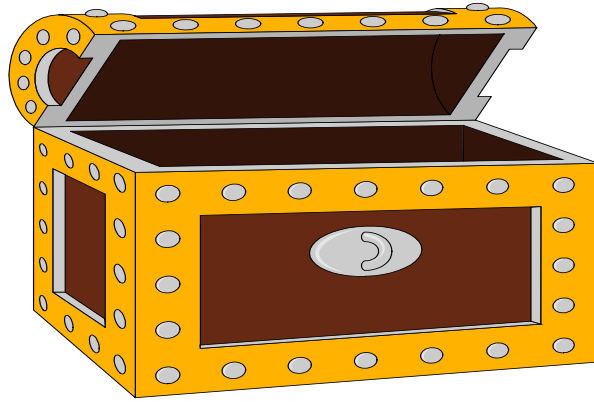




*(When Mom and Dad go away to help our country.)*

**A Deployment Guide for Children ages 5 to 7  
whose families are in the National Guard  
National Guard Bureau-Family Program Office**



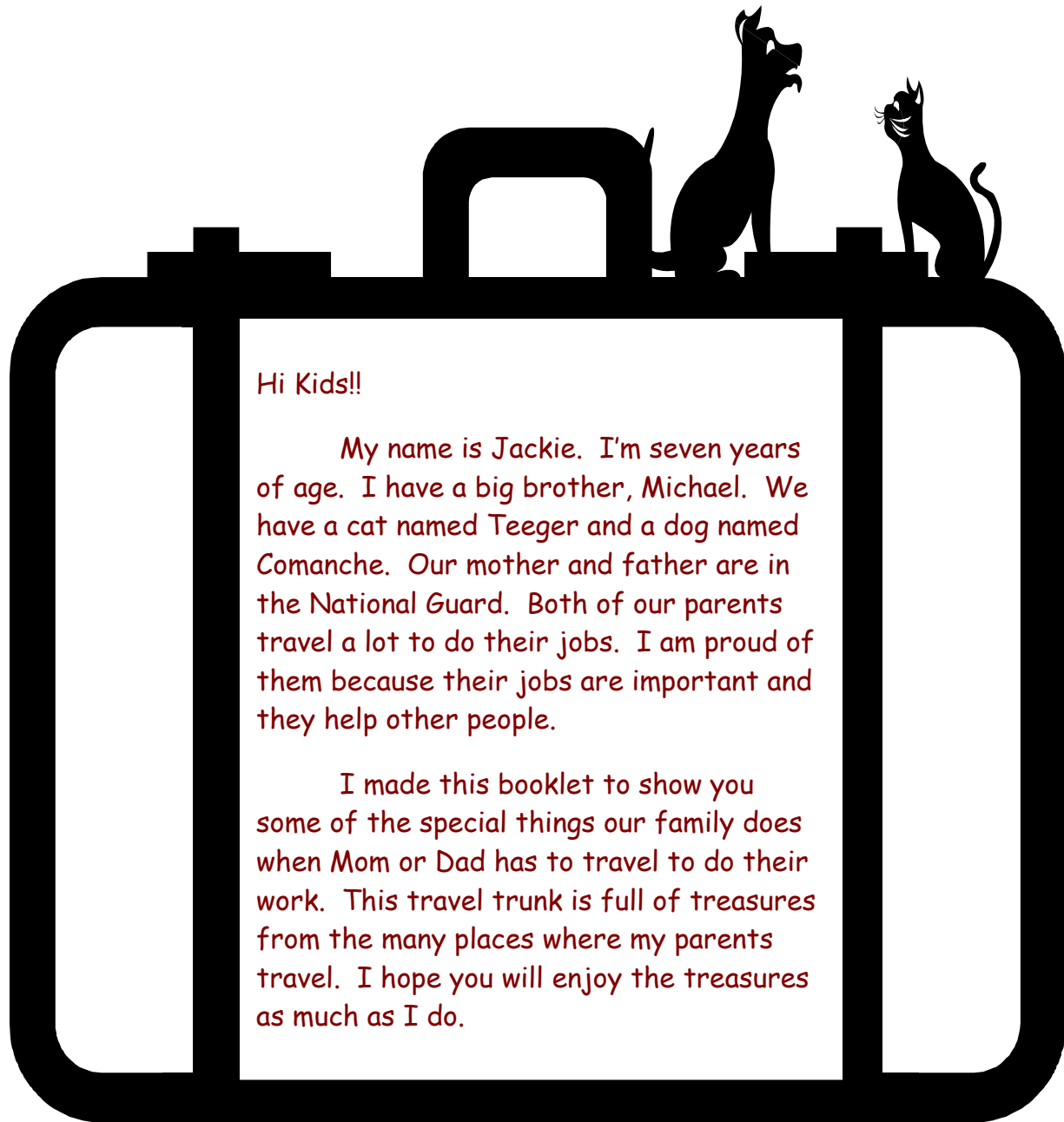
### *A Message to Parents,*

*This booklet is written to help your young children think of Army and Air National Guard duty as a way to work together, to learn about new things, and to grow.*

*Travel with your child through the booklet.*

- ✦ *Read it with your child.*
- ✦ *Choose activities to do together.*
- ✦ *Use it to help them think of National Guard travel as a way of discovering a treasure chest of opportunities to stay connected even though you're going away.*

*We hope this booklet will help you inspire your family to see how National Guard travel can be an opportunity to help your family grow together.*



Hi Kids!!

My name is Jackie. I'm seven years of age. I have a big brother, Michael. We have a cat named Teegee and a dog named Comanche. Our mother and father are in the National Guard. Both of our parents travel a lot to do their jobs. I am proud of them because their jobs are important and they help other people.

I made this booklet to show you some of the special things our family does when Mom or Dad has to travel to do their work. This travel trunk is full of treasures from the many places where my parents travel. I hope you will enjoy the treasures as much as I do.

# Travel Planning

*When Mom or Dad needs to go away, we get together to talk about the trip and make plans. We focus on positive things, so that makes it fun and exciting. Then we talk about some of the challenges, and that helps us to be prepared and even to avoid some problems.*

