

Books for Fathers to Read with their Kids

This is a list of books featuring positive images of fathers or grandfathers, including images of families from different ethnic backgrounds. It includes some books featuring single fathers or separating parents, and includes both pre-Primary (in red) and Primary School (in blue) age books (with purple for books aimed at both age groups). Sources include: Single Parent Families Scotland, Booktrusted, Fathers Direct, Dads Can Canada, Iowa State University's Me and My Dad project, Dr Leo Cheng's list and the Logan Library.

Allan Alberg

Miss Dirt The Dustmans Daughter

Puffin ISBN: 067086594X

Daisy Dirt is an unusual girl. She is the poorest and the richest girl in the whole town. You see, Daisy Dirt lived half the time with her dad who was a dustman and half the time with her mother who had married a duke. This story is about the two very different lives that Daisy leads and how a change in fortune turns around her life. Deals with issue of parental separation. Age: 0-5

Liza Alexander, David Prebenna, Louisa Campbell

Surprise, Mommy! (Sesame Street Elmo's World)

Several editions

Daddy helps Elmo make a surprise gift for Mommy--a batch of jiggly "gelmo." Age: 0-10.

Iris Hiskey Arno, Iris Hiskey, Joan Holub (Illustrator)

I Love You, Dad (Happy Valentine's Day!)

Paperback 32 pages Publisher: Troll Communications (2000)

Different children spend time with their fathers, playing, cooking, pretending, and having a wonderful time. From fathers who make music to fathers who build snow forts, I Love You, Dad celebrates busy dads who make time to play. Ages 4-8.

Frank Asch

Just Like Daddy

Paperback Publisher: Aladdin Library; Reprint edition (March 1, 1984) ISBN: 0671664573

A very young bear describes all the activities he does during the day that are just like his daddy's. Ages 4-8.

Karen Barbour

Little Nino's Pizzeria

Paperback: 32 pages; Publisher: Harcourt; (March 15, 1990) ISBN: 0152463216

Young Tony proudly tells of how he helps his father, Nino, in his pizzeria until success causes Nino to open a large, fancy restaurant, where Tony is in the way and Nino is too busy for him. All ends well when Nino misses the smaller operation and reopens his pizzeria. Ages 4-8.

Louis Baum, Niki Daly (Illustrator)

I Want to See the Moon

Publisher: Red Fox ISBN: 0099113716

Fathers Direct say: "Toddler Toby wakes up in the night and wants to see the moon. Nothing Daddy suggests will do instead - not milk, not a trip to the loo, nothing... s'gotta be the moon, dad. This is an ace book, that shows dads are looking after little ones as well as mums." Age 2-4.

Bourgeois, Paula, and Brenda Clark.

Franklin and the Baby.

Kids Can Press. ISBN 1-55074-706-1. Scholastic. ISBN: 0439083656

When Franklin's best friend gets a new baby sister, Franklin feels like a proud big brother himself! Ages 4-8.

Bourgeois, Paula.

Franklin's Bad Day.

Variious editions: Scholastic, Sagebrush

Franklin is having a very bad day. Everything and everyone is the object of his bad mood. Even his friends Bear and Beaver are unable to cheer him up. Sent to his room by his mother, Franklin kicks down his block castle and lays down to cry. Father runs up to see what happened and is able to help Franklin realize the source of his "worstest day ever!" Ages 4-8.

Tony Bradman, Jason Cockcroft

Daddy's Lullaby

Margaret K. McElderry 2002

A story about a father who comes home late after a long week and finds his youngest baby awake. He walks the baby around the house to check on the other family members and sings them both asleep with a lullaby. Great for working fathers! Age: 0-2.

Sebastian Braun

I Love My Daddy

HarperCollins

Beautiful book about a young bear and his dad. Age 0-4.

Bridges, Margaret Park and Kady MacDonald Denton.

If I Were Your Father

Library Binding 32 pages (June 1, 1999) Publisher: Harpercollins Library ISBN: 0688151930.

A little boy offers his own fantastic vision of what a father might do, but he soon discovers a true treasure-his father's love and encouragement, always ready and waiting, right by his side. Age 3+.

