



APRIL – Month of the Military Child Purple Up! For Military Youth April 13, 2018



UF/IFAS Extension invites everyone across Florida to **Purple Up! for Military Youth** by wearing **purple** on **April 13**. Join us in celebrating April, the Month of the Military Child. This allows us to recognize and honor Florida's youngest heroes, over 50,000 military children, and their families. **Purple Up!** acts as a visible way to show support and thank military youth for their strength and sacrifices. **Purple** symbolizes all branches of the military, as it is the combination of Army green; Marine red; and Coast Guard, Navy and Air Force blue.

Did you know Florida has the fifth highest number of school-age military children in the country?* We hope everyone will take this opportunity to celebrate these young heroes! Be creative....the goal is for military youth to actually see the support in their schools, youth groups, and the community! Just show your support and let our military youth know we care about them! Need some ideas to get you started?

- ★ Recognize military students at an assembly
- ★ Ask local, regional, state, and federal officials to wear **purple** on **April 13**
- ★ Involve schools, sports teams, youth organizations, clubs, afterschool programs, fraternal organizations, social clubs, coworkers, members of your organizations
- ★ Request local businesses, stores and restaurants post a **Purple Up!** message on their roadside signs or put a **Purple Up!** flyer in their business window
- ★ Suggest companies and businesses ask their employees to wear **purple**
- ★ Share your activities and photos **#fl4h**, **#purpleup**

Can't make the 13th then select another day in April and show support for our military youth. We would like to encourage you to take pictures of your group wearing **purple** and share them on social media (**#fl4h**, **#purpleup**). Most people think of the color green when they think of 4-H, but on April 13th, 4-H youth and volunteers in Florida will be sporting the color **purple** to show support for our military families.

