

READING LIST: YOUNG CHILDREN (4-8 years)

Chocolate Chipped - *Gilbert and Baruch (2012)*

Delightfully 'smelly' story of what happens to a family after dad dies, with Scratch and Sniff stickers. A difficult subject addressed in a fun way.

The Scar - *Charlotte Moundlic and Olivier Tallec (2012)*

Brilliant book with captivating and illuminating illustrations about a little boy struggling to come to terms with the loneliness and sorrow of his mother's death. 5-9yrs

Is Daddy coming back in a Minute? - *Elke Barber (2012)*

Fabulous cartoon story of a little boy's real life experience of the sudden death of his dad and the conversations his Mum had with him to help him come to terms with it. 3+ yrs

Rabbityness - *Jo Empson (2012)*

Rabbit suddenly dies and his friends are desolate but he has left behind special gifts to discover their own unrabbityness! Celebrates creativity & positively introduces loss.. 3-8 yrs

Moppy is sad - *Jane Asher and Gerald Scarfe (2005)*

Moppy is a little fuzzy alien who struggles with his feelings; in this book sad ones. 3-5yrs

Fred - *Posy Simmonds (1987)*

Uses humour to manage death. Fred's owners think he is the laziest cat in the world. It's only after their beloved pet dies, that they discover he has been leading an exciting double life . . .

I'll Always Love You - *Hans Wilhelm (1985)*

A story about a daschund Elfie who dies, and her special boy who misses her, with beautiful watercolour illustrations. 4-7yrs

I Miss You - *Pat Thomas (2000)*

A reassuring explanation of death; clear and well-illustrated; for top of age range.

I want to shout and stamp about - *Tony Mitton (2000)*

Funny poem book about anger.

The Lonely Tree - *Nicholas Halliday (2006)*

Delightful story for young children of friendship and loss; seeing goodbyes as part of life.

Always and Forever - *Alan Durant (2004)*

Ways in which animal friends in time find positive ways to remember "Fox". 3-5yrs

Laura's Star - *Klaus Baumgart (2000)*

Laura's star goes up into the sky; encourages imagination; comforting.

What does Dead Mean? - *Caroline Jay and Jenni Thomas (2011)*

Helpful book to answer some of young children's questions about death. 3+ yrs

The Rainbow Centre for Children 27 Lilymead Avenue, Bristol, BS4 2BY

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READING LIST: YOUNG CHILDREN (3-8 years) (CONT.)

Love Will Never Die – Clare Shaw (2017)

This is helpfully generic so doesn't assume who has died; it is a poem about the mixed feelings of bereavement and also a workbook children can fill in.

Up in Heaven - Emma Chichester Clark (2004)

Comforting story about elderly Daisy dog who is freed by death and sends dreams to her friend Arthur to help him get over the loss.

Feather Pillows – Impey and Carfield (1997)

Story of what happens after Grandma dies and the granddaughter finding comfort.

The Day the Sea Went Out and Never Came Back – Margot Sutherland (2004)

Eric is a dragon who faces loss of his beloved sea. He mourns but finds the courage to feel the full pain, instead of closing down and comes to find his memories are a special kind of treasure

Badger's Parting gifts - Susan Varley (1984)

A gentle introduction on death for young children. Badger is old and knows he must soon die, so tries to prepare his friends. When he dies, they are bereft but by sharing memories, they realise that although Badger is no longer here, he lives on through his friends. 3-5yrs

Remembering Mum - Ginny Perkins & Leon Morris (1996)

The book shows the family eating dinner, looking at old family snapshots and preparing for bed, illustrating ordinary events of life carrying on alongside the trauma the family feels.

Goodbye Mog – Judith Kerr (2003)

Mog is tired and ready to go but she continues to love her family & wants them to be happy

MORE INFORMATIONAL BOOKS:

Muddles, Puddles and Sunshine - Diana Crossley (2000)

Practical and sensitive support for bereaved children, beautifully illustrated. It offers a series of activities and exercises accompanied by the friendly characters of Bee and Bear.

When Dinosaur's Die - Lauren Krasny Brown & illustrated by Marc Brown (1998)

Explores the feelings children may have about the death of a loved one and the positive ways to remember them, approached in cartoon form. 4-8yrs

Beginnings and Endings with Lifetimes in between - Bryan Mellonie & Robert Ingpen

Helps parents and teachers explore the subjects of life and death with young children.

Dragon in your heart - Sophie LeBlanc - Jessica Kingsley Publishers (1999)

Explaining creatively to a child that their parent has cancer

Saying Goodbye – Ifeoma Onyefulu (2001)

Beautiful photo book about death in a Nigerian community through the eyes of a small boy seeing his beloved great grandmother's funeral ceremony. Suitable for older children too.

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