



Office has  
relocated to MCCS  
HQ, Building 693

# MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

Newsletter  
Oct-Dec 2025

welcome

## Greetings from the

### MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program!

Greetings from your MCAS Yuma School Liaison and installation point of contact for all PK-12 school related questions. School Liaisons are uniquely qualified to help address your school related questions and concerns during times of transition and anytime while aboard MCAS Yuma.

In this quarterly edition of the SLP newsletter, you will find:

- ◆ Helpful Parent Resources & Enrolling in School
- ◆ PCS Smooth Move & Welcome Aboard Briefs
  - ◆ Homeschool Checklist & Co-Ops
  - ◆ Fun Literacy Calendars for Kids
  - ◆ AZPSS, MCOY, and More!
- ◆ College & Career Corner + Scholarships
- ◆ CTE & Early College + Gifted Education Tips
  - ◆ STEM Learning Opportunities
- ◆ Love Your School—School Choice Support

*USMC School Liaisons are the critical link between families, commanders, communities, and schools to improve educational outcomes, quality of life, and operational readiness.*

Visit MCCS Yuma on Facebook [@MCCSYuma](https://www.facebook.com/MCCSYuma)

## School-Based Child & Youth Behavior Military Family Life Counselors (CYB-MFLC) in Yuma, AZ

**CYB-MFLCs**  
provide free, confidential, and non-medical counseling  
support to eligible military connected children and youth

School(s)	MFLC Phone Number
Rolle ES	(928) 615-0319
Ron Watson MS & Sunrise ES	(928) 750-4328
Castle Dome MS	(928) 450-0477
Otondo ES & Dorothy Hall ES	(928) 356-8169
Desert Mesa ES	(928) 889-6362
Woodard JHS & Gila Vista JHS	(928) 867-8109
MCAS Yuma Child & Youth Programs	(928) 210-7414
MFLC Supervisor	(928) 509-1273

Parents and guardians should contact a CYB-MFLC directly to request assistance.

Children attending a school not supported by a CYB-MFLC provider may contact the MCAS Yuma Child & Youth Program CYB-MFLC or MFLC supervisor for support.

Find an MFLC anywhere in the world:

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/resources/tools/mflc-locator/>



## We've Moved!

The SLP office is now  
located at MCCS HQ  
(bldg. 693)  
aboard MCAS Yuma



# Parent Resources



## School PCS Checklist

Schools & Calendars for Yuma County

Bus Map & Schedules for MCAS Yuma

Arizona Purple Star School Program

Arizona Department of Education

Encircle Families (Formerly RSK)

Homeschool Info for Yuma County

MCAS Yuma K-12 School Info Packet for Families

Tips for Parent-Teacher Conferences

Tips for Helping with Homework

## What do I need to register my child for school?

- ♦ Child's Original Birth Certificate
- ♦ Immunization Records
- ♦ Proof of Arizona Residency
- ♦ PCS Orders to Yuma
- ♦ Current IEP and/or 504 Documents (if applicable)
- ♦ Proof of Withdrawal (previous school)
- ♦ Last Report Card

## Know Your Rights—Interstate Compact Rules for AZ

The Military Interstate Compact has certain provisions for children of active duty military service members regarding school enrollment, registration, and other K-12 education related issues that are impacted by frequent PCS moves. Read the full compact in Arizona to know your rights as a military family. *These statutes only apply to Arizona public and charter schools and do not cover children enrolling in private or homeschool programs. Learn more at [www.mic3.net](http://www.mic3.net)*

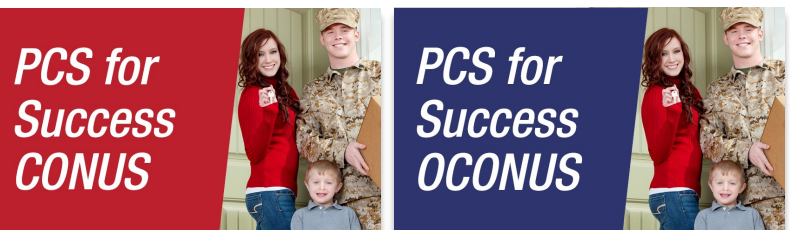
## Attend and Get the Info You Need

Are you just arriving to MCAS Yuma? Come check out the **Welcome Aboard Brief** at Sonoran Pueblo! Meet the School Liaison and talk about schooling options and resources.

Getting ready to PCS? Attending **PCS for Success Brief** is an excellent step towards getting yourself and your family ready for your next move. School Liaison will share best practices and tips for smooth schooling transitions.

