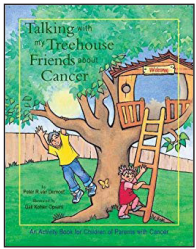


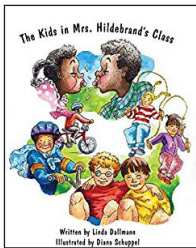
# Cancer Resource Center Library

## Books for Children and Teens

### who have a Family Member with Cancer



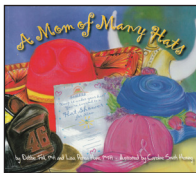
FAM 001 **Talking with my Treehouse Friends about Cancer**  
 FAM 001a **Talking with my Treehouse Friends about Cancer, Spanish edition**  
 van Dernoot, Peter. R., Golden, Colorado: Fulcrum Press, 2007.  
 This activity book, written by the founder of *The Children's Treehouse Foundation*, allows kids to express their feelings through drawing, coloring, pasting, and writing.



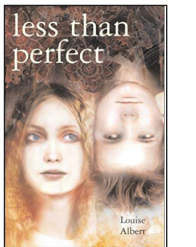
FAM 002 **The Kids in Mrs. Hildebrand's Class**  
 Dallmann, Linda, Victoria, BC Canada: Trafferd Publishing, 2006.  
 The first graders in Mrs. Hildebrand's class arrive for class one day and find out their teacher is gone. The principal explains that Mrs. Hildebrand is very sick and that she is going to be in the hospital. It turns out that their teacher has cancer and they are going to have a substitute for a while until Mrs. Hildebrand can come back. How does a class of first graders handle the change in their lives? This informative and reassuring book explains what the children can do in the classroom to cope with this difficult experience.



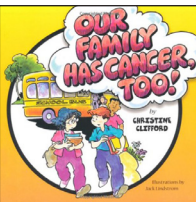
FAM 003 **Mom Has Cancer!**  
 FAM 003a **¡Mamá tiene cáncer!**  
 Moore-Mallinos, Barcelona, Spain: de Gemser Publications, 2008.  
 The sensitively written *Let's Talk About It Books* encourages preschool-age and early-grades children to explore their feelings, deal with problems that trouble them, and understand others who have problems of their own. *Mom has Cancer*, gives age-appropriate information for young children about cancer.



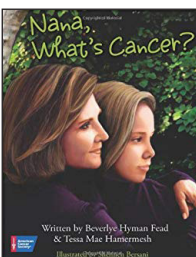
FAM 004 **A Mom of Many Hats**  
 Fink, Debbie, Hane, Lisa Perea, Bethesda, Maryland: Harmony Health, 2011.  
*A Mom of Many Hats* helps children affected by a parent battling cancer and undergoing chemotherapy with a healing literary experience. Each family can then use this book as a tool to discuss the cancer journey.



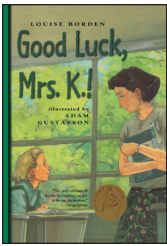
FAM 005 **less than perfect** (novel for teens)  
 Albert, Louise, New York, New York: Holiday House, 2003.  
 By ignoring her mother's breast cancer, Laura secretly hopes that it will just go away as she does her best to cope with such a tragic turn of events with the help and support of her new friend, love, and confidant, Paul.



FAM 006 **Our Family Has Cancer, Too!**  
 Clifford, Christine. Minneapolis, Minnesota: University of Minnesota Press, 1998.  
 When their mother is diagnosed with cancer, sixth grader Tim and his younger brother visit her in the hospital, learn about radiation and chemotherapy.

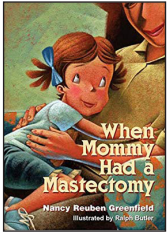


FAM 008 **Nana, What's Cancer?**  
 Fead, Beverly Human & Hamermesh, Tessa Mae. Atlanta, Georgia: American Cancer Society, 2010.  
 Tessa is a 10-year-old girl who wants to understand the confusing world of cancer and then to be able to explain it to other children. She embarks on her quest by asking questions of her Nana, whose answers are designed to both ease children's fears and provide them with factual information.



