

BRANCH OUT

Create

a tree of life

Materials: Worksheet copies, template copies, brown and green crayons or pencils, pens or pencils, scissors, glue

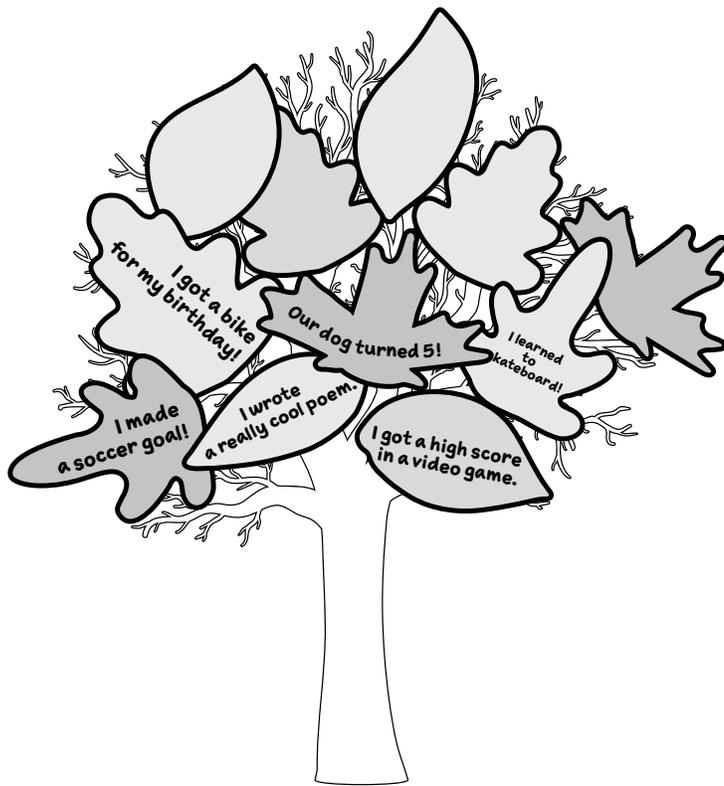
Directions: Read the worksheet, complete the activity and discuss as a group.

When loved ones deploy, they miss out on everyday activities and events. Things like receiving an A on a biology exam, making the soccer team or celebrating a birthday.

It's important to chronicle your activities and events to share in the future.

Today, we're going to create a tree bearing all we want to share with our deployed loved one.

Before we begin, let's brainstorm ideas as a group. What do you want to share? What important activities and events do you want to remember?



ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 On the tree template, color the trunk brown. On the leaves template, color the leaves green and cut them out with scissors.
- 2 Write something you want to share with your deployed loved one on a leaf. Then, glue the leaf to one of the tree branches.
- 3 Let's discuss what we wrote on our leaves.
- 4 Every week, write something on a new leaf and glue it to the tree. When your loved one returns from deployment, present the tree and share what happened while they were away.

