



Take a Veteran to School Day™

Talking Points for Veterans Visiting Classrooms

Grades K – 4

- I am a veteran. That means I served in the U.S. military. The military is a group of people whose job it is to protect our country and make sure that Americans are safe.
- When people join the military, we call it “serving” in the military. People volunteer to join and serve in the military. Some people serve for only a few years, and others serve for many, many years.
- The U.S. military includes the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard.
- People in the Army are called soldiers. People in the Marine Corps are called Marines. People in the Navy are called sailors. People in the Air Force are called airmen and airwomen.
- People serve in the military all over the country and around the world on different military bases. There are military bases in every state, as well as in lots of other countries like Japan, Spain, Afghanistan and many more.
- Service members go through lots of training. They learn how to be leaders, how to build a team and how to work together. They also have lots of practice solving difficult problems.
- Anyone in the military can fight in a war. The government and military leaders decide who the best people and units are to get the job done. Not all service members will fight in a war—some stay home and train to protect our country in other ways.
- In addition to fighting wars, there are all types of other military jobs. Service members can be lawyers, doctors, researchers, mechanics, counselors and almost anything else you can think of.
- Anyone who has served in the military is called a “veteran” when they get out of the military. There are lots of veterans in our country—22 million. That means if you see 10 adults, there is a chance that one of them used to be in the military. Today more than 500 people become veterans every single day!
- Veterans do all kinds of things when they leave the military. Some go to college, some get jobs, some volunteer in their neighborhoods. Veterans can be doctors, teachers, actors, businessmen and businesswomen, plumbers, members of Congress, firefighters or anything else—just like you!

Thank a Vet

Visit us online at History.com/thank-a-vet to join our Twitter campaign and find great videos related to Veteran’s Day.