Laurene Krasny Brown and Marc Brown

Dinosaurs Divorce

1986 Various editions including Little Brown.

Brightly colored cartoon dinosaur families present a practical guide to divorce and answer many questions that children typically ask. Ages 4-8.

Anthony Browne

Gorilla

Walker Published: 1983 ISBN: 07445 0748 0

A subtle moving story of a child's loneliness and need for affection. Winner of 1983 Emil/Kurt Maschler and Kate Greenaway awards. Features singles dad. Age Range: 0-10.

Helen Elizabeth Buckley and Ormerod, Jan.

Grandfather and I

Puffin Books 1997 ISBN: 0140556982

A young black boy finds out that everyone is in a hurry, except for his grandfather, who is never in a hurry when he is with him. This story is about the extra-special relationship between the eldest and youngest members of a family. Ages 2-7.

Bunting, Eve and Susan Meddaugh.

A Perfect Father's Day.

Sagebrush Education Resources 1999 ISBN: 0785709487

Susie and Dad leave Mom at home while four-year-old Susie treats Dad to the perfect Father's Day, starting with lunch and ending with a big hug. Age 4-8.

Butterworth, Nick.

My Dad is Awesome.

Cambridge: Candlewick Press. 1989. ISBN 1-56402-033-9

A child praises his father for being a great cook, singing 'like a rock star' and being 'as strong as a gorilla'. Age: 2+.

Butterworth, Nick.

My Grandpa Is Amazing

Cambridge: Candlewick Press. 1992

"My grandpa is amazing." "He builds fantastic sand castles . . . and he makes exotic drinks . . . and he's not afraid of heights . . .". Age: 2+.

Nancy White Carlstrom, Ed Young

Goodbye Geese

School & Library Binding (November 1, 1991) Publisher: Putnam Pub Group ISBN: 0399218327

This evocatively illustrated book deals with the changes Winter brings to the world around a father and child. Simple and poetic, the text will enrapture young audiences and make us all take more notice at the graceful passing of seasons. Age 3-5.

Denys Cazet

I'm Not Sleepy

Orchard Books. 1992. ASIN: 0531084981

Alex's father has a sure cure for insomnia. He embarks on a "no-matter-how-wide-awake-you-are-I-can-make-you-sleepy" story that takes a boy just like his son on a long, (hopefully) exhausting journey through a "boily-boily jungle," up a "pooa, pooa tree," to the moon and back. Alex interrupts on occasion, but dad never skips a beat. The thrilling adventure, complete with a breathless chase and a soothing flight through the heavens, should have provided ample fodder for sweet dreams. Alex snuggles down, yet despite repeated suggestions that he is getting "very, very tired," he outlasts his fictional counterpart. The warm, loving relationship between father and son is clearly evident in the text and the soft realistic watercolors. Age 2-6.

Carney, Margaret, and Janet Wilson

At Grandpa's Sugar Bush

Kids Can Press. 1997. ISBN 1-55074-341-4.

A young boy visits his Grandpa's farm in the springtime to help out in the sugar bush. This is a wonderful informative tale of the relationship between a grandson and a grandpa. Age: 4-8.

Carney, Margaret and Wilson, Janet.

The Biggest Fish in the Lake.

Kids Can Press. 2001. ISBN 1-55074-720-7

The story of a young girl's first fishing trip with her grandfather, and the lessons learned about love and nature. Age: 4-8

Carter, Anne and Kasia Charko.

From Poppa

Lobster Press. 1999. ISBN 1-894222-02-4

Dads Can say: "The poignant tale of a young girl coming to terms with the departure of her beloved grandfather. In the beginning, Marie tries to persuade Poppa to stay the winter. But as the story evolves and the two share a final, magical afternoon, fear turns to hope as Marie realizes no matter how far Poppa travels, he will always be close to her heart." Age: 7+.

Dori Chaconas, Stephen T. Johnson (Illustrator), Doris J. Chaconas

On a Wintry Morning

Bt Bound 2003 ISBN: 0613608259

A lilting, rhyming text, by turns exuberant and soothing, celebrates the small moments that a father and toddler share. They trek out into the cold, sled down a hill, walk out across a meadow, and enjoy a sleigh ride to the "market in the square." Finally back home, they warm up, snuggle, and the youngster takes a nap. PreSchool.