Call (928) 269-6499 to register or request a sponsor.

<https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/calendar-of-events>



# Homeschool Checklist



- ☐ Research state requirements (letter of intent/notification, testing, curriculum, parent qualifications, attendance, record keeping, special needs, graduation requirements)
- ☐ Contact the School Liaison (information about policies and requirements; connections with local resources and homeschooling groups)
- ☐ Consider how homeschooling will fit into your lifestyle (commitment, time, cost)
- ☐ Network and join other homeschooling groups (local, state, online; co-ops; support groups)
- ☐ Determine goals for the year (involve the student; look at strengths, weaknesses, interests, and learning preferences)
- ☐ Set expectations for both the parent/teacher and the student
- ☐ Select a curriculum (online, books, mixture of resources as needed for student)
- ☐ Become familiar with the content of the curriculum (special requirements, materials needed)
- ☐ Develop a running list of materials / supplies needed
- ☐ Designate a learning space and set up with necessary materials (kitchen table, office, spare bedroom)
- ☐ Create a system for record keeping (attendance, progress reports, test results, immunization records)
- ☐ Make a schedule / routine (bedtime, meals, subjects, physical activity)
- ☐ Find a homeschool safety net (someone knowledgeable about homeschooling that can be supportive in your efforts and answer questions)
- ☐ Follow up with the local education agency (ensure all required paperwork has been received)

## Contact the School Liaisons

SLs can assist homeschooling families with ...

- ☒ Understanding state requirements and policy
- ☒ Finding curriculum
- ☒ Connecting with installation and community resources that support homeschooling



## Homeschool Co-Ops & Networks in Yuma

### 1. Home Educators of Yuma

[www.homeeducatorsofyuma.com](http://www.homeeducatorsofyuma.com)

### 2. Classical Conversations

[www.classicalconversations.com](http://www.classicalconversations.com)

### 3. Secular Homeschoolers of Yuma

[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) @Secular Homeschoolers of Yuma

### 4. Homeschool in Arizona

[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) @Homeschool in Arizona

### 5. Yuma Homeschool Curriculum Exchange

[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) @Yuma Homeschool Curriculum Exchange

### 6. Yuma Education and Activities Homeschool

[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) @Yuma Education and Activities Homeschool

### 7. Homeschooling Families of MCA's Yuma and Yuma Proving Grounds

[www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) @[Name of Group]



# Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY



MONDAY

Help your child get ready to learn to read!

Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

1 Rhymes

Make a simple paper cube. On each side, write a one-syllable word. Roll the die and ask your child to say one or two words that rhyme with it.

THURSDAY

2 Writing

Use cotton swabs dipped in paint to help your child write the first letter of her name on black paper.

FRIDAY

3 Sounds

It's World Smile Day. Ask your child what sounds make her happy. Then make a "happy sounds" playlist together.

SATURDAY

4 Songs

Sing "Five Little Pumpkins" with your child. Act it out using fingers or paper pumpkin cutouts.

5 Reading

It's Fire Prevention Week! Read a book about fire trucks or firefighters and talk about fire safety at home.

6 Sounds

Tap rhythms on the table and ask your child to copy them.

7 Stories

It's Taco Day! Read *Dragons Love Tacos* by Adam Rubin, art by Daniel Salmieri. Then ask your child what silly things they would put in a taco.

8 Math

Sort Halloween candy (real or pretend) by color, shape, or wrapper size.

9 Science

Explore shadows with a flashlight and toys. Ask your child how the shadow changes when you move the light.

10 Play

Dress up as weather (rain = blue scarf, sun = yellow shirt) and act it out.

11 Writing

Draw a pumpkin together and help your child label the parts: stem, seeds, skin, pulp.

12 Stories

Tell a "spooky but silly" story using stuffed animals as characters. Ask your child to help with the ending.

13 Rhymes

Say this: "Bat, hat, cat, mat." What other words rhyme? Can your child think of a nonsense rhyme?

14 Play

Make a spider web with painter's tape on the floor. Toss cotton balls or pom-poms and see what sticks.

15 Sounds

It's White Cane Safety Day. Go for a walk with your child and take turns being "the guide" with your eyes closed. What do you hear?

16 Songs

Sing "Itsy Bitsy Spider" with big movements, then again with tiny fingers. Which one does your child like more?

17 Reading

Check out *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson, art by Axel Scheffler, from the library or find a read-aloud online.

