COPING WITH LOSS FOR CHILDREN

BOOKS ABOUT DEATH OF A PET

The Goodbye Book
Parr, Todd
When a fish loses its green fish-companion in their fishbowl, “It’s hard to say goodbye to someone.”
E PAR (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)

Always Remember
Meng, Cece
A comforting story about an animal who loses its friend. This picture book is also a good choice for young children coping with loss.
E MEN (Breckenridge)

DEATH OF A PET

Saying Goodbye to Lulu
Demas, Corinne
When her dog Lulu dies, a girl grieves for a time but learns to find the strength to continue living her life.
E DEM (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)

The Tenth Good Thing About Barney
Viorst, Judith
In an attempt to overcome his grief, a boy tries to think of the ten best things about his dead cat.
E VIO (Breckenridge & Frisco)

Sammy in the Sky
Walsh, Barbara
A little girl talks about her special pet, Sammy, and how, after he becomes sick and dies, she comes to know the truth of her mother’s words, that Sammy’s spirit is everywhere.
E WAL (Breckenridge)

I’ll Always Love You
Wilhelm, Hans
After burying their beloved pet, the young boy is not ready for a new dog. He knows he will tell the new pet, “I’ll always love you.”
E HAN (Breckenridge)

While reading these books, make time to ask:
- How do you think the character is feeling?
- How do you think you would feel if you were in that situation?
- What questions do you have?
- What are some of the ways people might feel when someone dies? How are you feeling?
- How can you help friends when they are sad?

OUR LOCATIONS

MAIN LIBRARY
County Commons Building
0037 Peak One Drive
Frisco, CO 80443
970-668-5555 (ext. 0)

NORTH BRANCH
651 Center Circle
Silverthorne, CO 80498
970-668-4280

SOUTH BRANCH
Breckenridge Grand Vacations Community Center
103 South Harris Street
Breckenridge, CO 80424
970-453-3544

If you need help finding a book, just ask at the front desk!
Easy Readers & Picture Books

LEARNING ABOUT DEATH / GENERAL LOSS

The Fall of Freddie the Leaf
Buscaglia, Leo
As Freddie experiences the changing seasons along with his companion leaves, he learns about the delicate balance between life and death.
J BUS (Breckenridge & Frisco)

The Rabbit Listened
Doerrfeld, Cori
When something terrible happens, Taylor doesn’t know where to turn. All the animals are sure they have the answer. But all the rabbit does is listen, which is just what Taylor needs.
E DOE (Breckenridge)

Lifetimes: A Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children
Mellonie, Bryan
Lifetimes tells us about beginnings and endings and living in between. It reminds us that dying is as much a part of living as being born.
E DOE (Breckenridge)

My Many Colored Days
Dr. Seuss
This lovely book gives children the comfort of knowing that they are allowed to feel a wide range of emotions, no matter what kind of day it is, or how they think they are supposed to feel.
E SEU (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)

I Miss You: A First Look at Death
Thomas, Pat
This book can help your children understand that their grief is normal, no matter how all-consuming it is, and that death is a part of life.
Available via hold

Something Very Sad Happened: A Toddler’s Guide to Understanding Death
Zucker, Bonnie
A book for two- and three-year-old children to help them understand death and process the loss of a loved one.
E 155 ZUC (Breckenridge)

DEATH OF A PARENT

The Memory String
Bunting, Eve
Still grieving for her mother and unable to accept her stepmother, a girl clings to the memories represented by forty-three buttons on a string.
E BUN (Breckenridge)

No Matter What
Glori, Debi
This book shows that a parent has an endless capacity for love, even after death, and that their child is always loved, no matter what.
Available via hold

Wherever You Are: My Love Will Find You
Tillman, Nancy
A beautiful book full of moving words, this one is perfect for the little one who is worried their parent will leave their memories and their hearts.
E TIL (Breckenridge, Frisco, & Silverthorne)

I’ll Always Love You
Wilhelm, Hans
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.”
E WIL (Breckenridge)

Her Mother’s Face
Doyle, Roddy
Siobhán and her father feel sad in the years following her mother’s death, until Siobhán follows the advice of a mysterious woman.
Available via hold

DEATH OF A GRANDPARENT

Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs
DePaola, Tomie
Four-year-old Tommy enjoys his relationship with both his grandmother and great-grandmother, but eventually learns to face their inevitable death.
E DEP (Frisco)

Cry Heart, But Never Break
Ringtved, Glenn
Award-winning Danish author tells the story of death as a gentle houseguest. He tells four children a story to help them understand grief, loss, and the importance of saying goodbye.
Available via hold

DEATH OF A FRIEND

Ida, Always
Levis, Caron
Another example of illustrating death to young children through animals, Ida, Always tells the story of two polar bears who live in the Central Park Zoo in New York City.
Available via hold

Remembering Crystal
Loth, Sebastian
Zelda is a young goose that lives in the garden with her friend Crystal who is growing old. One day Crystal is not in the garden, but their friendship never dies.
Available via hold