*Let's make a list of some of the questions you would like to ask your parents before their trip.*

## My Questions

- ☺ Why is Dad or Mom leaving?
- ☺ Where is Dad or Mom going?
- ☺ Will we all go with Dad or Mom to see them leave?
- ☺ Will Dad or Mom write letters to me?
- ☺ What is the difference in time where Dad or Mom is?
- ☺ Who will take care of me if both parents go away?
- ☺ Will I have more jobs to do at home?
- ☺ When is Dad or Mom coming home?

## Your Questions

- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_

# FAMILY TIME

Before going away, my parent who is leaving spends time with Michael and me. I enjoy these special times. As a family, we like to go to the zoo or spend time at the pool.



Sometimes we fly a kite...



or have a picnic together.



# TRAVEL LOG

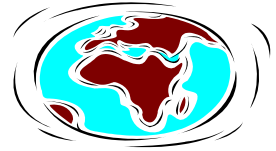
Talk with your parent who is in  
the National Guard and find out...



*When are they leaving?* \_\_\_\_\_

*How long will they be gone?* \_\_\_\_\_

*Where are they going?* \_\_\_\_\_



*Why are they leaving?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Who else is going?* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Other things about the trip* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# SEND OFF

When it's time for my Mom or Dad to leave to do their work, we give them a special "send off." It always makes us cry, but we know it's important to think good thoughts and give them a big smile for the "send off."

This is a sample of a card I made to give my parent after I gave them a great big hug.



