Nana Upstairs, and Nana Downstairs by Tomie DePaola E DEP

Tommy is four years old, and he loves visiting the home of his grandmother, Nana Downstairs, and his great-grandmother, Nana Upstairs. But one day Tommy's mother tells him Nana Upstairs won't be there anymore, and Tommy must struggle with saying good-bye to someone he loves.

Chester Raccoon and the Acorn Full of Memories by Audrey Penn E PEN

Chester Raccoon's good friend Skiddel Squirrel has had an accident and will not be returning-ever. Chester is upset that he won't get to play with his friend anymore. Mrs. Raccoon suggests that Chester and his friends create some memories of Skiddel, so that they will have good memories when they miss him. Chester, his brother Ronny, and their friends decide to gather at the pond, where they combine their memories and create a touching celebration of their friend's life.

Where is Grandpa? by T.A. Barron E BAR

As his family reminisces after his beloved grandfather’s death, a boy realizes that his grandfather is still with him in all the special places they shared.

When Aunt Mattie Got Her Wings by Petra Mathers E MAT

When Aunt Mattie dies, best friends Lottie and Herbie console each other and celebrate Aunt Mattie’s life by scattering her ashes together and preparing her favorite peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. (With bananas, of course!)

City Dog, Country Frog by Mo Willems E WIL

In spring, when City Dog runs free in the country for the first time, he spots Country Frog sitting on a rock, waiting for a friend. "Through the seasons, whenever City Dog visits the country he runs straight for Country Frog's rock. In winter, things change for City Dog and Country Frog. Come spring, friendship blooms again, a little different this time.

I'll Always Love you by Hans Wilhelm E WIL

A child’s sadness at the death of a beloved dog is tempered by the remembrance of saying to it every night, "I'll always love you."

Dog Heaven by Cynthia Rylant E RYL

If you have ever been lucky enough to have a special dog in your life, then you know there is a place called Dog Heaven—a place where dogs can eat ice cream biscuits, sleep on fluffy clouds, and run through unending fields.

Stones for Grandpa by Renee Londner E LON

After a year of missing his grandfather and remembering things they did together, a young boy and his family unveil Grandpa's tombstone, place stones on it, and share stories, knowing the memories will never be lost.

Dealing with Loss Book List

Revised 2/9/2018
BOOKS TO HELP DEAL WITH DIFFICULT TIMES...

I Miss You by Pat Thomas E THO
This reassuring picture book explores the difficult issue of death for young children. Children's feelings and questions about this sensitive subject are looked at in a simple but realistic way. This book helps them to understand their loss and come to terms with it.

Saying Goodbye to Uncle Joe by Nancy Loewen E LOE
When someone you love dies, you might feel sad, lonely, and confused. What do you do? No matter who your loved one was, this story can help you through the tough times.

Are You Sad, Little Bear? by Rachel Rivett E RIV
Grandmother Bear has gone for ever, and Little Bear is feeling sad. His mother wisely suggests that perhaps asking his woodland companions what saying goodbye means to them will help him understand his loss. This charmingly illustrated picture book will help young children in times of bereavement, loss or change, gently exploring the reasons for saying goodbye and giving reassurance that goodbye doesn't mean the end of things.

Badger's Parting Gifts by Susan Varley E VAR
Badger is so old that he knows he will soon die. He tries to prepare his friends for this event, but when he dies, they are still grief-stricken. Gradually they come to terms with their grief by remembering all the practical things Badger taught them, and so Badger lives on in his friends' memories of him.

The Fall of Freddie the Leaf by Leo Buscaglia, PhD E BUS
A warm, wonderfully wise and strikingly simple story about a leaf named Freddie. How Freddie and his companion leaves change with the passing seasons, finally falling to the ground with winter's snow, is an inspiring allegory illustrating the delicate balance between life and death.

Help Me Say Goodbye by Janis Silverman PARENTS 155.937 SIL
An art therapy and activity book for children coping with death. Sensitive exercises address all the questions children may have during this emotional and troubling crisis. Children are encouraged to express in pictures what they are often incapable of expressing in words.

Gentle Willow by Joyce Mills E MIL
Written for children who may not survive their illness or for the children who know them, the second edition of this tender and touching tale helps address feelings of disbelief, anger, and sadness, along with love and compassion.

The Tenth Good Thing About Barney by Judith Viorst E VIO
My cat Barney died this Friday. I was very sad. My mother said we could have a funeral for him, and I should think of ten good things about Barney so I could tell them... But the small boy who loved Barney can only think of nine. Later, while talking with his father, he discovers the tenth -- and begins to understand.

Good-bye Fish by Judith Koppens E KOP
Fish doesn’t swim anymore. Dog and Kitty try to help Fish swim again, but nothing works. Giraffe knows what’s going on: Fish is dead. Together they decide to bury Fish, but Kitty doesn’t want to forget about Fish. In what special ways can she remember Fish?

Papa’s New Home by Jessica Curtis E CUR
Papa’s New Home tells the story of little Jessie’s visit to heaven with her grandfather as she struggles to understand his death. Their journey takes them to a place of wonder and joy where cities glitter, angels sing, pets greet, and flowers play beautiful music. Papa’s New Home shares a message of hope for a child experiencing the loss of a loved one.

Sammy in the Sky by Barbara Walsh E WAL
Sammy, the best hound dog in the whole wide world, loves his girl and she loves him. When illness cuts Sammy’s life short, the girl’s family keeps his spirit alive by celebrating his love of chasing wind-blown bubbles, keeping loyal guard at night, and offering his velvety fur for endless pats and tummy scratches.

Bear and Bird by James Skofield E SKO
An old bear and a young bird become friends and spend several years together until the bear’s death. The young bird is comforted by memories of their time together.

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