



WAYS TO CELEBRATE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD —APRIL 2022

Virginia 4-H Celebrates April, Month of the Military Child (MOMC)

April, Month of the Military Child provides an opportunity to recognize and honor military-connected youth. These youth face many challenges that are unique to their situation such as having a parent deployed, frequent moves, and new schools. Their ability to adapt to these challenges deserves our respect.

Here are a few suggestions for how your 4-H program can show support for children of military families.

1. Although we celebrate **Month of the Military Child** all month long, **Wednesday, April 20** is a special day that Virginia 4-H will celebrate the strength of military youth. Everyone across the state is invited to join us in celebrating **Purple Up! For Military Kids Day** by wearing something purple on April 20. Groups may select an alternate Purple Up date in April.
2. Learn how the 4-H Military Partnership offers opportunities for military-connected youth to thrive at www.4-hmilitarypartnership.org and virginia4-hmilitaryclubs.org. Please share these links with military-connected families.
3. Many schools across Virginia plan to implement Month of the Military Child activities. Collaborate with schools in your area. Look for ways 4-H can contribute to their events.
4. Make use of the 4-H editable Month of the Military Child certificate to present to children of military-connected families. See VA 4-H MOMC Tool Kit at virginia4-hmilitaryclubs.org.
5. During April, interested youth and adults across the state may choose to participate in the **VA 4-H Month of the Military Child (MOMC) Photo Challenge**. The goal is for military youth to see they have our thanks & support. Participants of the photo challenge simply select the subject of their photo from the following:

MOMC spelled with toys or household items

A purple ribbon tied on a tree

A door or bulletin board decorated for MOMC

An American flag flying in your community

Share your photo by posting on social media using #Opportunity4All #Virginia4H #MonthoftheMilitaryChild
(People are not required to be in the photos. If your photo includes more than one person, follow your local or CDC mask guidance.)

For more information contact the Virginia 4-H Military Club Director at lojones@vt.edu



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