

Books for Children and Youth

[Where Is Grandpa?](#) by T.A. Barron

A story about young boy's grief when his grandfather dies. The family talks about the grandfather and what they remember about him. The boy has lots of questions that his father tried to answer.

[What is God?](#) by Etan Boritzer

Etan Boritzer's best selling non-religious, non-denominational book, now in its 13th printing, talks about the diversity in all the great beliefs and the way in which we are all connected.

[What is Death?](#) by Etan Boritzer

What Is Death? introduces children to the concept of death with examples of customs and beliefs from different religions and cultures. While addressing children's natural curiosity about the subject, the book, also, challenges them to reflect on the themes of tolerance, identity and generosity. Using a gentle and comforting tone and an honest approach, What Is Death? encourages children to embrace the positive in life.

[When Dinosaurs Die](#) by Laurie Brown and Marc Brown

A comprehensive book, in cartoon format, which discusses different issues related to death.

[The Fall of Freddie the Leaf: A Story of Life for all Ages](#) by Leo Buscaglia

This is the story of a leaf named Freddie and how he changes with the seasons. It it considrs the interconnectedness of life and death. Also available to borrow from Linnea Nelson. This is the book we read this in Chapel on Mar. 1, 2015.

[Nana Upstairs, Nana Downstairs](#) by Tomie dePaola

A good book to introduce death to very young children. It is a comforting book to children who have experienced a death in the family.

[The Moon Balloon: A Journey of Hope and Discovery for Children and Families](#) by

Joan Drescher

This book can be used to help children to use their imagination in the healing process.

[Always and Forever](#) by Alan Durant

A tale of animals who have lost a companion. They remember their friend and create a memorial for him.

[When Someone Dies](#) by Sharon Greenlee

Explores feelings children may experience after the death of a loved one.

[And God Cried, Too: A Kid's Book of Healing and Hope](#) by Marc Gellman. A chapter book that deals with various issues through stories. "The stories and conclusions represent a Judeo-Christian view of the world where God is compassionate and loving, and where neighborliness and kindness to others are of utmost importance."

[When a Friend Dies: A Book for Teens About Grieving and Healing](#) by Marilyn Gootman
A book of gentle advice for teenagers.

[The Next Place](#) by Warren Hanson
An beautiful book to help explain death to a child.

[Lifetimes: The Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children](#) by Bryan Mellonie
"Very simply, with few words, this book explains that there is a beginning and an end. In the middle is life. Beginnings and endings are going on around us all the time. For plants, animals and humans too. Everything has its own lifetime, some short & some long."

[Sad Isn't Bad: A Good-Grief Guidebook for Kids Dealing With Loss](#) by Michaelene Mundy
Sad Isn't Bad answers the questions children have when dealing with death in the immediate family.

[Love You Forever](#) by Robert Munsch
The mother sings to her sleeping baby: "I'll love you forever / I'll love you for always / As long as I'm living / My baby you'll be."

[Grandma's Scrapbook](#) by Josephine Nobisso
A book about memories and love.

[What on Earth Do You Do When Someone Dies?](#) by Trevor Romain
A book that answers questions many children may have about death in a simple manner. [Amazon.com](#)

[Cat Heaven](#) by Cynthia Rylant
A colorful book to reassure youngsters when a beloved pet dies.

[Dog Heaven](#) by Cynthia Rylant
A colorful book to reassure youngsters when a beloved pet dies.

[What's Heaven?](#) by Maria Shriver
This book details a conversation between a young girl and her mother after the death of a grandmother.

[What's Wrong with Timmy?](#) by Maria Shriver
This book is about a girl who befriends a boy who is "different."

[Tear Soup](#) by Pat Schweibert and Chuck DeKlyen

Older kids and adults will appreciate this book which helps them to explore their feelings after "bad news" of various forms.

[About Dying: An Open Family Book for Parents and Children Together](#) by Sara Bonnett Stein

[Badger's Parting Gifts](#) by Susan Varley

Badger's friends find the strength live with hope even after their friend dies.

[The Tenth Good Thing about Barney](#) by Judith Viorst

A child learns about death after his cat dies.

[I'll Always Love You](#) by Hans Wilhelm

A child's sadness at the death of a beloved dog is tempered by the by the remembrance of saying every night "I'll Always Love You."

[Grandad's Prayers of the Earth](#) by Douglas Wood

The comfortable conversations between a boy and his grandfather become the springboard for exploring ideas about prayer in this poignant picture book. (From Publishers Weekly)

[Tuck Everlasting](#) by Natalie Babbitt

The Tuck family discovers a spring which grants eternal life, decides to protect it for the sake of humanity, and finally meets challenges to their goals in the form of a ten-year-old's inquisitive mind and a greedy stranger who suspects their secret. (Midwest Book Review)

Other Books

[How to Survive the Loss of a Love](#) by Harold Bloomfield, Melba Colgrove and Peter McWilliams. A simple book with 200 pages of advice and sayings that will help those dealing with the pain of loss.

[For Praying Out Loud: Interfaith Prayers for Public Occasions](#) by L. Annie Foerster

[From Beginning to End: The Rituals of Our Lives](#) by Robert Fulghum

In this free-form meditation, former Unitarian minister Fulghum (All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten) examines how people impart meaning and structure to their lives through public rituals-weddings, funerals, high school reunions, church services-as well as myriad private and interpersonal rituals that mark events and preserve memories. (From Publishers Weekly)

[The Seasons of Grief: Helping Children Grow Through Loss](#) by Donna Gaffney

This small book makes a thoughtful, helpful gift for anyone who has lost a loved one.

[Talking about Death: A Dialogue between Parent and Child](#) by Earl A. Grollman

This book is a compassionate guide for adults and children to read together,

featuring a readalong story, answers to questions children ask about death, and a comprehensive list of resources and organizations that can help. (Book description)

[The Questioning Child](#) by Edith Hunter.

[After Goodbye: How to Begin Again After the Death of Someone You Love](#) by Ted Menten

Menten uses his experience with the Harmony Project in comforting terminally ill children to offer his insights into finding a way out of grief...according to Menten, the only real death is being forgotten. He proposes that death must be faced without evasion in order to get on with the task of living. (From Publishers Weekly)

[Gentle Closings: How to Say Goodbye to Someone You Love](#) by Ted Menten

[A Faith for All Seasons: Liberal Religion and the Crises of Life](#) by William R. Murry

[Great Occasions: Readings for the Celebration of Birth, Coming-of-Age, marriage and Death](#) edited by Carl Seaburg

This treasury of words pays tribute to the watershed events of life.

[In Memoriam: A Guide to Modern Funeral and Memorial Services](#) Edward Searl

[Talking with Children About Loss](#) by Maria Trozzi

Through captivating stories and thoughtful analysis, Maria Trozzi explains how to handle the difficult job of talking with children and adolescents about loss.

[Good Grief](#) by Granger Westberg

This book describes what happens to us whenever we lose someone or something important.

[Helping Children Cope with Grief](#) by Alan Wolfet

Guidelines are presented in the book of how one can create a "helping healing relationship." Through reading and participating in the activities presented, the reader will become capable of establishing a very special kind of goal-directed experience with the grieving child.

[Remembering Well: Rituals for Celebrating Life and Mourning Death](#) by Sarah York

This book is a treasure for religious leaders and ordinary people who face the challenges of grief and mourning. Without offering pat answers, religious dogma or platitudes of any kind, the author, a Unitarian-Universalist minister who has served congregations for 18 years, provides heartfelt stories and wise words to guide the reader through the many kinds of issues that surface when a loved one has died.