

Tips for Writing a Letter to a Soldier

1. Tell your name, age and grade, and where you go to school.
2. Tell more about yourself -
Names of the people in your family. Your pets' names. Where you live.
Your favorites: (subject in school, sport, food, book, song, or movie, etc.)
3. Tell what you did yesterday and what you're planning to do today.
Explain a little about what you're doing in school.
4. Ask the soldier about his life and family -
Who's in your family? What do you do each day? Is it hot or cold where you are?
What does the country look like? What do you do when you're not on duty?
5. Thank him or her for serving in the military.
6. Don't forget to sign your name.

Here's a sample letter

Dear American Soldier,

My name is Evan. I'm 9 years old and in the 4th grade at Hartfield Elementary School. My teacher's name is Miss Rice.

I have a brother named Joseph. We play football after school now, but basketball is my favorite sport.

Isabel is my sister. She's only 3, but she loves to draw. I'm sending you one of her pictures.

Yesterday we went to the store to shop for groceries for Thanksgiving and I can't wait for the turkey and mashed potatoes. But my favorite food is pizza. I'll get to have pizza for my birthday party next week.

It's very cold here now. Is it cold where you are? What kind of uniform do you wear? Can you tell me about where you work or what you do all day? I'm going to write a report for my class.

Thank you for doing the job of an American soldier. I hope you stay safe.

Take care,
Evan

*If you have the soldier's name, address the letter to him or her. If you don't have a name, you can write to "An American Soldier."

Note: The address on the envelope **must** be to a specific soldier by name. If you have a specific name and address, you can address the envelope then stamp and mail it. If not, it will be easy for an adult to help you find a name and place to send your letter. Or, mail your letter to The Wrightslaw Team, PO Box 1008, Deltaville, VA 23043.

Remember –

- Your letter can be short, it doesn't need to be very long.
- Soldiers miss their own families- so tell what you and your family are doing.
- Say "thanks" or say you're proud of the job they do as a soldier.
- Wish them a safe return.
- Draw or send a picture of something – it will likely become part of the soldier's home away from home.