18 Science

Float or sink? Drop fall items (like pinecones, apples, or leaves) in water and see what floats!

19 Play

Make a toy parade! Help your child line up favorite toys and march them around the room with music.

20 Rhymes

It's International Sloth Day! Say a slow rhyme together: "Slow as a sloth, smooth as a moth..." What comes next?

21 Play

Play pretend pumpkin patch! Hide mini pumpkins around the room and go on a pumpkin hunt.

22 Sounds

Use kitchen items (pot lids, wooden spoons) to make a "spooky sound" band.

23 Writing

Use fingers to "write" letters in a tray of cinnamon or sugar. Bonus: it smells like fall!

24 Stories

Tell a story about a black cat who goes on an adventure. Let your child help decide what the cat sees next.

25 Math

Line up toy ghosts or Halloween figures and ask your child: "How many?" "Who's first?" "Who's last?"

26 Songs

Sing "If You're a Monster and You Know It" (clap your claws, stomp your feet). Make up your own verses!

27 Rhymes

Use puppets or stuffed animals. Have one puppet say a word, and the other must answer with a rhyme.

28 Play

It's Chocolate Day! Pretend to run a chocolate shop with playdough or brown and white blocks.

29 Science

Explore melting! Put ice cubes in different spots (sunny window, fridge, table) and observe what happens.

30 Sounds

Walk around making different animal sounds such as a sneaky cat, a stomping elephant, or a buzzing bee.

31 Reading

It's Halloween! Read a fun Halloween book in costume. Let your child pick the voice for each character.



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MONDAY

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TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



2 Sounds

Gobble, gobble! Who can do the best turkey impression between you and your child?

3 Math

It's Sandwich Day. Practice fractions by cutting a homemade sandwich in half and then in quarters.

4 Stories

It's Election Day. Ask your child what she would do if she was elected President of the United States.

5 Play

November marks Dinovember! Hide three or four toy dinosaurs around your house and help your child find each one.

6 Reading

It's Picture Book Month. Find a picture book and a cozy reading spot.

7 Writing

Help your child list his favorite things about November.

8 Science

It's STEAM Day. Create a simple marble maze using a paper plate, construction paper, and tape.

9 Reading

See if you can find a Little Free Library nearby and pick out a book or two!

10 Math

It's Area Code Day. Look up your local area code together with your child. Ask your child if each number is even or odd.

11 Play

It's Origami Day. Encourage your child to pick out a simple origami design and create it together.

12 Rhymes

Read a book together and search for words that rhyme on each page.

13 Writing

In the morning, ask your child to help you write a to-do list.

14 Play

It's Aviation History Month. Using extra paper, create paper airplanes and fly them around the room.

15 Rhymes

Ask your child to list all the words that rhyme with "fall."

16 Math

It's Button Day. Find a piece of clothing with buttons and ask your child how many buttons are on it.

17 Songs

Sing "Five Little Turkeys" with your child and keep count of each turkey on your fingers!

18 Play

Draw different-shaped leaves and encourage your child to color each one.

19 Writing

Spell out different words using beads such as dog, frog, or log.

20 Play

It's the start of Game and Puzzle Week! Put together a fall-themed puzzle with your child.

21 Stories

It's World Hello Day. Ask your child to tell you a story about meeting someone who didn't speak the same language as her.

22 Reading

It's Native American Heritage Month. Head to your local library and ask for some book recommendations!

23 Math

It's Fibonacci Day. Explore this sequence in nature by looking at seashells, flowers, and other objects.

24 Songs

Sing "If You're Thankful and You Know It" with your child to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It."

25 Reading

Learn about the first Thanksgiving and read Kimberly and James Dean's *Pete the Cat: The First Thanksgiving*.

26 Writing

Help your child list what she is thankful for and what makes her happy.

27 Rhymes

It's Thanksgiving! Ask your child to name as many words as he can think of that rhyme with "food."

28 Science

It's Red Planet Day. Create craters using different-sized bouncy balls and flour. Does the height or size of the bouncy balls impact each crater's size?

29 Sounds

Take a walk outside and listen to the different sounds of the season. What do you both hear?

30 Play

Create the ultimate hibernation space with blankets, pillows, and stuffed animals.

