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| **Title** | **Author** | **Suggested Age Range** |  |
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| Waterbugs and Dragonflies | Doris Stickney | 4-8 | The Pilgrim Press introduces its perennial bestseller "Water Bugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children" by Doris Stickney in coloring book format. |
| Huge Bag of Worries | Virginia Ironside | 3-8 | Wherever Jenny goes, her worries follow her - in a big blue bag. They are with her all the time - at school, at home, when she is watching TV and even in the bathroom! Jenny decides they have to go, but who will help her get rid of them? A funny and reassuring look at dealing with worries and anxiety, to be used as a spring board into important conversations with your child. |
| Badgers Parting Gifts | Susan Varley | 3-5 | Badger is so old that he knows he must soon die, so he does his best to prepare his friends. When he finally dies, they are grief-stricken, but one by one they remember the special things he taught them during his life. By sharing their memories, they realise that although Badger is no longer with them physically, he lives on through his friends. Celebrating the 35th anniversary of this quintessential and multi award-winning picture book about losing a loved one. Features a helpful reading guide from Child Bereavement UK that provides tips for reading Badger’s Parting Gifts with children and helping them better understand grief. |
| When Dinosaurs Die | Laurie Krasney Brown | 4-8 | No one can really understand death but to children, the passing away of a loved one can be especially perplexing and troublesome. This is true whether the loss is a classmate, friend, family member or pet. Here to offer advice and reassurance from some very wise dinosaurs. This succinct and thorough guide helps dispel the mystery and negative connotations associated with death, providing answers to some of the most-often asked questions and also explores the feelings we may have regarding the death of a loved one and the ways to remember someone after he or she has died. |
| Memory Tree | Britta Teckentrup | 3-5 | Fox has lived a long and happy life in the forest, but now he is tired. He lies down in his favourite clearing, and falls asleep for ever. Before long, Fox's friends begin to gather in the clearing. One by one, they tell stories of the special moments that they shared with Fox. And so, as they share their memories, a tree begins to grow, becoming bigger and stronger with each memory, sheltering and protecting all the animals in the forest, just as Fox did when he was alive. This gentle story about the loss of a loved one is perfect for sharing and will bring comfort to both children and parents. |
| Invisible String | Patrice Karst | 4-8 | That's impossible said twins Jeremy & Liza after their Mum told them they're all connected by this thing called an Invisible String. What kind of string? They asked with a puzzled look to which Mum replied An Invisible String made of love. That's where the story begins. A story that teaches of the tie that really binds. Mums (and Dads) feel the tug whenever kids give it; and kids feel the tug that comes right back: the Invisible String reaches from heart to heart. Does everybody have an Invisible String? How far does it reach anyway? Read all about it! Whether it's a loved one far away or a parent in the next room this delightful book illustrates a new way to cope with something all children and parents confront sooner or later; a child's fear of loneliness and separation. Here is a warm and delightful lesson teaching young and old that we aren't ever really alone. |
| What Does Dead Mean? | Thomas | 4+ | What Does Dead Mean? is a beautifully illustrated book that guides children gently through 17 of the 'big' questions they often ask about death and dying. Questions such as 'Is being dead like sleeping?', 'Why do people have to die?' and 'Where do dead people go?' are answered simply, truthfully and clearly to help adults explain to children what happens when someone dies. Prompts encourage children to explore the concepts by talking about, drawing or painting what they think or feel about the questions and answers. Suitable for children aged 4+, this is an ideal book for parents and carers to read with their children, as well as teachers, therapists and counsellors working with young children. |
| Is daddy coming back in a minute | Elke Barber | 3+ | When we were on a *No Girls Allowed!* holiday, my daddy's heart stopped beating and I had to find help all by myself. He was very badly broken. Not even the ambulance people could help him...This honest, sensitive and beautifully illustrated picture book is designed to help explain the concept of death to children aged 3+. Written in Alex's own words, it is based on the real-life conversations that Elke Barber had with her then three- year-old son, Alex, after the sudden death of his father. The book provides reassurance and understanding to readers through clear and honest answers to the difficult questions that can follow the death of a loved one, and carries the invaluable message that it is okay to be sad, but it is okay to be happy, too. |
| Grandad’s Ashes | Walter Smith | 4-8 | When Grandad died, eighty-three people went to the funeral. A lot of them cried. Jessica, Colin, Sasha and Tom thought of the good times they'd had with their Grandad. They knew they would miss him a lot. "He had always wanted to be cremated," said Grandma, "and his last wish was to have his ashes scattered in his favourite place..." This beautifully illustrated full-colour picture book for children aged four to eight tells the story of four children who embark on an adventure to find their Grandad's favourite place - but they are faced with plenty of challenges on the way. Told with gentle humour, this is a charming story for children and an ideal resource for parents or counsellors to read with a child as a way of broaching issues surrounding loss or bereavement. |
| Missing Mummy | Rebecca Cobb | 3-6 | Written and illustrated by the talented and award-winning author-illustrator Rebecca Cobb, this extraordinary book deals with the loss of a parent from a child's point of view. Perfectly pitched text and evocative artwork explore the many emotions a bereaved child may experience, from anger to guilt and from sadness to bewilderment. And importantly, the book also focuses on the positive - the recognition that the child is still part of a family, and that his memories of his mother are to be treasured. Beautifully illustrated with moments of wonderful warmth and the gentlest humour, *Missing Mummy* is a touching, honest and helpful book that approaches a difficult subject with great integrity. |

**Downloadable Leaflets**

**Preparing a child for loss**

<https://be.macmillan.org.uk/Downloads/CancerInformation/ChildrenAndYoungPeople/MAC15372PrepareForLossE02LowresPDFHS20190516.pdf>

**Talking to Children and Young Teenagers when an adult has cancer**

<https://be.macmillan.org.uk/downloads/cancerinformation/LivingWithAndAfterCancer/MAC5766_E04_N_talktochildren_p03_lowres_20190815_EC.PDF>