## Parents Corner Topics: Explaining Loss

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An Ordinary Day</td>
<td>Elana K. Arnold</td>
<td>An ordinary day in an ordinary neighborhood turns out to be extraordinary in this story about new life, death, and family.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dance Like a Leaf</td>
<td>A.J. Irving</td>
<td>As her grandmother's health declines, a young girl begins to take the lead in their cozy shared autumn traditions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flamingo Dream</td>
<td>Donna Jo Napoli</td>
<td>Grieving over her father’s death from cancer, a young girl celebrates their last year together by making a book that includes mementos and a story.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Goodbye Book</td>
<td>Todd Parr</td>
<td>Illustrations and brief text relate how a person might feel when they lose someone they love.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturdays are for Stella</td>
<td>Candy Welling</td>
<td>George loves spending Saturdays with his grandmother, Stella. One day, Stella is gone and George is ready to cancel Saturdays—until a new addition to the family arrives and George finds a way to honor the memories of his beloved grandmother.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Funeral</td>
<td>Matt James</td>
<td>Norma and her parents are going to her great-uncle Frank's funeral, and Norma is more excited than sad. She is looking forward to playing with her favorite cousin, Ray, but when she arrives at the church, she is confronted with rituals and ideas that have never occurred to her before.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Where Do They Go?</td>
<td>Julia Alvarez</td>
<td>Children wonder what happens to their loved ones after death.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Death is Stupid</td>
<td>Anastasia Higgenbotham</td>
<td>Walks through the emotions and confusion it is common for young people to experience when someone dies, and describes some of the ways to celebrate love and life.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Lifetimes: the Beautiful Way to Explain Death to Children

**Bryan Mellonie**

Lifetimes is a moving book for children of all ages, even parents too. It lets us explain life and death in a sensitive, caring, beautiful way. With large, wonderful illustrations, it tells about plants. About animals. About people. It tells that dying is as much a part of living as being born. It helps us to remember. It helps us to understand.

### What Happens When a Loved One Dies?: Our First Talk About Death

**Jillian Roberts**

Whether children are experiencing grief and loss for the first time or simply curious, it can be difficult to know how to talk to them about death. Using questions posed in a child’s voice and answers that start simply and become more in-depth, this book allows adults to guide the conversation to a natural and reassuring conclusion.

### What Does Dead Mean?: a Book for Young Children to Help Explain Death and Dying

**Caroline Jay**

A beautifully illustrated book that guides children gently through 17 of the ‘big’ questions they often ask about death and dying. Questions such as ‘Is being dead like sleeping?’, ‘Why do people have to die?’ and ‘Where do dead people go?’ are answered simply, truthfully and clearly to help adults explain to children what happens when someone dies.

### Isaiah Dunn is My Hero

**Kelly J. Baptist**

A coming-of-age tale about a boy who discovers a love of poetry after finding his late father’s journal. Adapted from a story that first appeared in Flying Lessons & Other Stories.

### A Home for Goddesses and Dogs

**Leslie Connor**

After the death of her mother, Lydia moves in with her aunts and learns to find a new family of inspiring women and loving dogs.

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**MORE BOOKS ABOUT LOSS:**

- **Saying Goodbye to Lulu**  |  I P Demas
- **Bear and Bird**  |  I P Skofield
- **Ben’s Flying Flowers**  |  I PT J 155.937 (PC)
- **King and the Dragonflies**  |  I J Callendar
- **The Remarkable Journey of Coyote Sunrise**  |  I J Gemeinhart
- **When Dinosaurs Die**  |  I J 155.9 BROW, L
- **Something Very Sad Happened**  |  I J 155.9 ZUCK, B