November 2025

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## Purple Star USA

### National Convening of Schools & Communities

October 28, 2025

10am-4pm EST

*Connecting and empowering parents, schools, and communities to build resiliency for military-connected youth. Breakout sessions available.*



Questions? Contact Jenn Davis at  
[jennifern.davis@myhhcs.org](mailto:jennifern.davis@myhhcs.org)

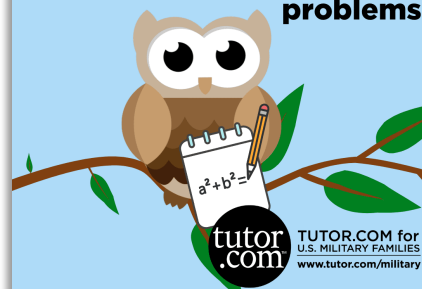
## AZPSS POC Training

### Free POC Training for Arizona Purple Star Schools

The Arizona Department of Education offers free Point of Contact (POC) training to support schools participating in the Arizona Purple Star School Program. This training equips designated staff with the tools and knowledge to effectively support military-connected students and families. Schools must complete POC training as a part of the Purple Star application process.

[www.azed.gov/teach/az-purple-star-school-pd-training](http://www.azed.gov/teach/az-purple-star-school-pd-training)

### Practice owl-gebra problems



## Operation Homefront

### MCOY Award

#### Nominate a Remarkable Military Child

#### 2026 Military Child of the Year Award

Do you know an outstanding military child who demonstrates leadership, resilience, and a commitment to serving others? Operation Homefront is now accepting nominations for the 2026 Military Child of the Year Award — one of the nation's highest honors for military-connected youth. Each branch winner receives a \$10,000 award, a trip to Washington, D.C., and national recognition.

**Eligibility:** Military children ages 13–18

**Deadline:** December 2, 2025

Learn more and submit a nomination at:

[www.militarychildoftheyear.org](http://www.militarychildoftheyear.org)

## Military One Source

### Free Military Family Resources

Did you know you can download and order **free books, guides, and toolkits** to support military families through [MilitaryOneSource.mil](http://MilitaryOneSource.mil)? Resources cover topics like parenting, deployment, relocation, education, and mental health — all designed for service members, spouses, and children. Materials are available in both digital and print formats and can be shipped directly to your home or school or downloaded online.

Explore and order at

[www.militaryonesource.mil/documents](http://www.militaryonesource.mil/documents)



## Military One Source Guide:

### Higher Education for Your Children

Military One Source has information and resources so you can support your child's education and transition into their post-secondary academic or career goals. Military families have several options when it comes to financing their youth's college or trade school education, including scholarships, Post-09/11 GI Bill benefits, education grants, loans, and college savings programs.

Military One Source offers services for financing higher education:

[Education Consultants](#)

[Financial Counselors](#)

Check out the full guide at the link below:

[Education Grants, Loans, Scholarships | Military OneSource](#)

## AZ Community Foundation

### General Application

The Arizona Community Foundation has a list of scholarships available through their general application. Students are encouraged to explore all opportunities for scholarships and apply!

[Arizona Community Foundation Scholarships](#)

[www.azfoundation.org/scholarship-seekers/scholarships](http://www.azfoundation.org/scholarship-seekers/scholarships)

## ASVAB Career Exploration Program

ASVAB is a DoD sponsored program that provides all students a wide variety of career exploration tools including a vast career database, details on education and training requirements, salary data and growth projections, videos and career planning tools.

[www.asvabprogram.com](http://www.asvabprogram.com)

## \$AT Test Dates and Deadlines

Test dates and deadlines apply to all students—U.S. and international—taking the SAT.

Register at <https://mysat.collegeboard.org/>

## My Next Move

### Career Exploration Tool

My Next Move is sponsored by the US Department of Labor. Students can take interest assessments, browse careers by industry, and find job apprenticeship opportunities.

[www.mynextmove.org](http://www.mynextmove.org)

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes/Late Reg.
23 Aug 2025	8 Aug 2025	12 Aug 2025
13 Sept 2025	29 Aug 2025	2 Sept 2025
4 Oct 2025	19 Sept 2025	23 Sept 2025
8 Nov 2025	24 Oct 2025	28 Oct 2025
6 Dec 2025	21 Nov 2025	25 Nov 2025
14 Mar 2026	27 Feb 2026	3 Mar 2026
2 May 2026	17 Apr 2026	21 Apr 2025
6 June 2026	22 May 2026	26 May 2026



## Career & Technical Education (CTE) & Early College Opportunities

Arizona Western College—Early College for K-12

(928) 344-7550

Contact your child's K-12 school to see if early college classes are available and eligibility criteria.

Enroll as a dual enrollment student and take AWC courses for a reduced fee.