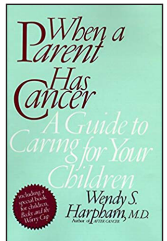
### FAM 009 **Good Luck, Mrs. K.!**

Borden, Louise. New York, New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books, 1999.  
Mrs. Kempczinski – “Mrs. K.” to her third-grade students – is everyone’s favorite teacher. Suddenly, though, Mrs. K. is not in school and Room 3 has a substitute teacher. The principal explains that Mrs. K. is in the hospital with cancer. When will Mrs. K. come back?



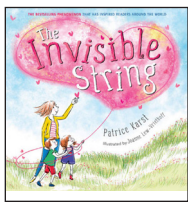
### FAM 010 **When Mommy Had a Mastectomy**

Greenfield, Nancy Reuben. Silver Spring, Maryland: Bartelby Press, 2005.  
*When Mommy Had a Mastectomy* is a children’s book that explains, in a simple and clear manner, why Mommy is sick and what she does after she feels better to return to normalcy.



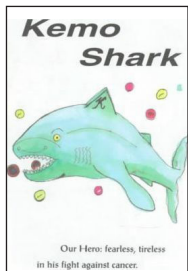
### FAM 011 **When A Parent Has Cancer: A Guide to Caring For Your Children**

Harpham, Wendy Schlessel, M.D. New York, New York: HarperCollins Publishers, Inc., 2004.  
*When A Parent Has Cancer* is a book for families written from the heart of experience. A mother, physician, and cancer survivor, Dr. Wendy Harpham offers clear, direct, and sympathetic advice for parents challenged with the task of raising normal, healthy children while they struggle with a potentially life-threatening disease.



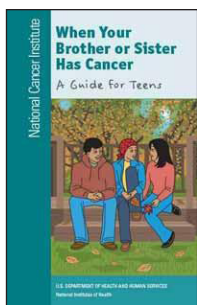
### FAM 012 **The Invisible String**

Karst, Patrice. Little, Brown and Company, 2018.  
A reassuring story for children to overcome separation anxiety. Imagine there is always a connection with a loved one, even if there is a physical separation. With an invisible string, no one is ever alone.



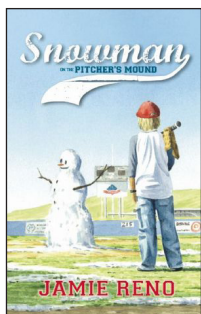
### FAM 013 **Kemo Shark**

King, H. Elizabeth. Atlanta, Georgia: Kidscope, Inc., 1995.  
Kemo Shark is the hero of a sixteen page color “comic book” designed to help children understand the psychological and physiological changes in a parent with cancer who undergoes chemotherapy. Written by a child psychologist, H. Elizabeth King, Ph.D., who is also a breast cancer survivor. Available in English or Spanish, free of charge, to individuals in countries where English or Spanish is a primary language.



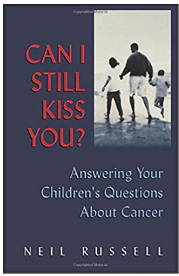
### FAM 014 **When Your Brother or Sister Has Cancer, A Guide for Teens**

US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Health, National Cancer Institute, 2005.  
In this book you will hear from teens who have a brother or sister with cancer, find out what has helped them, get ideas about people to talk with when you’re upset or feel all alone, and learn a little about cancer and how it’s treated. This book can’t give you all the answers, but it can help you prepare for some of the things you might face.



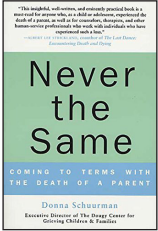
### FAM 015 **Snowman On The Pitcher's Mound** (mid-grade novel)

Reno, Jamie. Malloy, Inc., 2010.  
The story is told solely from the perspective of 10 year-old Tyler Paulson, whose mother has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. When her cancer recurs, she explains to Tyler that she has chosen a treatment, called radio-immunotherapy (RIT), that is just starting to help people. In fact, Tyler feels more in control when he researches RIT on the internet for himself and realizes that his mother’s situation is quite hopeful.



