



WYMT Mountain News

Students See How "Freedom Calls" Works

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Iraq is five thousand miles from Kentucky, but that distance seemed much shorter for one family and dozens of students in Somerset on Friday.

Freedom calls hooked up a marine with his Somerset family through a teleconference.

The 5th graders at Meece Middle school were able to take part in the conversation as well.



SGT Philip Stith's mom (left) and his wife (right) who haven't seen him for 5 months video conference with him in Iraq from Meece Middle School in Somerset on Saturday

Amy Stith married her husband just over a year ago, but before their first anniversary he was called up to service in Iraq.



Meece Middle School Students meet marines at the front lines

That was in July and on Friday, through the technology of teleconference, they were able to have a real time conversation.

"I haven't seen my husband in almost four months and to see that he's there and he's healthy and happy and got a smile on his face is the best feeling," Amy Stith said.

Sergeant Stith's mother is a teacher at Meece Middle School. Her students have been studying about veterans and Friday she took them to talk to a group of marines.

Students asked about what the marines do in their free time and what they eat or

aren't able to eat.

Freedom Calls hooks up families for special events. Soldiers have seen their babies born via teleconference, there have been weddings.

The Freedom Calls Foundation doesn't charge soldiers or their families for the service. They depend on donations.