates the Month of the Military Child. **MOMC** is the acronym for Month of the Military Child. The military uses a lot of acronyms-MREs stands for Meals Ready to Eat. What is an acronym? A word formed from the initial letters of other words. Think about acronyms you may have in your classroom, or in your school.



PURPLE-UP
for
Military KIDS Day

- Purple is the color associated with the Month of the Military Child.
- The Dandelion is the official flower of the Military Child because Dandelions are a unique flower. They have the ability to grant wishes, they are resilient and they grow wherever the wind takes them.
- Military Brat is a term of affection that refers to a military child. Many military children refer to themselves as a "military brat." The term originated in 1921, British Regiment Attached Travelers (as they were called) traveled abroad with British troops. BRAT soon became a term used only for the children of those troops. The name was adopted elsewhere, including the United States.
- There are approximately 1.2 million children whose parents serve in the United States military. That is the same number of people who live in the states of Vermont and Wyoming combined!
- On average, military children move with their parents approximately every 3 years to a different duty station. Sometimes they live overseas, in places like Germany, Japan, Italy or South Korea.

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The Military Child Acronym

Student Name _____

Create an acronym for military children using the letters of the word PURPLE. Remember an acronym is a word formed from the initial letters of other words.

Think about the stories you have listened to today in class, what kind of words do you think describe military children? See the example of the acronym for military children using the word BRAT.

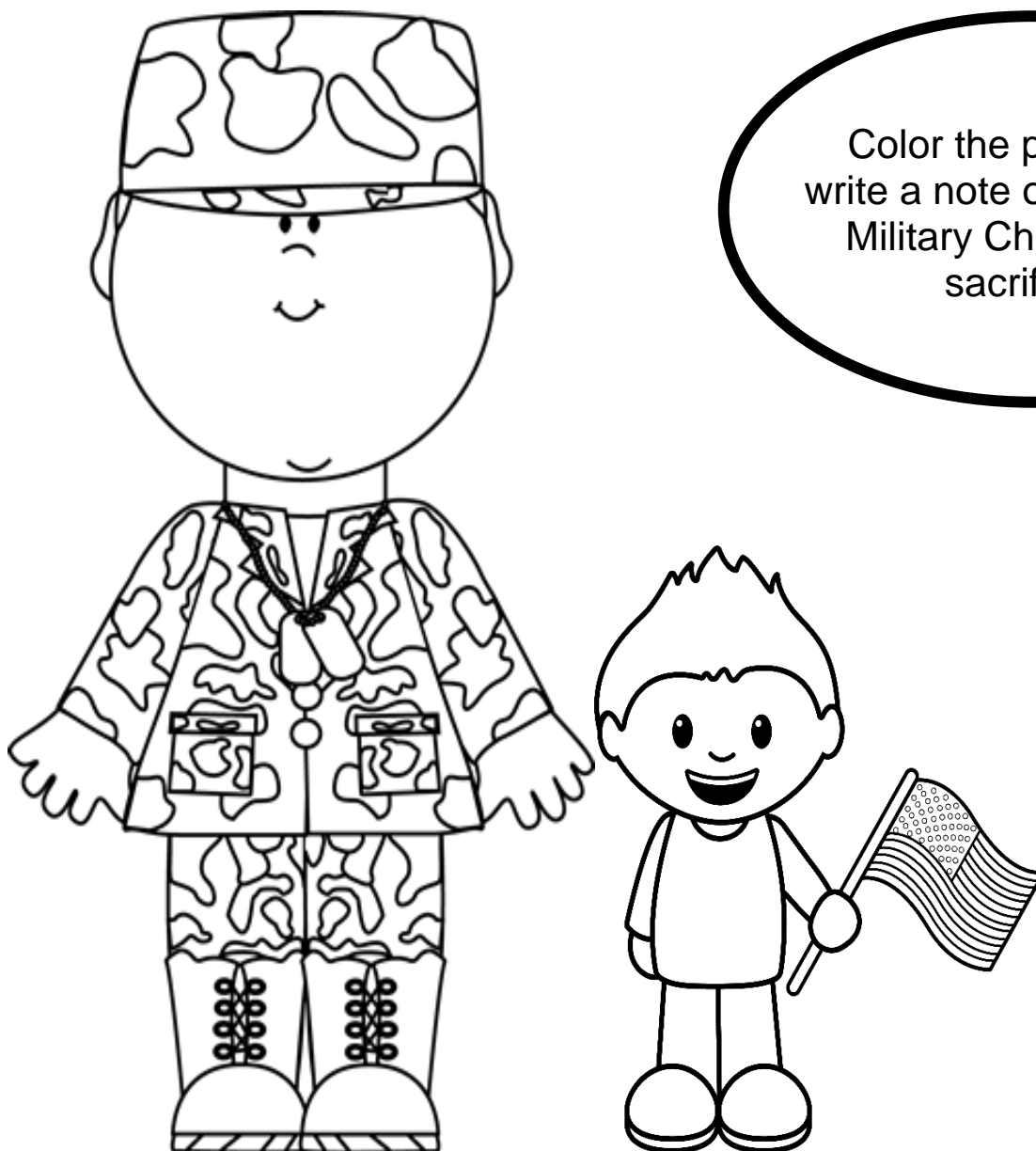
B	ORN
R	OUGH
A	ND
T	OUGH

Now, create your own acronym here!

P	
U	
R	
P	
L	
E	

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Color the picture and
write a note of thanks to a
Military Child for their
sacrifices!

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Student Name _____

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD WORD SEARCH

W	D	S	M	A	J	D	E	O	C	F
P	F	M	I	L	I	T	A	R	Y	Q
S	X	E	L	P	R	U	P	V	K	N
A	I	C	I	W	Z	X	B	X	L	O
C	S	G	T	J	L	W	X	H	E	I
R	R	G	A	E	Q	U	H	V	M	L
I	E	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	B	E
F	I	A	Y	H	T	M	N	K	L	D
I	D	K	B	A	S	E	O	Y	A	N
C	L	T	R	K	P	R	R	T	N	A
E	O	F	A	P	R	I	L	U	N	D
Q	S	W	T	C	S	V	X	D	I	P

April	Soldiers	Military Brat
Base	Military	Freedom
Dandelion	Purple	Duty
Sacrifice	Honor	

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ANSWER KEY MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

WORD SEARCH

W	D	S	M	A	J	D	E	O	C	F
P	F	M	I	L	I	T	A	R	Y	Q
S	X	E	L	P	R	U	P	V	K	N
A	I	C	I	W	Z	X	B	X	L	O
C	S	G	T	J	L	W	X	H	E	I
R	R	G	A	E	Q	U	H	V	M	L
I	E	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	B	E
F	I	A	Y	H	T	M	N	K	L	D
I	D	K	B	A	S	E	O	Y	A	N
C	L	T	R	K	P	R	R	T	N	A
E	O	F	A	P	R	I	L	U	N	D
Q	S	W	T	C	S	V	X	D	I	P

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