## FAM 016 **Can I Still Kiss You? Answering Your Children's Questions About Cancer**

Russell, Neil. Deerfield Beach, Florida: Health Communications, Inc., 2001. As a successful, loving father, Neil Russell had to deal with one of the most difficult and important responsibilities he had ever faced as a parent: speaking to his children about his cancer. *Can I Still Kiss You?* is both informative narrative and interactive journal; it will help parents speak to their children about the cancer that has come into their lives.



## FAM 017 **Never the Same, Coming to Terms with the Death of a Parent** Schuurman, Donna. Macmillan Publishers, 2004.

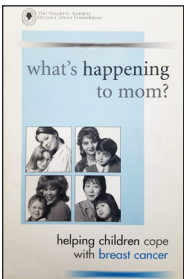
Understanding the dangers of unresolved grief in children, after experiencing the death of a parent. *Never the Same*, is a guide for those struggling with the loss of a parent.



## FAM 019 **I Like Me!**

Penguin Putnam Books for Young Readers, NY, NY, 1990.

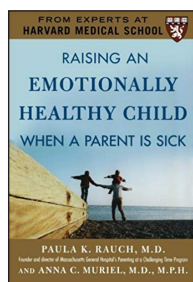
A picture book for young children to encourage self-acceptance and personal empowerment. Not specifically about cancer, but about maintaining a positive attitude despite challenges.



## FAM 022 **What's Happening To Mom? Helping Children Cope with Breast Cancer**

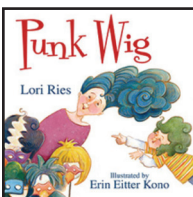
The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, Dallas, Texas, 1999.

A short but comprehensive guide for mothers to talk to their children about their breast cancer, including how to talk to children of specific ages, from young children to teens.



## FAM 024 **Raising An Emotionally Healthy Child When A Parent Is Sick** Rauch, Paula K., Mriel, Anna C. New York, New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006.

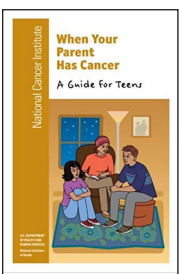
*Raising an Emotionally Healthy Child When a Parent is Sick* covers how you can address children's concerns when a parent is seriously ill, how to determine how children with different temperaments are really feeling and how to draw them out, ways to ensure the child's financial and emotional security and reassure the child that he or she will be cared for.



## FAM 026 **Punk Wig**

Ries, Lori. Kono, Erin. Honesdale, Pennsylvania. Boyds Mills Press, 2008.

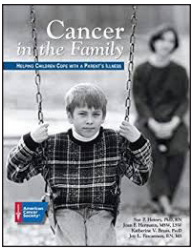
A mom and her son decided to pick out some fun, new wigs for the mom battling cancer. An example of a son who gives his constant love and support during chemotherapy.



## FAM 026 **When Your Parent Has Cancer, A Guide For Teens**

US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute, 2006.

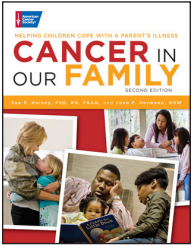
Provides information for teens when a mom, dad, or an adult close to them has cancer. Includes information about cancer treatments, ways teens can talk to family and friends, how to connect with other teens, and where to find other resources for information and support. Also available online: <https://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/when-your-parent-has-cancer.pdf>



## 029 **Cancer in the Family**

Heiney, Sue P., Hermann, Joan F., Bruss, Katherine V. Fincannon, Atlanta, Georgia: American Cancer Society, 2001.

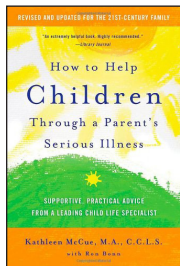
A parent's cancer diagnosis can be extremely stressful for children, whether they're toddlers or teenagers, and this helpful, calming guide teaches parents how to talk to children and help allay their fears. With expert advice on the latest psychosocial approaches to helping children cope, this guide helps parents teach children about the diagnosis, treatment, potential recurrences of the illness, and terminal illness.



## FAM 029a **Cancer In Our Family: Helping Children Cope with a Parent's Illness**

Heiney, Sue P., Hermann, Joan F. Atlanta, GA: American Cancer Society, 2013.

