



**Iowa National Guard Youth and Teen Program**  
**Family Programs Office**  
**JFHQ A-1 RM 186**  
**7105 NW 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Johnston, IA 50131**



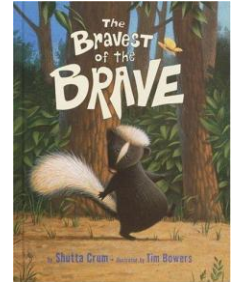
**Book:** The Bravest of the Brave

**Author:** Shutta Crum

**Ages:** 3-8

**Lesson:**

1. Begin by showing the students the cover of the book. Then read the title of the book to the children. Have the students infer what the book might be about based on the cover and title.
2. What does it mean to be brave?
3. Who are people in our community you would call brave?
4. How are Soldiers and Service Members brave?
5. How are their families also brave?
6. When are times you have had to be brave?
7. Begin reading the story, pausing throughout to ask the following questions:
  - a. Why do you feel thinking brave thoughts helped our character?
  - b. What are some things we can do when we are scared?
  - c. Who are people we can talk to when we are feeling scared?
8. After reading the story, ask the students to draw conclusions as to what the message was.



**Activities:**

1. Have the students create a Wall of Heroes, bringing in pictures of people they consider being brave in their community/family. Have them present their Heroes to the class.
2. This book has many great vocabulary words for kids, especially adjectives. Take time to introduce the words to the students (i.e. gravely, dim, wildly, stoutly, etc.)...then have the students create their own bravery story using some of these vocabulary words...share with the class.
3. Have students write letters to local veterans and Service Members, thanking them for being brave and serving their country.

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