*--I'll Miss You--*



# *Travel Scrapbook*

*Travel can take us on a journey to far away places. This is my travel scrapbook. It shows the many places where my parents travel when they need to go away to do their work. I'm proud of what they do for the National Guard.*



# TRAVEL TREASURES



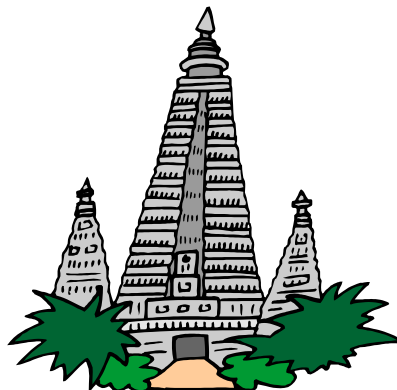
*When one of my parents goes away, they send things to me to show where they are and what they are doing. It's a special collection of "travel treasures" that I keep in a special "travel trunk."*

*Mom and Dad enjoy sending things to me like books and souvenirs that show the many people, places and things they see around the world.*



*This is some of my collection.*

*They also send pictures of far away places, and that helps me to learn about people around the world!*





# JANUARY

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2	3	4
5	6 <i>Epiphany (Three Kings Day)</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 <i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

*When Mom or Dad is away, I know they are busy so I send them a calendar of events and activities. That way they will know when there is a birthday, or a holiday, or a special activity that I'm doing.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# FEBRUARY

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 <i>Ground Hog Day</i>	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13	14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day!</i>	15
16	17 <i>President's Day</i>	18	19	20	21	22 <i>Washington's Birthday</i>
23	24	25	26	27	28	

*February has a special day to honor the presidents of the United States. Mark the special days you and your family have in February.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# MARCH

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 <i>Guam Discovery Day</i>	4	5 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	6	7	8
9	10 <i>Commonwealth Day</i>	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19	20	21 <i>Spring begins</i>	22 <i>Emancipation Day</i>
23	24	25 <i>Annunciation</i>	26	27	28	29
30	31					

*March is a special month because the seasons change from winter to spring.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# APRIL

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>	2	3	4	5
6 <i>Daylight Saving Time begins</i>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Good Friday</i>	19
20 <i>Happy Easter</i>	21	22 <i>Earth Day</i>	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

*April is a special time of year when the trees and flowers begin to bloom. What special days do you have for April?  
Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# May

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <i>Mother's Day</i>	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 <i>Memorial Day</i>	27	28	29	30	31

*May is special because it has one day that honors everyone's mother. This month also has a holiday called Memorial Day to remember people who lost their lives during a war.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*

*Revised as of 28 January 03*



# JUNE

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Birthday of HM the Queen</i>
15 <i>Father's Day</i>	16	17	18	19	20	21 <i>Summer begins</i>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

*June is fun because summer begins. June also has a special day called Father's Day to honor everyone's father.  
Be sure to mark your special days.  
Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# JULY

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>Territory Day (Virgin Islands)</i>	2	3 <i>Emancipation Day (Virgin Islands)</i>	4 <i>Happy Fourth of July</i>	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <i>Liberation Day (Guam)</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Constitution Day (Puerto Rico)</i>	26
27 <i>Parent's Day</i>	28	29	30	31		

*The Fourth of July is a special holiday to honor our country's independence. Mark the special activities you have for July.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*





# AUGUST

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 <i>August Festival Days (Virgin Islands)</i>	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

*August is "back to school" month. Have you bought your school supplies?  
Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*

*Revised as of 28 January 03*



# SEPTEMBER

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <i>Labor Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23 <i>Autumn begins</i>	24	25	26 <i>Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown</i>	27 <i>Rosh Hashanah</i>
28	29	30				

*September is another month when the seasons change. It's the time when autumn begins and leaves on the trees begin to change to bright red and yellow.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# OCTOBER

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 <i>Yom Kippur begins at sundown</i>	6 <i>Yom Kippur</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12	13 <i>Columbus Day</i>	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 <i>St. Ursula's Day (Virgin Islands)</i>	22	23	24	25
26 <i>Daylight Saving Time ends</i>	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Happy Halloween!</i>	

*October has a holiday called Columbus Day to honor the founding father of our country. October also has Halloween.*

*What costume will you wear for Halloween? Draw a costume in the empty box beside Halloween.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# NOVEMBER

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i>	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 <i>Discovery of Puerto Rico Day</i>	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	28	29
30						