Seymour Chwast and Jerry Spinelli

My Daddy and Me

Knopf 2003

A floppy eared dog who likes to play with his father when he gets home from work. Age 2-7.

Brock Cole

Buttons

Sunburst 2004 ISBN: 0374410135

After their portly father eats so much that his britches burst and his buttons fly into the fire, three daughters concoct plans to find replacements. Ages 5-9.

Joanna Cole and Maxie Chambliss

How I Was Adopted

HarperCollins 1995 ISBN: 0688119298

Sam has a story all her own, yet common to millions of families: the story of how she was adopted. It's about how babies are born and how children grow, about what makes people different and what makes them the same. Most of all, it's a story about love. And in the end, Sam's story comes full circle, inviting young readers to share stories of how *they* were adopted. Ages 3 to 6.

Collard, Sneed B. III.

Animal Dads

Houghton Mifflin. 1997. ISBN 0-395-83621-2

Dads Can say: "In this whimsical and intriguing exploration of fatherhood in the animal kingdom, a wide range of surprising parenting skills are revealed. There are helpful dads, playful dads, hunting dads, babysitting dads, and even dads that give birth!" Age: 4-8.

Judy Collins and Jane Dyer.

My Father

Little, Brown & Company. 1989. ISBN 0-316-15228-5

Illustrated version of the Judy Collins song. A musical story of a dream-riden tale between a father and his children who live in a mining town. The father encourages them to dream of a life of music and dance and travel. Age 4+.

Cooke, Trish and Sharon Wilson.

The Grandad Tree.

Walker Books. 2000. ISBN 0-7445-2576-4

Leigh and Vin used to play with Grandad under the apple tree in their garden. Now Grandad has gone but, like the tree, the children's love for him lives on forever. This is a tale about the cycle of life and the enduring power of love. Black family. For boys and girls 5-10.

Roald Dahl

Danny, The Champion of the World

Several editions.

Danny and his father live in an old gypsy caravan next to their filling station. To keep it they have to outwit their greedy rich neighbour. Now a film. Features singles dad. Age Range: 5-12

Dawson Boyd, Candy and Floyd Cooper.

Daddy, Daddy Be There

Philomel Books. 1995. ISBN 0-399-22745-8

Dads Can say: "A compelling story that travels between the lifespan of father and child. It shows the importance of the relationship through all their experiences from joy to vulnerability. Written from a powerful child's point of view." Age 4-8.

Dawson Hearn, Diane

Dad's Dinosaur Day

Aladdin. 1993. ISBN 0-02-743485-0/Simon & Schuster 1999 0-689-82611-7.

What would life be like if your dad were a dinosaur? Mikey experiences a day like this when his dad turns into a dinosaur. But the next day, Mikey is happy to have his old dad back. Age 4-8.

Dodds, Siobhan.

Grandad Pot

Walker Books. 1993. ISBN 0-7445-3631-6.

How will Grandad Pot ever cope with all the friends his granddaughter Polly wants to invite to stay at Grandad's with her, and all the different foods they like But all turns out because, although Grandad didn't realize it, the 'friends' were only stuffed toys! Age 3-5.

Doyle, Malachy.

Jody's Beans

Walker Books. 1999. ISBN 0-7445-6212-0.

When Jody's 'Granda' comes to visit, he brings her some runner bean seeds. He helps her plant them and care for them. All through the spring, summer, and autumn, Jody cares for her beans and watches as they grow and grow. Finally, they are ready to be picked and eaten. Age: 2-6.

Drake, Jane, Ann Love, and Scot Ritchie.

My Father and Me, A Memory Scrapbook for Kids.

Kids Can Press. 1999. ISBN 1-55074-637-5.

My Grandfather and Me, A Memory Scrapbook for Kids.

Toronto: Kids Can Press. 1999. ISBN 1-55074-630-8.

Memory scrapbooks for kids to explore their dads' and grandads' fascinating lives. Age: 3-7.

Ursula Dubosarsky

High Hopes

Penguin ISBN: 01403 4380 6

12 year old Julia who lives with her father finds herself resenting the growing relationship between her father and Anabel who gives him English lessons. Julia quickly realises that she must save her innocent

father from this totally inappropriate woman. She has to get rid of Anabel. But will her plan succeed? .
Features singles dad. Age Range: 5-12

Evetts-Secker and Helen Cann.

