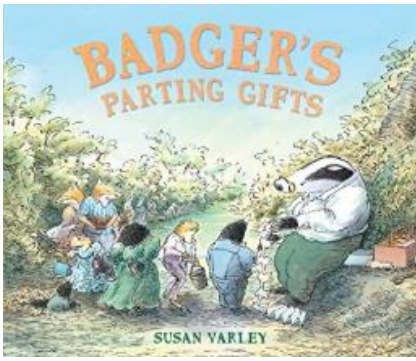


## Books to help young Children and Families cope with Anxiety and Bereavement



### Badger's Parting Gifts: A Classic

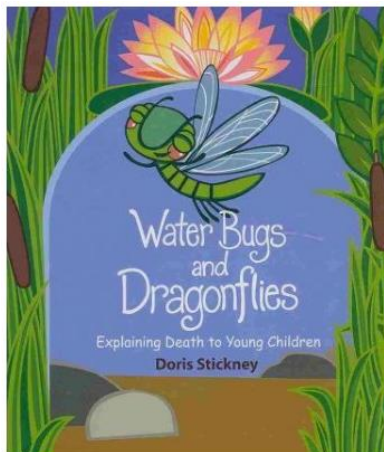
#### Illustrating death to young children

Author: Susan Varley      Publisher: Anderson Press      Date: 1987

Badger is so old that he knows he will soon die. He tries to prepare his friends for this event, but when he does die, 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.

An old classic: Warm and sensitive with a gentle message which can be of comfort to both young children and adults. Beautiful illustrations throughout.

Youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRTRABhJTbo>

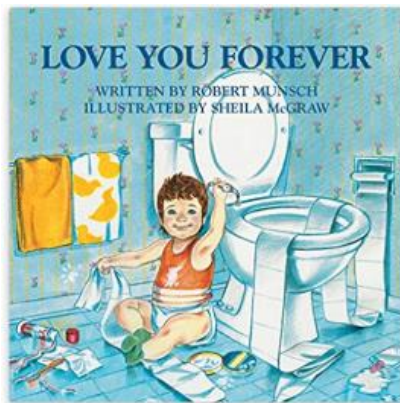


### Water Bugs and Dragonflies: For young children

#### Illustrating death to young children

Author: Doris Stickney      Publisher: The Pilgrim Press      Date: 2004

Doris Stickney and her minister husband were looking for a meaningful way to explain to neighbourhood children the death of a five-year-old friend -- an explanation that would satisfy not only the children but adult minds as well. A small colony of water bugs living happily below the surface of a quiet pond. Every so often one of them climbs up a lily stalk and disappears from sight, never to return. Those left behind are faced with the mystery of figuring out what has become of them.



### Love You Forever: A Timeless Favourite

#### Parental bonds with child / death of a parent

Author: Robert Munsch      Publisher: Firefly book      Date: 1986

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". She still sings the same song throughout all stage of her son's life. Then, inevitably, the day comes when she's too old and sick to hold him, and the roles are at last reversed. Each stage is illustrated by one of Sheila McGraw's comic and yet poignant pastels. (Ages 4 to 8)

Youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsWbZwLusyE>



### The Invisible String: Modern and very calming

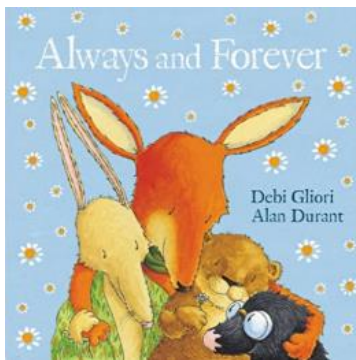
Author: [Patrice Karst](#) and [Joanne Lew-Vriethoff](#) / Publisher: Little, Brown Books

Date: 2018

A Mum explains to her anxious twins about the tug of the 'invisible string', the link of love people between. A very gentle book to help with separation anxiety, grief, loneliness and loss.

Suitable for 4-8 year olds

Youtube link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_cO2LBBtAI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_cO2LBBtAI)



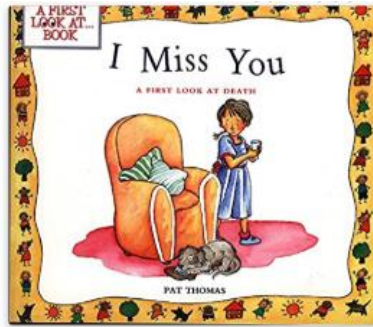
### **Always and Forever: Emotional**

Author: Alan Durant Publisher: Picture Corgi Date: 2013

When Fox dies the rest of his family are absolutely distraught. How will Mole, Otter and Hare go on without their beloved friend? But, months later, Squirrel reminds them all of how funny Fox used to be, and they realise that Fox is still there in their hearts and memories.

A moving and gentle explanation about death

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7Ku9wGCMuQ>

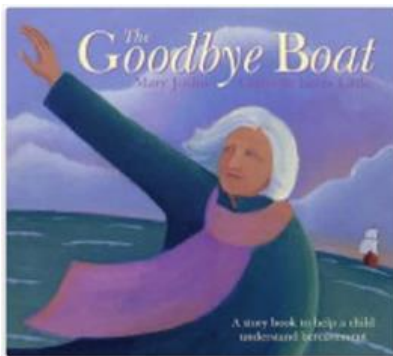


### **I Miss You: Good for discussion**

Author: Pat Thomas Publisher: Wayland Date: 2009

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. Written by a trained psychotherapist, journalist and parent, and illustrated by an experienced children's book artist, this is part of an acclaimed and successful series of picture-book non-fiction for Early Years.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X0ul-vgIPDQ>



### **The Goodbye Boat: Minimal text, discussion from pictures**

Author: Mary Joslin Publisher: Lion Book Date: 2005

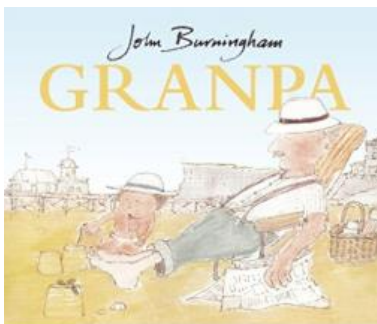
Pictures tell a very simple story of the sorrow of seeing the goodbye boat take a friend away and the confidence of believing they travel to a bright shore beyond.

### **Granpa: Beautiful illustrations**

Author: John Burningham Publisher: Red Fox Date: 2003

Granpa nurses his granddaughter's dolls, mistakes her strawberry-flavoured pretend ice-cream for chocolate, takes her tobogganing in the snow, and falls in with her imaginary plans to captain a ship to Africa, like all good Granpa's should. It is a friendship that children who read this book will long remember.

A beautiful, simple, honest and straight forward way to introduce children to death.



### **Josh : Warm and caring for very young children**

Author: Stephanie Jeffs Publisher: Barnabas Date: 2005

A sympathetic book for families who need to help children accept the death of someone, outside the immediate family, who was close to them. Simple, easy-to-read text with accessible illustrations.