*November has Thanksgiving Day to express gratitude for our blessings.*

*Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*



# DECEMBER

2003

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Hanukkah begins at sundown</i>	20 <i>Hanukkah</i>
21	22 <i>Winter begins</i>	23	24	25 <i>MERRY CHRISTMAS!</i>	26	27
28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>			

*December is the last month of the year and a time when winter begins. It's a time when many people celebrate Christmas. What special things are you doing this month?  
Use a different color crayon to mark special days.*

# WALK-A-THON

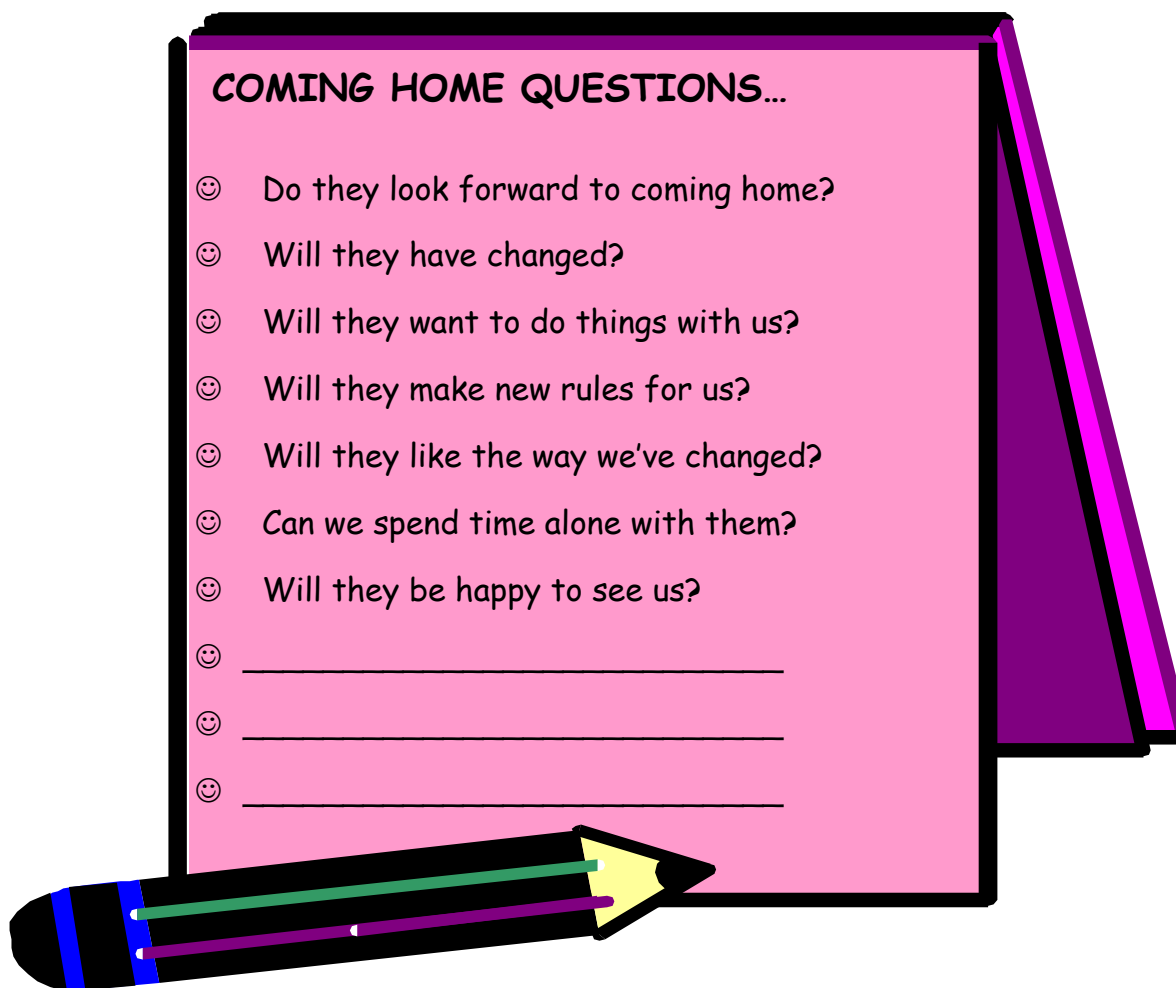
My family and I have started a walk-a-thon. We walk each day and add together the distance we cover until we walk the same number of miles my parent has traveled for the National Guard. It's our way of taking part and remembering what my parent is doing for our country.