Father and Daughter Tales.

Scholastic. 1997. ISBN 0-590-12374-2.

A unique collection of ten stories about the lives of fathers and daughters from around the world. Each story captures the importance of family relationships. Beautiful watercolour illustrations reach out and envelop us into the stories themselves. Age range: 5-10.

Frank, Janet.

Daddies: All About the Work They Do

Western Publishing Company. 1996. ISBN 0-307-30270-9

This book uses rhyming sentences and colourful illustrations to explore the various occupations fathers hold within the community. The final pages emphasize that a father's greatest joy is returning home to his children at the end of his work day. Age 1-6.

Froissant, Bénédicte.

Uncle Henry's Dinner Guests

Annick. 1990. ISBN 1-55307-140-1

Mom, Dad, brothers, and sister are having dinner when the tiny chickens on Uncle Henry's shirt come alive and cause all sorts of amusing events. Age 4-8.

Libby Gleeson

Dodger

Puffin. ISBN: 01403 6063 8

Mick's mum died a few year ago and his dad is a long-distance truck driver. He is offered a major part in the school production of Oliver and at last has a chance to prove himself good at something and reconcile a troubled past with an uncertain future. Age Range: 5-10.

Graham, Bob.

Grandad's Magic

Walker Books. 1990. ISBN 0-7445-1471-1.

Grandad's magic is not big magic like sawing people in half or producing rabbits out of hats, but it's big enough for Alison. She is even learning a little magic of her own. But when Grandad decides, one Sunday, to show the family what he can really do the results are almost - but not quite - disastrous. Luckily Max the baby and Rupert the Dog unwittingly save the day. Age 3-5.

Guettier, Bénédicte.

The Father Who Had 10 Children

Dial Books for Young Readers. 1999. ISBN 0-8037-2446-2

The story of a father who feels he needs a vacation from caring for his 10 children, only to discover that life is more fun when the family is together. Age 4-7.

Gugler, Laurel Dee and Vlasta van Kampen.

Muddle Cuddle

Annick. 1997. ISBN 1-55037-434-6.

The story of a jumbled cuddle with daddy! Everyone wants to hug, snuggle and cuddle on daddy's lap; from teddy bears to roosters; they are join in and end up in a "jumble-muddle-cuddle on the floor!" age 0-3.

Hale, Glorya (Ed.)

Read to Me, Daddy

JellyBean. 1995. ISBN 0-517-12327-4

This collection includes classic folk tales such as The Three Bears, Chicken Little, and The Gingerbread Boy, as well as various other stories, and a selection of poems by Robert Louis Stevenson. All ages.

Hale, Glorya (Ed.)

Read to Me, Grandpa.

JellyBean. 1993. ISBN 0-517-09349-9

A collection of stories, fables, and poems for grandfathers and grandchildren to share. Includes stories by the Brother's Grimm, and Hans Christian Andersen, Aesop's fables, and a selection of poems. Colourful illustrations. All ages.

P. K. Hallinan

My Grandpa and I

Candy Cane Press. ISBN: 0824942191

A young child and his grandad. Age 2-6.

P. K. Hallinan

My Daddy and I

Candy Cane Press. ISBN: 0824942175

A young child relates all of the fun things he and his father like to do together, and the other special ways in which he is a friend. Age 2-6.

Anna Grossnickle Hines

Daddy Makes the Best Spaghetti

Clarion Books, 1986.

Me and My Dad says: "In Daddy Makes the Best Spaghetti, the father is seen participating in non-traditional gender roles, which encourages and fosters a gender neutral task completion within household. This book also includes a mother who works outside the home." Age 0-4.

Lenny Hort, James E. Ransome (Illustrator)

How Many Stars in the Sky? (Reading Rainbow)

Editions: HarperCollins, Sagebrush, William Morrow, Demco.

One night when Mama is away, Daddy and child seek a good place to count the stars in the night sky. Black father and son. Age 5-9.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard, Floyd Cooper

Papa Tells Chita a Story

Editions: Sagebrush, Alladin, Prentice Hall.

An African-American girl's father recalls his adventures during the Spanish-American war. Ages 4-7.

Jenkins, Martin and Jane Chapman.