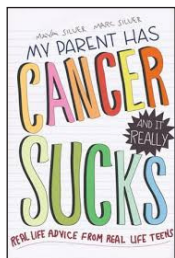
Outlining valuable steps necessary to help children understand what happens when a parent has been diagnosed with cancer, this guide provides "hands-ontools" to help those affected by cancer—as well as their loved ones—face many of the dilemmas that come with the disease.



## FAM 031 **How to Help Children Through a Parent's Serious Illness**

McCune, Kathleen with Ron Bonn. New York, NY: St. Martin's Press, 2011.

A classic for over fifteen years, it continues to be a go-to book for supportive, practical advice, based on the lifetime experience and clinical practice of one of America's leading child life practitioners.



## FAM 032 **My Parent Has Cancer And It Really Sucks**

Silver, Maya, Silver, Marc.

Compiled by a daughter and her father in response to her mom's breast cancer diagnosis. Stories from hundreds of teens and dozens of healthcare professionals give practical advice for teens on coping strategies and reassurance that they are not alone with their family's situation.



## FAM 033 **Love Sick, Teens Reflect on Growing Up with a Parent Who Has Cancer**

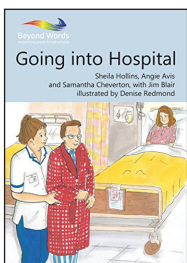
Anaheim Hills, California: Recipe For Success, 2008.

A collection of verse, poems, and images written and composed by teenagers about their parent who had cancer.



## FAM 034 **The Smell of Paint**

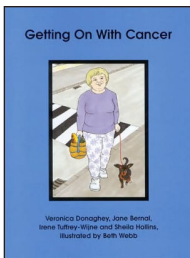
McFarlane, Sheryl. Brighton, Massachusetts: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2006. Nothing makes Jess happier than running, so she is thrilled when a high performance coach invites her to join the city track team. It also doesn't hurt that the cutest guy in school throws the javelin for the team. And when her mother becomes ill, how hard will Jess run to escape her worst fears?



## FAM 035 **Going Into Hospital**

Hollins, Shelia. Avis, Angie. Cheverton, Samantha. Redmond, Denise. Great Britain, Gaskell and St. George's Hospital Medical School, 1998.

We all worry about going into hospital. For people with intellectual disabilities there is the added fear of not being able to explain what is wrong, as well as not understanding what is happening. This book is designed to prepare people with intellectual disabilities and inform medical staff during consultations and before treatment.



### FAM 036 **Getting On with Cancer**

Donaghey, Veronica. Bernal, Jane. Tuffrey-Wijne, Irene. Hollins, Sheila. Webb, Beth. Great Britain, Gaskell and St. George's Hospital Medical School, 2002.

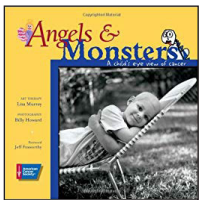
Supporting people who are diagnosed with cancer, while guiding through the different phases of the cancer process.



### FAM 038 **Mom's Cancer**

Fies, Brian. New York, New York: Abrams Comicarts, 2006.

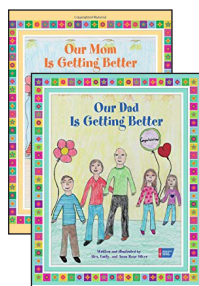
An honest, unflinching, and sometimes humorous look at the practical and emotional effect that serious illness can have on patients and their families, *Mom's Cancer* is a story of hope—uniquely told in words and illustrations in graphic novel format.



### FAM 039 **Angels and Monsters**

Murray, Lisa. American Cancer Society, 2002.

A photographic essay where childhood cancer patients express their experiences about being a cancer survivor.

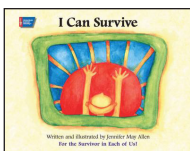


### FAM 041 **Our Mom is Getting Better**

### FAM 042 **Our Dad's Getting Better**

Silver, Alexander, Silver, Emily. Silver, Anna. American Cancer Society, 2007.

Written for children whose parents are cancer survivors. Explaining the importance of the survivorship program and life after cancer.



### FAM 043 **I Can Survive**

Allen, Jennifer. American Cancer Society, 2007.