Today's Date	How Far We Walked Today

# COMING HOME

It's fun and exciting to know that my parent is coming home! Michael and I begin thinking of things to talk about and do with them. We know they will have lots of stories to tell us - and we'll have lots of stories to tell them! We're always happy to see Mom and Dad when they come home, but there are things that worry us, too.

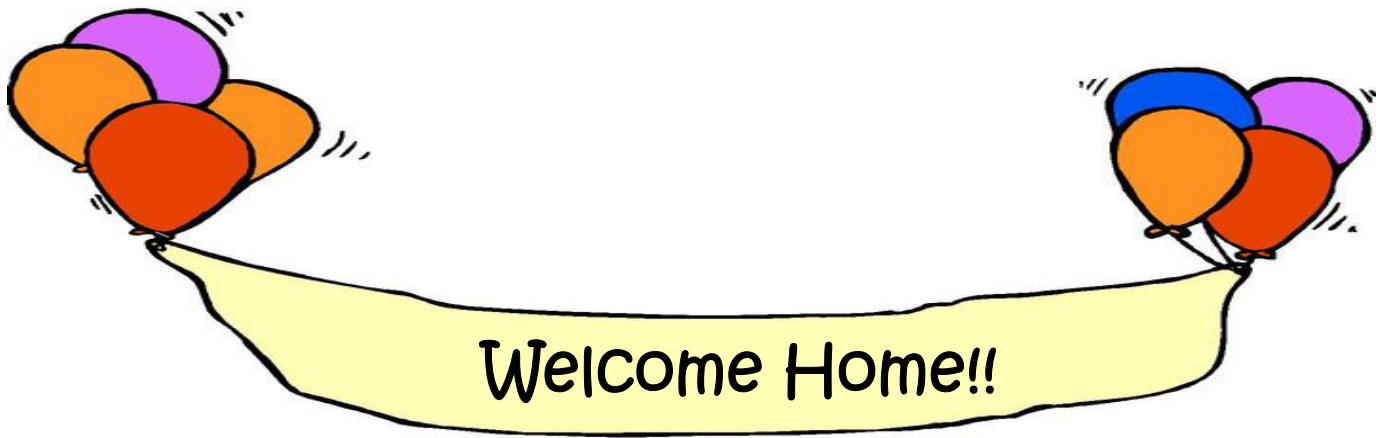
Michael and I decided to make a list of questions we want to ask our parent when they come home. Add your questions to the notebook.

A pink notebook with a purple cover and a yellow pencil. The notebook is open, showing a pink page with the title "COMING HOME QUESTIONS..." and a list of questions. The pencil is yellow with a blue eraser and a pink band.

**COMING HOME QUESTIONS...**

- ☺ Do they look forward to coming home?
- ☺ Will they have changed?
- ☺ Will they want to do things with us?
- ☺ Will they make new rules for us?
- ☺ Will they like the way we've changed?
- ☺ Can we spend time alone with them?
- ☺ Will they be happy to see us?
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_
- ☺ \_\_\_\_\_

Many children have these same questions. Parents are concerned about coming home too. When our family gets together, we talk about the worries and that helps us find ways to make things better.



Michael and I make a homecoming banner when Mom or Dad comes home.  
It lets them know how excited we are to see them!

### HOMECOMING TIPS:

- 😊 Take it slowly—it takes time getting used to being together again.
- 😊 Let your parents have time to be alone together.
- 😊 Let your parent who is returning know you are proud of them.
- 😊 Give your returning parent time to be alone.
- 😊 Tell your parents you love them!
- 😊 Share with them the treasures you've collected from their travels.

