

Book List for Children/Teens

General Bereavement:

~Preschool-Early Elementary Age Students

Brown, L., Brown, M., When Dinosaurs Die: A Guide to Understanding Death
Fox, M., Tough Boris, Boris, the pirate's parrot dies
Gryte, M., No New Baby: For Siblings Who Have a Brother or Sister Die Before Birth
Jeffers, O. The Heart and the Bottle
London, J, Long, S, Liplap's Wish, ages 4-9, rabbit's story of Grandma loss
Mellonie, B., Robert Ingpen., Lifetimes: The Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children
O'Toole, D., Aarvy Aardvark Finds Hope, loss of mother and brother
Thomas, P., I Miss You: A First Look at Death
Vigna, J., Saying Goodbye to Daddy, kindergarten girl's father dies
Viorst, J., The 10th Good Thing About Barney (Cat loss)
Wilhelm, H. I'll Always Love You (dog death)

~Elementary Age Students

Alexander, S., Nadia The Willful, Nadia's older brother dies
Althea, When Uncle Bob Died, preparation for the death of someone close, 4-8 years
Brown, L., Brown, M., When Dinosaurs Die: A Guide to Understanding Death
Buscaglia, L. The Fall of Freddie the Leaf
Doros, A., Abuela, girl's story of her grandmother
Heegaard, M.E., Drawing Together to Learn About Feelings
Holmes, M.M., Sam's Dad Died, 2 friends whose fathers dies
Jeffers, O. The Heart and the Bottle
Karst, P., The Invisible String
Ringtved, G., Cry, Heart, But Never Break
Varley, Susan, Badger's Parting Gifts, animal friends mourn

~Middle-to-High School Age Students

Bratman, F., Everything You Need To Know When A Parent Dies
Fitzgerald, H., The Grieving Teen: A Guide for Teenagers and Their Friends
Fry, V., Part of Me Died Too
Geller, N., The Last Teenage Suicide
Hurwin, D., A Time For Dancing, illness/loss of friend due to cancer
LeShan, E., Learning to Say Goodbye When a Parent Dies
Little, J., Mama's Going To Buy You A Mockingbird
Naughton, J., My Brother Stealing Second
Richter, E., Losing Someone You Love: When a Brother or Sister Dies

Survivors of Suicide:

After a Parent's Suicide: Helping Children Heal

Margo Requarth, Healing Hearts Press, 2006.

Written by a bereavement counselor who lost her own mother to suicide when she was just under four years old, this book offers constructive, compassionate and clear suggestions for helping children.

After a Suicide: A Workbook for Grieving Kids

offered through the The Dougy Center

Developed for use with children, this workbook combines explanations of mental illness and suicide, creative exercises, practical advice, and quotations from child survivors.

But I Didn't Say Goodbye: For Parents and Professionals Helping Child Suicide Survivors

Barbara Rubel, Griefwork Center, Inc., 2000.

Told from the point of view of a child, this book is intended for adults to read and then share with children.

Child Survivors of Suicide: A Guidebook for Those Who Care for Them

Rebecca Parkin and Karen Dunne-Maxim, 1995.

This practical guide offers guidance for family members, educators, and others who deal with young survivors.

My Uncle Keith Died

Carol Ann Loehr, Trafford Publishing, 2006.

Written in clear simple language easily understood by children, this book offers hope and practical ways to explain suicide to children. It explains the difference between sadness and depression, and describes how chemical imbalances in the brain cause illnesses that can result in suicide.

Someone I Love Died By Suicide: A Story for Child Survivors and Those Who Care for Them

Doreen Cammarata, Grief Guidance, Inc., 2000.

An illustrated book that explains depression and suicide in a child-friendly language