

It's time for us to celebrate, Children and Youth has been the fourth pillar of the American Legion since 1919. April is the month of the Military Child. How is your unit promoting that we are here for military children and families. It can be hard to identify these families, but word of mouth, church, and social media may help. Let your communities know that we are here to help.

Purple up! On April 15th we ask members and our communities to wear the color purple. Why purple? Purple is the color that symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is a combination of Army Green, Marine Red, Coast Guard Blue, Air Force Blue, and Navy Blue.

Set up a Military Child's Table in your post to draw attention to children of our deployed troops. "When an Air Force officer was asked what he needed in Iraq, he said, "Please don't send cookies, care packages or socks. Just help take care of our children." Our county has always supported its military in times of war through community efforts," Said First Lady Laura Bush during a White House speech in 2004. "We have a great capacity to care for the home front. Now is the time for a new victory garden. In this garden we can tend to the needs of the military child." The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary emphasize protecting, caring for, and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans and military families. Let's show them extra support in the month of April.

Legionville Educational Center and Summer Camp is the only camp of its kind in the United States, established by the Minnesota American Legion in 1956. The magic of this camp is teaching safety and skills the kids will use, that are invaluable and life changing for most kids.

The Official Flower of the Military Child is the Dandelion. We ask why?

Dandelions put down roots almost anywhere and it's almost impossible to destroy. It's an unpretentious plant yet good looking it's a survivor in a broad range of climates.

Military children bloom everywhere the winds carry them. They are hardy and upright. Their roots are strong, cultivated deeply in the culture of the Army, planted swiftly and surely. They're ready to fly in the breezes that take them to new adventures, new lands, and new friends.

Military children are well-rounded, culturally aware, tolerant, and extremely resilient; they have learned from an early age that home is where their hearts are, that a good friend can be found in every corner of the world. They learn that to survive means to adapt, that the door that closes one chapter of their life opens up to a new and exciting adventure full of new friends and new experiences.

Military Child's Table Items

Potted flowering plant.  
Hand Spade.  
Birthday Cake with Candles.  
Baseball Glove.  
Ballet Slippers.  
Family Photo.