An illustration to help cope and find hope when a loved one is diagnosed with cancer.



### FAM 044 **Our Mom Has Cancer**

Ackermann, Abigail and Ackermann, Adrienne. American Cancer Society, 2002.

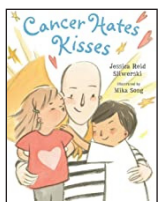
Two sisters finding out their mom was diagnosed with breast cancer. They explained what it was like during the year their mom underwent treatment.



### FAM 049c.3 **Nowhere Hair**

Glader, Sue. Thousand Words Press, 2010.

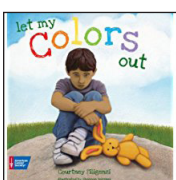
This story provides the opportunity to talk about cancer. When a mother or grandmother is going through chemotherapy, this book helps with the question of "how am I going to tell my young child I'm going to lose my hair?"



### FAM 055 **Cancer Hates Kisses**

Silwerski, Jessica. Penguin Young Readers Group, Penguin Random House LLC, 2017.

Mothers are superheroes when they're battling cancer, and this empowering picture book gives them an honest yet spirited way to share the difficult experience with their kids. It is a lovingly upbeat book that is also refreshingly authentic and straightforward.

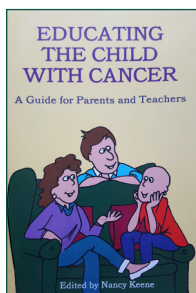


### FAM 058 **Let My Colors Out**

Filigenzi, Courtney. American Cancer Society, 2009.

A young child is dealing with his mom's diagnosis and treatment of cancer and experiences a range of emotions—scared, sad, jealous, feeling fine, denial, anger—that together form a rainbow of hope through this critical time. Can open up channels of communication between parents and their children, giving children not only understanding, but also assurance that they can share their feelings.

# BOOKS ABOUT CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS WITH CANCER



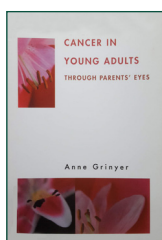
## FAM 020 **Educating The Child With Cancer: A Guide for Parents and Teachers**

Keene, Nancy. edited by, Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation, 2003. Developed to help families and teachers cope with all aspects of educating the child who has cancer, it covers issues from infancy through adulthood.



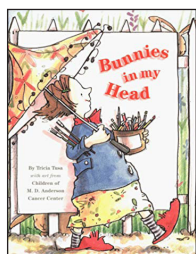
## FAM 021 **Parker's Brain Storm**

Moliterno, Jennifer A. New York, NY: Children's Brain Tumor Foundation. A Teddy Bear named Parker has a brain tumor. The story tells About Parker's diagnosis and treatment in words appropriate for a young child.



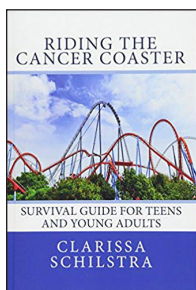
## FAM 023 **Cancer in Young Adults Through Parents' Eyes**

Grinyer, Anne, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: Open University Press, 2002. The book addresses issues such as sexuality and fertility, independence, the need for normality, the effect on siblings, the ownership of medical information, financial issues, the impact on the parents' partnership and the emotional consequences of the illness.



## FAM 037 **Bunnies in My Head**

Tusa, Tricia, Anderson M.D., Cancer Center, Children's Art Project, U. of Texas 1998. Tusa seamlessly weaves the artwork of pediatric patients at the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, TX, with her own illustrations to tell the quiet story of a young girl who explores her world through her paints and crayons. It will encourage everyone to celebrate the joys of today and imagine an even happier tomorrow



## FAM 057 **Riding the Cancer Roller Coaster: A Survival Guide for Teens and Young Adults**

Schilstra, Clarissa. USA, 2015. For teenagers and young adults, having cancer presents a unique challenge both socially and emotionally. You strive for independence, but cancer leaves you completely dependent on those around you. This all makes staying positive very difficult. The author, a teen cancer survivor herself, shares stories and strategies in an effort to provide a guide through the emotional roller coaster that is cancer treatment and life as a cancer survivor.