Picture Books About Losing A Pet
compiled by Linda Williams, Connecticut State Library

PET CATS

A Funeral for Whiskers: Understanding Death by Lawrence Balter
Sandy is very sad and upset when her cat Whiskers dies, but her parents help her understand and accept the loss.

Angel Cat by Michael Garland
This is a book for any child who has ever loved an animal—a book for those who will always remember the pet that brought them joy.

Mustard by Charlotte Towner Graeber
Eight-year-old Alex and his family try to come to terms with the old age and death of their beloved cat.

The Bug Cemetery by Frances Hill
Neighborhood children imaginatively stage funerals for dead bugs, but they experience real sadness following the death of a pet.

Six is So Much Less Than Seven by Ronald Himler
After the death of one of his seven cats, an old man finds how much he misses his cat as he goes about the activities of each day.

The Best Cat in the World by Leslea Newman
A young boy deals with the loss of his beloved cat Charlie, eventually accepting the arrival of another, very different cat.

Big Cat Pepper by Elizabeth Partridge
Big Cat Pepper has always been part of the family, but after he grows very old and dies, the boy who loves him comes to understand his mother's reassurance that "his spirit is forever and can fly, fly, fly."

Cat Heaven by Cynthia Rylant
God created Cat Heaven, with fields of sweet grass where cats can play, kitty-toys for them to enjoy, and angels to rub their noses and ears.

Desser the Best Ever Cat by Maggie Smith
An eight-year-old Creole boy on Galveston Island grieves the death of his cat Crabmeat, but when another lost cat leads him to a new friend he starts to heal.

The Tenth Good Thing About Barney by Judith Viorst
In an attempt to overcome his grief, a boy tries to think of the ten best things about his dead cat.

Goodbye, Mitch by Ruth Wallace-Brodeur
A young boy describes how he feels when the family cat dies.

The Day Tiger Rose Said Goodbye by Jane 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.

PET DOGS

Return of Rex and Ethel by Arnold Adoff
Two girls who share many wonderful times with their beloved dogs, Rex and Ethel, find a special way to remember them when they die.

Blue House Dog by Deborah Blumenthal
A boy whose beloved dog has died, and a dog whose owner also died, find each other and slowly begin to trust one another. (CIP) Dogs. Grief in children.

The Day Scooter Died: A Book About the Death of a Pet by Kathleen Long Bostrom
Mikey feels responsible for his dog Scooter's accidental death, but his parents remind him that the dog loved him best of all and they can still love each other, although Scooter is now with God.

Good-Bye, Sheepie by Robert Burleigh
A father teaches his young son about death and remembrance as he buries their beloved dog.

The Accident by Carol Carrick
After his dog is hit by a truck and killed, Christopher must deal with his own feelings of depression and guilt.

Up in Heaven by Emma Chichester Clark
When Arthur’s dog, Daisy, goes to live in heaven, she is sad because she knows Arthur misses her so much. Then she thinks of a way to show him she’s thinking of him, and that lets him know she’s safe in heaven.

The Forever Dog by Bill Cochran
Mike and his dog Corky plan to be best friends forever, so when Corky becomes sick and dies, Mike is angry about the broken promise.

Jim's Dog Muffins by Miriam Cohen
When Jim's dog is killed, the other first graders experience with him his natural reactions to death.

Saying Goodbye to Lulu by Corinne Demas
When her dog Lulu dies, a girl grieves but then continues with her life.

A Dog Like Jack by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan
After a long life of chasing squirrels, licking ice cream cones, and loving his adoptive family, an old dog comes to the end of his days.
**Maggie and Silky and Joe** by Amy Ehrlich
Joe, a young boy who grows up under the protection and companionship of his family's cow dog, Maggie, and later with a stray puppy called Silky, must learn how to cope with loss when Maggie dies during a thunderstorm.

**Murphy and Kate** by Ellen Howard
Kate and her dog Murphy are best friends, and when Murphy dies Kate does not think she can ever be happy again.

**Sally Goes to Heaven** by Stephen Huneck
A beloved dog dies and goes to Heaven where she lives happily and helps to find her family on earth a new pet.

**Black Dog Who Went Into the Woods** by Edith Thacher Hurd
The various members of a family react to the death of their dog.

**Better With Two** by Barbara M. Joosse
Laura tries to make Mrs. Brady feel better when her dog Max dies.

**Goodbye, Max** by Holly Keller
Ben blames his parents for the death of his dog, Max, and does not want the new puppy they brought home.

**Ada's Pal** by George Ella Lyon
A small dog suffers from a broken heart when her dog companion dies until a veterinarian advises the family that there is only one thing to do.

**Jasper’s Day** by Marjorie Blain Parker
This debut picture book deals with a subject fearful to every child's heart—a beloved pet who is dying. This celebration of a dog's last day speaks of acceptance, remembrance, and the importance of cherishing life's every moment.

**Bone Dog** by Eric Rohmann
Although devastated when his pet dog dies, a young boy goes trick-or-treating and receives a timely visit from an old friend during a scary encounter with graveyard skeletons.

**Bonesy and Isabel** by Michael J. Rosen
Isabel, an adopted Salvadoran girl, adjusts to her new life in America by befriending the old dog Bonesy, but then she must deal with her grief when he dies.

**Sammy in the Sky** by Barbara Walsh
A little girl tells about her special pet, Sammy, "the best hound dog in the whole world," and how, after he becomes sick and dies, she comes to know the truth of her mother's words, that Sammy's spirit is everywhere.

**I'll Always Love You** by Hans Wilhelm
A child's sadness at the death of a beloved dog is tempered by the remembrance of saying to it every night, "I'll always love you."

**Harry & Hopper** by Margaret Wild
Harry is devastated when he returns home from school to find that his beloved dog, Hopper, will no longer be there to greet him.

**Toby** by Margaret Wild
When Toby the dog gets old and sick and finally dies, the children who love him express their love in different ways.

**The Old Dog** by Charlotte Zolotow
When a young boy finds his old dog dead one morning, he spends the rest of the day thinking about all the good times they had together.

**OTHER PETS**

**BIRD**
**Tough Boris** by Mem Fox
Boris von der Borch is a tough pirate, but he cries when his parrot dies.

**Good-Bye, Vivi!** by Antonie Schneider
When Granny's beloved canary Vivi dies, the family comes to accept it, as well as the idea that some day they will lose Granny as well.

**MOUSE**
**Goodbye Mousie** by Robie Harris
A boy grieves for his dead pet Mousie, helps to bury him, and begins to come to terms with his loss.

**GOLDFISH**
**Helen the Fish** by Virginia L. Kroll
When six-year-old Hannah's beloved goldfish dies after a relatively long life, she seeks comfort from her older brother Seth.

**GERBIL**
**Petey** by Tobi Tobias
Emily has enjoyed her pet gerbil for five years, but one day after school she finds Petey huddled up in a corner of his cage.