<https://www.azwestern.edu/admissions/early-college-k12>

Yuma ABEC— Middle School Career Exploration & Development Programs

ABEC offers 12 different career exploration programs for middle school students on participating middle school campuses.

<https://www.stedycte.org/programs/middle-school-programs>

Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma (STEDY)

(928) 366-5884

STEDY Central Campus CTE programs and satellite campus programs offered at YUHSD high schools and in partnership with Arizona Western College and Northern Arizona University. 2 year programs available to high school sophomore or juniors attending public, charter, private or homeschool. See other requirements for participation on STEDY's website. STEDY's programs, when completed, provided students the opportunity to earn industry credentials and in some cases, college credit.

[www.stedycte.org](http://www.stedycte.org)

## Gifted Education in Arizona

### Requesting Gifted Testing in Arizona

- **Gifted education is required** in AZ public districts (not charter schools).
- Students can be tested up to 3x/year; parents can request in writing at any time.
- Arizona accepts test scores  $\geq$  **97th percentile** from approved assessments.

Ask your school for:

- The district's **gifted testing schedule**
- **Referral process** and **accepted test types**

• Whether **outside scores** are accepted  
Make your request in writing (email is fine). Include:

- Why you're requesting testing
  - Any past gifted services or test results
- After testing:

- Request written results
- Ask about gifted placement and available services
- If not qualified, ask about appeals or re-testing

### Transferring Gifted Plans from Out of State

Under the **Military Interstate Compact (MICs)**:

- Districts must **initially honor prior gifted placement**
- They may re-evaluate, but must begin services based on existing records

*Before moving:*

- Request test scores, gifted plans, and service documentation

*On arrival:*

- Share records during enrollment
- Confirm your child's test meets **AZ's approved list**

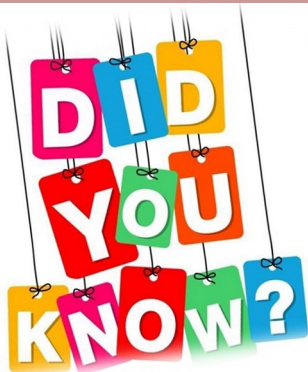
*If denied:*

- Ask why, and request temporary placement
- Reference MIC3 and Arizona's law (A.A.C. R7-2-406)
- Follow up in writing and ask for an appeal process if needed

### Tips for Success

- Start early—testing takes time.
- Keep copies of all paperwork.
- Stay in contact with the district's gifted coordinator.
- Advocate politely and follow up often

[www.azed.gov/gifted-education](http://www.azed.gov/gifted-education)



## Love Your School

Love Your School (LYS) is a non-profit organization that helps parents navigate complex school choice systems across the country.

School choice in Yuma is very broad, ranging from public district and public charter schools, to private parochial schools and a growing network of homeschool families and neighborhood co-ops.

In Arizona, LYS is available to help families navigate using Empowerment Scholarship Accounts (ESA) and Student Tuition Organization (STO) scholarships to pay for private or homeschool education as well as public school choice.

Learn more at  
[www.loveyourschool.org](http://www.loveyourschool.org)

We value your feedback! Take a moment to let us know what we're doing well and what you would like to see from the MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

Complete the ICE Survey by going to:  
<https://ice.diaa.mil>



## STEM Learning Opportunities

### Fleet Week San Diego

Oct 30, 2025—STEM Day at Meet the Fleet at 32nd Street  
[www.fleetweeksandiego.org](http://www.fleetweeksandiego.org)

### Home Depot Yuma

Free In-Store Kids Workshops—1st Saturday of Every Month  
[www.homedepot.com/c/kids-workshops](http://www.homedepot.com/c/kids-workshops)

### Yuma County 4-H

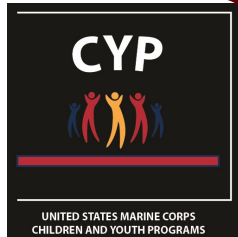
Enrollment deadline is Oct 30 (is extended for active duty military children who enroll late due to PCS, contact 4-H office for assistance). Raising animals is optional!  
<https://extension.arizona.edu/programs/4-h-yuma-county>

Looking for installation support for a child who already has an IEP? Reach out to the MCAS Yuma EFMP at (928) 269-2949.



**EFMP** Exceptional Family Member Program

Families who have childcare needs are encouraged to contact MCAS Yuma CYP Resource & Referral (928) 269-3234/3251.



## Family Care Program

### MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

[yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org)

(928) 269-5373

[www.mccsYuma.com](http://www.mccsYuma.com)