

Books about Young Carers

Age 3 to 7 years

- The Pond by Nicola Davies
 - The Pond' is a touching picture book about a young boy and his family, overcoming the loss of his father through a small pond in the garden. This colourful, emotional book is filled with natural imagery and will teach children not only about death, and loss, but the importance of the natural world.
- Grandad's Medal by Phil Earle
 - Marvin loves going on his adventures with his granddad - escaping from hairy yetis, taking daytrips to Mars and hunting ferocious tigers - all without leaving the house. Marvin thinks his granddad is the bravest person he's ever met; he even has a medal from the war to prove it. And, more than anything else, Marvin want us to be brave too. But when Grandad must go on his final adventure alone, Marvin finds he has to be braver than he's ever been before. Until he discovers that Grandad has left behind a very special surprise just for him.
- The Building Boy by Ross Montgomery and David Litchfield
 - When the boy's grandma dies, he finds all of her old building materials in the garden shed – the girders and cement and bricks. At night, through wind, snow and rain, he builds a structure in the garden. A giant iron woman with soft tissue hands. And when he's finished, she comes to life!
- Stewart's Tree by Cathy Campbell
 - This colourful picture book for children aged 3+ offers a comforting story for grieving families, helping to explain sibling loss shortly after birth. It then focuses on the happy memories of a lost child and looks towards the future. Includes a guide to bereavement written by qualified clinicians.
- Goodbye Grandma by Melanie Walsh
 - When a little boy is told that his grandma has died, he isn't really sure what death means. In this reassuring lift-the-flap book with bold and colourful illustrations, he asks his mum important questions about death and bereavement. Why do people have to die? What happens to them once they are dead? What can he do to remember his grandma?
- Travels with my Granny by Juliet Rix and Christopher Corr
 - A sensitive introduction to old-age confusion and dementia, through the loving and imaginative relationship between Granny and her grandchild - and their colourful journeys.
- Me and my sister by Rosie Robbins
 - A celebration of the highs and lows of having a much loved but differently abled brother or sister. This appealing brother and sister duo spend a lot of their day together, eating meals, going to school and playing. But life with an autistic sibling is not always easy. Through the eyes of the brother, we find out how they are both very different, but also very similar in other ways, and come what may they have lots of fun together and love each other just the same
- Talking is not my thing by Rosie Robbins
 - The autistic sister in this sibling pair is non verbal, but she finds plenty of ways to communicate and have fun with her brother. Although she can't talk, this little girl understands everything, and has plenty to say, and lots of ideas. Through body language, drawing pictures, making gestures or using flash cards, she is able to contribute to their life together. Her brother and granny are able to understand her whether she needs help or is helping them!

Age 8 to 11 years

- Moon Pie by Simon Mason
 - Eleven-year-old Martha is used to being the one who has to keep her head. Tug, her little brother, is too small. Dad is too strange. And Mum's not here anymore. So when Dad falls off the roof, it's Martha who ices his knee and takes him to the doctor. And when Dad doesn't come home, it's Martha who cooks Tug's favourite pie and reads him his bedtime story. And when Dad passes out, it's Martha who cleans him up and keeps his secret. But eventually Dad's problems become too big for even Martha to solve. There is only one person who can sort things out now. Dad.
- The Illustrated Mum by Jacqueline Wilson
 - Dolphin adores her mother: she's got wonderful clothes, bright hair and vivid tattoos all over her body. She definitely lives a colourful life. Dolphin's older sister, Star, also loves her but is beginning to wonder if staying with a mum whose temper can be as flashy as her body-art is the best thing for the girls.
- Who Let the Gods Out by Maz Evans
 - Elliot's mum is ill and his home is under threat, but a shooting star crashes to earth and changes his life forever. The star is Virgo – a young Zodiac goddess on a mission. But the pair accidentally release Thanatos, a wicked death daemon imprisoned beneath Stonehenge, and must then turn to the old Olympian gods for help. After centuries of cushy retirement on earth, are Zeus and his crew up to the task of saving the world - and solving Elliot's problems too?
- Echo's Sister by Paul Mosher
 - Everything will be great. But when her dad picks her up after school and tells her that her younger sister, Echo, has a life-threatening illness, her world is suddenly turned upside down. And with her parents now pressed for time and money, El feels lost and powerless. Then she befriends Octavius, the only other kid in school who gets what she's going through. As El begins to adjust to her new life, she soon finds that maybe a little hope and a lot of love can overcome any obstacle.
- Aubrey and the Terrible Yoot by Horatio Clare
 - Adventurous Aubrey is a happy little boy who enjoys Night Venturing. Entering his fierce and vivid imagination as he lies in bed, he explores the forest outside and finds that he can talk to the animals there. But one day, a horrible sadness - the Terrible Yoot - takes hold of his father and won't let go. Aubrey travels into his imagination to find a solution and finds that he can help his father by confronting the Terrible Yoot together.
- Boy in the Tower by Polly Ho-Yen
 - Ade lives at the top of a tower block. From his window, he feels like he can see the whole world stretching out beneath him. His mum doesn't really like looking outside and hates going outside. She's happier sleeping all day inside their tower, where it's safe. But one day, other tower blocks on the estate start falling down around them and strange, menacing plants begin to appear. Ade and his mum are trapped and there's no way out.
- A bad day for Jayden by Tony Bradman
 - Jayden's having a hard time. His mum seems really sad and won't get out of bed. He's fallen out with his best friend and he's struggling to keep up at school. He wants to do the right thing, but it's difficult when it feels like everything is going wrong. When Miss Wilson turns up at Jayden's school, she's not sure if she wants to be a teacher any more but can she and Jayden help each other and turn this bad day around?