The Emperor's Egg

Candlewick Press. 1999. ISBN 0-7636-0557-3

Dads Can say: "Can you imagine spending the winter outdoors in Antarctica without anything to eat at all? That's just what the male Emperor penguin does. While his mate is off swimming in the ocean and catching loads of fish, he stands around freezing cold with an egg on his feet for two whole months, keeping it warm and waiting for it to hatch. Welcome to the story of the world's most devoted dad!" Age 4-9.

Laura Numeroff Joffe, Lynn Munsinger

What Daddies Do Best Mini Book

Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing 2001

A fox and his son. Daddy can do lots of things, like bake you a birthday cake, play with you in the park, and take you trick-or-treating. But what do they do best? Ages 2-8.

Richard Jorgensen, Warren Hanson (Illustrator)

Reading With Dad

Waldman House Press 2003. ISBN: 0931674417

A young woman looks back over the times her dad read to her. Age 3-5 – but also for adults!

Karen Katz

Daddy and Me

Little Simon 2003

Dad and daughter baking cookies together on dad's day off. Pre-school age.

Karen Katz

Over The Moon

1997

Parents' dream about the baby they are waiting for. Beautiful illustrations; lots of emotion. Adoptive parents are white, child isn't. Ages 3 to 6.

King, Larry and King, Chaia and Christensen, Wendy.

Daddy Day, Daughter Day

Dove Kids. 1997. ISBN 0-7871-0490-6

A true story of divorce told by both the child (Chaia King) and the father (Larry King). It shows the special times and moments that can still be shared even though Mommy and Daddy no longer live together. Primary school.

Annie Kubler

Man's Work

Child's Play 2000 ISBN 0859535878

"A wordless picture book, featuring a father and son. Through a series of colourful images, the toddler helps his father as he carries out all the familiar household chores like hoovering, washing up, cleaning and ironing. A simple board book which suggests that even mundane activities can be made fun." (Booktrusted) Age 1-4.

Vicki Lansky

It's Not Your Fault, Koko Bear: A Read-Together Book for Parents & Young Children During Divorce

1998. Various editions: Book Peddlers.

A sensitive story explains why Koko's Papa must get his own den. Excellent parent guide. Ages 3-6.

Leavy, Una and Eachus, Jennifer.

Good Bye, Papa

Orchard Books. 1996. ISBN 0-531-09545-2

A warm tale of Shane and Peter who visit with their grandfather for the last time before his death, and the legacy of memories that he leaves them. Age 5-10.

Levinson, Riki and Soman, David.

Grandpa's Hotel

Orchard Books. 1995. ISBN 0-531-09475-8

The love of a large family is portrayed as 16 cousins spend the summer at grandpa and grandma's hotel. Age 4-7.

Judith Levy

Grandfather Remembers: Memories for My Grandchild

HarperCollins. 1990. ISBN: 0060155612

This large-format fill-in book is a personal keepsake for a grandfather to give his grandchild. Every page is filled with questions meant to jog a grandfather's memory and spaces in which his recollections can be recorded and favourite photos can be placed. Any age.

Thomas P. Lewis, Doug Cushman

Frida's Office Day (I Can Read)

Harpercollins Juvenile Books 1989

Frida Cat goes in to work with her father, spends the morning helping him in his office, and has a fun afternoon with him enjoying the big city. Age 5-8.

Love, Ann, Jane Drake, and Heather Collins.

Kids and Grandparents, An Activity Book.

Toronto: Kids Can Press. 1999. ISBN 1-55074-784-3.

A great book to help grandparents and grandchildren learn fun activities to do together. "With over 90 crafts, games, recipes and activities, you'll enjoy hours of fun together!" For all ages.

Grace MacCarone, Denise Brunkus

I Shop With My Daddy

Hello Reader Level 1.

Cartwheel Books. 1998. ISBN: 0590501968

Nicely illustrated book about a girl shopping with her dad. Good for vocabulary. Age 3-8.

Mercer Mayer

Just Me and My Dad

Golden Books 2001. ISBN: 0307118398

Father and son go camping, but who is really taking care of whom? Age: 4-8.

Jan Mark

The Twig Thing

Puffin Books.

