

# Kids Books + Videos

These books and videos are suggestions for grief resources that may be helpful to you and/or your family. BC Children's Hospital Family Resource Library has all the resources on this list and mails resources free to families in BC. Contact the library at:

Family Support & Resource Centre  
BC's Children's Hospital  
4480 Oak Street, Rm. K2-126  
Ambulatory Care Building  
Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3V4

Web: <http://www.bcchildrens.ca/frl>  
Toll Free: 1-800-331-1533  
Tel: (604) 453-8335  
Fax: (604) 875-3455  
Email: [fsrc@cw.bc.ca](mailto:fsrc@cw.bc.ca)

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## **Books For Grieving Kids (3-5 yr)**

### **Gentle Willow**

**Joyce Mills**

When the pillow tree gets sick and nothing will make him well, his friends in the wood learn about death, and saying good-bye.

### **Giving Tree**

**Shel Silverstein**

Tender story of a tree's love for a little and how, as he grew older, the tree gave more and more of itself to him.

### **Lifetimes: The Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children**

**Bryan Mellonie and Robert Ingpen**

A book about natural lifetimes in all creatures and the fact that sometimes those lives are cut short by accident.

### **Love you Forever**

**Robert Munsch**

A whimsical tale of the enduring nature of parents' love over generations.

### **Remember the Secret**

**Elisabeth Kubler-Ross**

A book about death and grief with a religious background and message.

### **Where's Jess**

**Marv & Joy Johnson**

Addresses questions and concerns a young child may have when a brother or sister has died.

## **Books For Grieving Kids (6-12 yr)**

### **A Bunch of Balloons**

**Dorothy Ferguson**

Grieving children learn to talk about what they have lost and to see what is good in life when someone they love has died. Ages 6-10 years.

### **A Scrapbook of Memories**

**Dr. Earl Grollman**

A workbook for kids to help them learn about their own grief and the grief of others. Activities to help talk about death. Ages 6-10 years.

### **Aarvy Aardvark Finds Hope**

**D. O'Toole**

An illustrated read-aloud story of the pain and sadness of loss and the hope of grief recovery.

### **Am I Still a Sister?**

**Alicia M. Sims**

Letters and thoughts written by an 11-year old girl whose baby brother died when she was four.

### **How it Feels When a Parent Dies**

**Jill Krementz**

A collection of photo-essays with statements by eighteen bereaved children.

### **I Know I Made it Happen: A Gentle Book about Feeling Guilty**

**Lynn Blackburn**

The author suggests ways to help children who may feel that they have caused the death or illness or loss.

### **Little Tree: A Story for Children with Serious Medical Problems**

**Joyce C. Mills and Michael Chesworth, III.**

Although she is saddened that storm damage has caused her to lose some of her branches, Little Tree draws strength and happiness from the knowledge that she still has a strong trunk, deep roots, and a beautiful heart.

### **Losing Uncle Tim**

**MaryKate Jordan and Judith Friedman**

When his beloved Uncle Tim dies of AIDS, Daniel struggles to find reassurance and understanding and finds that his favorite grown-up has left him a legacy of joy and courage.

### **Love, Mark**

**Mark Scrivani**

A young boy describes his feelings when someone he loves dies.

### **Saying Good-bye**

**Jim and Joan Boulden**

The story in this book talks about death as a natural part of life, the feelings that are involved in saying good-bye, and the conviction that love is forever.

### **The Fall of Freddie the Leaf: A Story of Life for All Ages\***

**Leo Buscaglia**

Photographs of leaves on a tree in the park are accompanied by a text in which one leaf, Freddie, asks another, Daniel, to explain their anticipated fall from the tree and the meaning of life.

### **Velveteen Rabbit**

**M. Williams**

Thought provoking story about love and death, written from the point of view of a toy rabbit.

## **Books About Grieving Kids in Different Cultures**

### **When Dinosaurs Die**

**Laurie Krasny Brown and Marc Brown**

A multicultural look at dying and the customs. (6-12 yr)

## **Books for Kids Whose Baby Sister or Brother Has Died**

### **Am I Still a Sister?**

**Alicia M. Sims**

Letters and thoughts written by an 11-year old girl whose baby brother died when she was four. (6-12 yr)

### **Finding your Way**

**R. Reimer & Janne Davies**

Discusses the process of grief for all members of a family. Includes poems and proverbs from numerous cultures.

