

# TMAS BOOKS: A SYNOPSIS

MCEC's *Tell Me a Story*® (TMAS®) empowers military-connected children, ages 4-8, by using literature and their own stories to foster resilience, strong peer and parent connections, and a sense of pride and accomplishment. TMAS provides opportunities for military parents and their kids to discuss often difficult topics such as deployment, separation, and moving.

There are four major components of TMAS: The first is to **foster connections** between military-connected children and their parents with a strategy of starting conversations using literature as a springboard to discuss the story, characters, and to talk about their own stories and experiences. The second is to **provide academic opportunities** for educational success. The third is to **inspire optimism** among families, and the final component is to **stimulate creativity** in the children.



**MERCEDES AND THE CHOCOLATE PILOT** — The true story of a young German girl living in Berlin during the Berlin Blockade. The story tells how an American pilot brought hope to this one child through a simple act of kindness.



**HOW TO BAKE AN AMERICAN PIE** — A poetic story that takes us on an adventure across America to learn about the founding principles of our nation.



**CLICK, CLACK MOO, COWS THAT TYPE** — The humorous story of Farmer Brown's cows and what happens when they get their hooves on a typewriter. The cows use the typewriter to communicate the changes they want made in the barn. Duck serves as the neutral party to mediate the demands of the cows and the farmer.



**ADA TWIST, SCIENTIST** — Ada is speechless until she turns 3. But once she learns how to break out of her crib, there's no stopping the kinky-haired, brown-skinned girl. When she does start speaking, her favorite words are "why," "how," and "when."



**VERDI** — Verdi is a classic Peter Pan story. Verdi does not want to become green (grow up). Through his misadventures, Verdi learns that growing up is not such a bad thing and you can still be yourself on the inside even when things change on the outside.



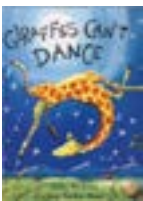
**THE WORD COLLECTOR** — Jerome, a young boy, is a fastidious collector. But rather than collecting bugs or coins or comic books, Jerome collects words. Words that are new to him, words that sound fascinating to him, words that delight him.



**THE REMARKABLE FARKLE McBRIDE** — Farkle McBride is a gifted child who struggles with his musical genius. He can play several instruments but is not satisfied until he learns that his real talent lies in making them all work together.



**CHANGE SINGS** — In this stirring, much-anticipated picture book by poet and activist Amanda Gorman, anything is possible when our voices join together. As a young girl leads a cast of characters on a musical journey, they learn that they have the power to make changes — big or small — in the world, in their communities, and most important, in themselves.



**GIRAFFES CAN'T DANCE** — This is an inspirational story that creates a positive message for children showing that all people are different and special in their own way. It celebrates and embraces the fact that we are all different, and sends a message that nothing is impossible.






**COURAGE** — Bernard Waber's book shows young readers the many faces of courage. Some are obvious — firefighters entering a burning building, mountain climbers scaling the heights — involving people and actions which youngsters find heroic and larger than life. However, with this book children will discover that ordinary, everyday actions also require courage.



**NIGHT CATCH** — This is a story about how a father and son plan to stay connected by playing catch in the park, one of the family traditions, and turning it into a game of catch with the North Star while the father is deployed.



**THE WORLD NEEDS MORE PURPLE PEOPLE** — What is a purple person? A purple person always asks really great questions. They bring their family, friends, and communities together, and they speak up for what is right. They are kind and hardworking, and they love to laugh! And, there is a purple person in each one of us!

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## HOVER & DISCOVER

Open the camera app on your mobile phone to hover over the QR code. Click the link and learn more about MCEC's *Tell Me A Story*.

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