EARLY CHILDHOOD ISSUES
Death and Dying

Easy
All titles are shelved alphabetically by the author's last name in the Easy section.

Alvarez, Julia. Where Do They Go? (Easy Alvarez)
A comforting meditation on death, asking questions about what happens to those you love after they die.
"When somebody dies, where do they go? Do they go where the wind goes when it blows? ... Do they wink back at me when I wish on a star? Do they whisper, "You're perfect, just as you are."?

Bagley, Jessixa. Boats for Papa. (Easy Bagley)
Buckley and his mother cope with the loss of their father/husband by sending small wooden boats, built by Buckley, off into the ocean.

Brown, Margaret. The Dead Bird. (Easy Brown)
When they find a dead bird, a group of children bury it in the woods, sing a song to it, and put flowers on the grave.

Charara, Hayan. The Three Lucys. (Easy Charara)
A young Lebanese boy must learn to cope with loss and hope for a peaceful future after losing one of his beloved cats during the month long July War, a conflict between Lebanon and Israel in 2006.

Colletti, Linda. 101 Rainbow Ribbons. (Easy Colletti)
A young boy notices his Grandmother crying and learns she is sad about the death of her own mother. She tells the story of how her father paid tribute to his wife after her death.

Cooper, Elisha. Big Cat Little Cat. (Easy Cooper)
A story of friendship following two cats through their days, months, and years until one day, the older cat has to go and he doesn't come back. A poignant story, told in measured text, about life and the act of moving on.

Doerrfeld, Cori. The Rabbit Listened. (Easy Doerrfeld)
When Taylor's block castle is destroyed, all the animals think they know just what to do, but only the rabbit quietly listens to how Taylor is feeling.

Elliott, Rebecca. Missing Jack. (Easy Elliott)
Toby's cat, Jack, is the best ever. But Jack is getting old and Toby will miss him terribly when he's gone. Then Toby meets a crazy cat called Humphrey. This book addresses the difficult subject of a child's first experience of the death of a pet with warmth, sensitivity, and well placed humor.

Hest, Amy. My Old Pal, Oscar. (Easy Hest)
After a young boy's beloved dog dies, the boy encounters a stray dog on the beach. At first, the boy is not interested in having another dog as a pet, but as he walks and plays on the beach, he gradually becomes interested in taking care of the stray dog as a pet.

Hole, Stian. Anna's Heaven. (Easy Hole)
After the death of her mother, Anna and her father imagine that Heaven might be a place where one can help in God's garden, visit with old friends, and take off one's socks whenever one pleases.

Huneck, Stephen. Sally Goes to Heaven. (Easy Huneck)
A beloved dog dies and goes to heaven where she lives happily and helps to find her family on earth a new pet.

Kim, Cecil. Friendship Quilt. (Easy Kim)
After the loss of her grandmother, Raddie is very sad. Together her friends make a friendship quilt to help cheer up Raddie and help her remember her grandmother.
Koppens, Judith. **Good-bye, Fish.** (Easy Koppens)
Giraffe and Dog help their friend Kitty adjust to the death of her pet fish.

Londner, Renee. **Stones for Grandpa.** (Easy Londner)
After a year of missing his grandfather and remembering things they did together, a young boy and his family unveil Grandpa's tombstone, place stones on it, and share stories, knowing the memories will never be lost.

Lunde, Stein Erik. **My Father's Arms Are a Boat.** (Easy Lunde)
Unable to sleep, a young boy climbs into his father's arms and asks about birds, foxes, and whether his mother will ever awake. Then under a starry sky, the father provides clear answers and assurances.

Maier, Inger. **Ben's Flying Flowers.** (Easy Maier)
Emily introduces her younger brother, Ben, to butterflies, which he calls "flying flowers". When his illness makes him too weak to go see them she draws him pictures, but after his death she no longer wants to draw happy things. Includes note to parents.

Martins, Isabel Minhos. **Where Do We Go When We Disappear?** (Easy Martins)
Things in this world are always appearing and disappearing. But does a stone really vanish when it turns into sand? And do lost socks really go missing? And, more importantly, do people ever really disappear? This book holds lots of ideas to help you answer the age-old question: where do we go when we disappear?

Mathers, Petra. **When Aunt Mattie Got Her Wings.** (Easy Mathers)
When Aunt Mattie dies, best friends Lottie and Herbie console each other and celebrate Aunt Mattie's life by scattering her ashes and preparing her favorite snack--peanut butter and jelly sandwiches (with bananas).

Meng, Cece. **Always Remember.** (Easy Meng)
After Old Turtle swims his last swim and breathes his last breath, his friends lovingly remember how he impacted each one of them and realize that he is not truly gone, because his memory and legacy will last forever.

Parr, Todd. **The Goodbye Book.** (Easy Parr)
This direct and supportive narrative traces a pet fish’s reactions to the other fish’s disappearance (including sadness, anger, confusion, and denial), which give way to a gradual recovery as time passes.

Rovere, Amy. **And Still They Bloom.** (Easy Rovere)
As Emily and Ben deal with the loss of their mother to cancer, and embark on a journey of grief and realizing their mother will always be with them in their hearts.

Spielman, Gloria. **French Toast Sundays.** (Easy Spielman)
After the loss of her beloved grandmother, Mina finds solace in stories told by family and friends. Her grief is turned to joy when she surprises everyone with Grandma's famous French toast.

Wahl, Phoebe. **Sonya's Chickens.** (Easy Wahl)
Sonya raises three chickens; feeding, sheltering and loving them. One night, she hears noises from the coop and finds a hen missing. In learning why, Sonya discovers the interconnectedness of nature and the joys and sorrows of caring for another creature.

Yolen, Jane. **The Day Tiger Rose Said Goodbye.** (Easy Yolen)
A cat whose kitten days are far behind her says goodbye to her human family and the animals and places that have made her life special before leaving this life behind.

Zucker, Bonnie. **Something Very Sad Happened.** (Easy Zucker)
Intended for two and three year olds to help them understand death and process the loss of a loved one. Includes an introduction of "How to use this book", a five-page "Note to parent and caregivers" and more suggestions for helping children cope with the death, and with the funeral process.