### **Molly's Rosebush**

**Janice Cohn**

Story about a young girl whose mother has a miscarriage and how the family deals with the loss. A beautiful book to help children move through their grief. Illustrated.

### **No New Baby**

**Marilyn Gryte**

When her sister is stillborn, a young girl feels guilty because sometimes she didn't want a sister to share with. (6-12 yr)

### **Our Baby Died. Why?**

**Jake Erling**

This booklet is a journal and workbook by 7 year old Jake. It tells about the pregnancy and stillbirth of his brother, Jesse. He shares his grief experience and tells of the subsequent birth of twins in the family.

### **When I Die, will I Get Better?**

**Joeri Breebaart**

A six-year old boy tries to come to terms with the death of his younger brother by creating a story about rabbit brothers that closely parallels his own experience.

## **Books for Kids Whose Older Sister or Brother Has Died**

### **Children die, too**

**Dr. S.M. Johnson and Joy Johnson**

This booklet explains the emotions and feelings felt on the death of a child and suggests ways of helping other members of the family who have also gone through a loss.

### **For those who Live: Helping children cope with the death of a brother or sister.**

**Kathy, LaTour**

A guide to helping children cope with the death of a brother or sister. Provides insight and understanding into how surviving children react to the death of a sibling

### **Lost and Found**

**Ellen Yeomans**

A preschool girl tells about her confusing thoughts and feelings after the death of her sister and the number of ways she continues to feel her sister's love.

### **Sibling Grief**

**Marcia G. Scherago**

This booklet talks about emotions and problems common to all human experience and how parents can help the child whose brother or sister has died.

### **The Magic Moth**

**Virginia Lee**

This is the story of the death of a 10 year old, the middle one of 5 children and the impact of her death on the family, in particular, on her 6 year old brother. Ages 6 years and up.

### **Where's Jess?**

**Joy Johnson**

A wonderful story book for pre-schoolers about the death of a sibling. Introduces, very subtly, all the concerns a very young child might have. Ages 2-6 years.

## **Books for Kids Whose Parent, Grandparent, or Other Adult Loved One Has Died**

### **How it Feels When a Parent Dies**

**Jill Krementz**

A collection of photo-essays with statements by eighteen bereaved children.

### **I Heard Your Mommy Died**

**Mark Scrivani and Aitken**

Discusses all types of feelings and events that come after the death of a parent.

### **I Know I Made it Happen: A Gentle Book about Feeling Guilty**

**Lynn Blackburn**

The author suggests ways to help children who may feel that they have caused the death or illness or loss. Ages 4-11 years.

### **Lifetimes: The Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children**

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### **Losing Uncle Tim**

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### **Love you Forever**

**Robert Munsch**

A whimsical tale of the enduring nature of parents' love over generations.

### **Talking about Death: A Dialogue Between Parent & Child**

**Earl A. Grollman**

A resource book designed to help parents share their feelings of loss and the range of emotions with their children.

### **The Fall of Freddy the Leaf the Leaf**

**Leo Buscaglio**

Natural cycles of life and death, discussed in simple terms of the life of a leaf.

## **Books for Kids About Traumatic Loss**

### **After a Suicide**

**The Dougy Center**

Offers children a way to get their feelings out and to understand and make sense of their experience.

## **Books for Kids Who Are Dying**

### **Badger's Parting Gifts**

**Susan Varley**

Old Badger gives parting gifts to his friends.

### **Gentle Willow**

**Joyce Mills**

When the pillow tree gets sick and nothing will make him well, his friends in the wood learn about death, and saying good-bye.

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Although she is saddened that storm damage has caused her to lose some of her branches, Little Tree draws strength and happiness from the knowledge that she still has a strong trunk, deep roots, and a beautiful heart. (6-12 yr)

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### **The Magic Moth**

**Virginnia Lee**

A young boy visits his sister every day in her room while she is dying at home, bringing her gifts he has found or made. The night she dies, something magical happens.

### **We will meet again in Heaven**

**Christel and Isabel Zachert**

One family's remarkable struggle with death and life. Contains letters written to her family, friends and doctors by a young girl struggling with cancer.

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**Joeri Breebaart**

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