

PATHWAYS CENTER
for GRIEF & LOSS

**BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR CHILDREN
COPING WITH A LOVED ONE'S SERIOUS ILLNESS**

Fine, Judylaine. **Afraid To Ask, A Book For Families To Share About Cancer.**

An informative, easy to read introduction to cancer that explains and demystifies the disease.

Harpham, Wendy. **When A Parent Has Cancer, A Guide On Caring For Your Children.**

Written for adults, this book is a sensitive and sensible guide that is useful and easy to understand. It includes a book for children ages 8-14 entitled Becky and the Worry Cup.

Heegaard, Marge Eaton. **When Someone Has a Very Serious Illness.**

With an emphasis on how to cope with illness, loss and change through expression of feelings, this is a practical workbook that teaches basic concepts.

Jonah, Stephanie. **Transitions Along the Way – A Guide to the Dying Process for Children and Young Adults.**

Written from a faith perspective, this book promotes discussion and exploration of the emotional issues related to death and the dying experience.

Kohlenberg, Sherry. **Sammy's Mommy Has Cancer.**

A sensitive, straightforward story that will help young children understand the changes in their lives when a parent is diagnosed with a life-threatening illness.

Levine, Jennifer. **Forever In My Heart.**

This workbook addresses the needs of children who have a terminally ill loved one. Encourages the expression of feelings and search for meaning and hope for children prior to the death.

LeShan, Eda. **When A Parent Is Very Sick.**

A helpful book for children and parents that talks openly about the stress of having a parent with a serious illness.

Martin, Carrie & Martin, Chia. **The Rainbow Feelings of Cancer.**

A true story written by a mother and daughter about their thoughts, feelings and questions when a life-threatening illness touches a child's parent.

McCue, Kathleen. **Someone I Love is Sick.**

A customizable tool to use when talking with children ages 2-6 about a parent or grandparent who has cancer.

McNamara, Jill. **My Mom is Dying.**

Written in a diary format, a child describes her feelings and begins to realize that they are all normal. A discussion section is included to help parents and children talk about death and grieving.

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Mellonie, Bryan and Ingpen, Robert. **Lifetimes - The Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children.**
Explains life and death in a very simple, practical way. Helps all ages to understand the natural cycle of life.

Nystrom, Carolyn. **Jenny & Grandpa.**
This is a beautiful story of a very special relationship. Explores realizations about growing old. Includes a faith perspective.

Nystrom, Carolyn. **Emma Says Goodbye.**
This is a gentle story that describes what is happening to Aunt Sue as her illness progresses and how Emma, her family and Aunt Sue react offering comfort and hope. Includes a faith perspective.

O'Toole, Donna. **Facing Change – Falling Apart and Coming Together Again In The Teen Years.**
Founded on the belief that young adults can make effective choices that can be healing, this little book has a lot of good information on helping teens face change/loss in a positive way.

Parkinson, Carolyn Stearns. **My Mommy Has Cancer.**
This book helps young children learn about cancer, its treatment and its emotional impact.

Peterkin, Allan. **What About Me? When Brothers and Sisters Get Sick.**
Through a poignant and well written story, this book address the many complicated feelings the well child experiences when a sibling is ill.

Shriver, Maria. **What's Happening to Grandpa?**
This book helps address the questions and concerns children often have when someone they love has Alzheimer's. Includes a faith perspective.

Smith, Izetta. **A Tiny Boat at Sea.**
Excellent resource for adults to help children in their adjustment to the cancer diagnosis of an adult family member.

Website: Cancer in My Family – www.cancerinmyfamily.ca/#/landing-page

Many of these books can be borrowed from a
Pathways Center for Grief & Loss library either at our Mount Joy or York locations.



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