# What is Storybook Soldiers?

- Storybook Soldiers is a volunteer scheme, charitably funded, which provides a link between parents who are deployed and their children.
- Soldiers are recorded reading a bedtime story for their children. Music and sound effects are added by trained volunteer editors who come from the military community.
- The CD is sent to the child who can listen to it, not just at bedtime but on car journeys and at other times of the day.
- Storybook Soldiers was set up at the beginning of 2007 by Kirsty Alderson and Rosemary Meeke, who work in the Education Centre in Tidworth. The scheme is now available across the Army and has been copied by the Royal Navy and the RAF.

# How do I make a Storybook CD for my child?

Just contact us to find out where your nearest Recording Centre is!

Tel: Tidworth (military) 94342 2515 (civilian) 01980 650515 Email: storybooksoldiers@hotmail.co.uk

### How does it work?

- Soldiers can record stories either before or during deployment.
- Many units buy their own recording equipment. After being given training by the Storybook Soldiers Team in Tidworth, they can start making recordings before the unit deploys. Sometimes they take the recorder with them to Theatre.
- Recordings are sent back to Tidworth with accompanying paperwork for editing by our volunteers and sending to the families.
- There are Recording Centres in Theatre and in a network of other Centres across military locations worldwide.
- Storybook Soldiers aims to provide a straightforward and standard service that is available to all deploying soldiers, of any rank and from any unit, small or large.
- If you are interested in the scheme, you should contact the Storybook Soldiers team in Tidworth. We will either set you up as a Recording Centre or put you in touch with someone who is recording in your area.



## Making a Recording:



- The recording session takes about 15 minutes. The soldier starts off with a greeting to his child, then reads the story and ends by saying goodnight.
- Stories should take no longer than 5-10 minutes to read.
- Contact us for a copy of our recommended book list.
- There is a limit of one story per child.
- All our editors are volunteers from the military community who are trained by the Team. Each story is individually edited, which can take up to three hours.
- There is no cost to the Soldier!
- Children love these CDs—and so does the whole family!
- Their letters of thanks complete the story ...

# Some of the things people have said:

#### From soldiers who have made them:

"Many thanks for the excellent CD for my daughter. She says that she misses me lots but that it helps."

"Storybooks have been a real hit!"

"I can't believe we've got this for free!!"

#### the families who have received them:

"Wonderful — thank you !!"

"Absolutely brilliant. What a nice surprise and my daughter loved it!"

"I think the CD is wonderful. It has kept my daughter entertained ... and it has put a smile on my face to hear my husband's voice."

"My children loved the CD. It was much appreciated and we are going out to buy the book now! Thanks again!"

"Thank you for my son's story disk. It is beautifully done and he loves it! It really is a wonderful idea and I am sure it must take you ages to do. Many, many thanks"

"It really does make a difference for my son to be able to hear Daddy's voice whenever he wants to ... "

"My 6 year old son told his daddy who called from Afghanistan tonight that if he shuts his eyes while listening to the CD he thinks he is back in the room with him "

#### and from one of the children:

"It was brilliant to listen to Daddy.

It made me smile!"



# Storybook Soldiers

at

10 Army Education Centre Bdg 59, Jellalabad Barracks Tidworth Wiltshire SP9 7BN

#### Telephone:

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Record a story for your child to listen to while you are deployed ...