When Rosie and Ella went to live with their dad they knew something was missing from the house. It had lots of stairs and windows but no garden. Rosie then finds a twig, puts it in some water and places it on the window sill. The story follows the life of the twig as it grows and changes, just as the 2 girls are growing. Features single father and daughters. Age: 5-8.

McBratney, Sam and Anita Jeram

Guess How Much I Love You

Walker Books. 1994. ISBN 0-7636-0013-X.

Before going to bed, Little Nutbrown Hare wanted to tell Big Nutbrown Hare how much he loved him. It's hard to measure how much you love someone! A sweet story with cute illustrations. Age 0-4.

McCormick, Wendy and Jennifer Eachus.

Daddy, will you miss me

Simon & Shuster. 1999. ISBN 0-689-81898-X.

To a child waiting for his father to return from a trip, four weeks can seem like forever. To help ease the pain of separation, a father and son create rituals for each passing day. From blowing kisses to one another at night to marking off days on the calendar, these simple activities help them remain close in their hearts while they are far apart. Ages 2-6.

David McPhail

Ed and Me

Blackie ISBN: 02169 3166 5

Traces the special relationship between a young girl, her father and an old pick-up truck called Ed. Features single father and daughter. Age Range: 0-10.

Susan Meddaugh, Eve Bunting

A Perfect Father's Day

Clarion Books 1993

She wants to spend Father's Day with her Dad doing all the things he loves. Instead they do the things she loves to do and like every good Dad he goes along and pretends they are his favorite things too. Age: 3-5.

David Melling

Just Like My Dad

Hodder Children's Books | 2002 | 0340851988

A story about a child who idolises their father, with all his flaws. Age 4-8.

Merideth, Carol and Lorrie Szekat.

Jamie Anderson wouldn't...

Annick. 1998. ISBN 1-55037-456-7.

A delicious story of a little boy who is afraid to start kindergarten. His father, an ice-cream truck driver, comforts him and helps him to face his fears. Age 3-5.

Stephan Molnar-Fenton

An Mei's Strange and Wonderful Journey

DK Publishing 1998. ASIN: 0789424770

Gorgeous illustrations of China and New England tell the story of An Mei's travels from birth to her new home in America. Ages 3-7.

Munsch, Robert and Michael Martchenko.

Something Good

Annick. 1990. ISBN 1-55037-100-2

Bright illustrations accompany this account of a wacky trip to the supermarket with Dad. Age 4-8.

Munch, Robert and Michael Martchenko.

David's Father

Annick. 1983. ISBN 0-920236-64-2

Julie is invited to her friend David's house for dinner, where she discovers that David's father is a little unusual: he is a giant. Julie and David discover what fun and adventure they can have as they walk through the neighbourhood accompanied by a giant. Age 4-8.

Munsch, Robert and Michael Martchenko.

50 Below Zero

Annick. 1986. ISBN 0-920236-91-X

Jason's father is a sleepwalker who can often be found asleep in bizarre places: on top of the refrigerator, on the roof of the family car, even outside in freezing cold weather. Each time, Jason yells to wake his father up, then goes back to bed. By the end of the story, we see that Jason is following in his dad's footsteps, as he too begins sleeping in strange places. Age 4-8.

Munsch, Robert and H  l  ne Desputeaux.

Where is Gah-Ning

Annick. 1994. ISBN 1-55307-982-8

A colourful story inspired by a real girl named Gah-Ning. This is a story about a girl's desire to go on a journey and a father who wants to protect her. Age 2-4.

Ormerod, Jan.

Dad and Me

Walker Books. 1985. ISBN 0-7445-6302-X

Large type and colourful sketches depict a toddler enjoying his father's return from the store. Suitable for infants, toddlers and children learning to read.

Padoan, Gianni and Collini, Emanuela.

Remembering Grandad

Child's Play. 1992. ISBN 0-85953-311-5

The story of how James and his friends learn about death and remembering when James' grandfather passes away. Age 4-8.

Paradis, Susan

My Daddy

Front Street Books. 1998. ISBN 1-886910-50-2.

As the boy in this story watches his father leave and eagerly awaits his return, his anxiety and fear are transformed into comfort, security, and, finally, joyful reunion. This picture book celebrates the relationship between father and son. Age 2-5.

Todd Parr

The Daddy Book

Little Brown and Company 2002

Parr helps us to see the greatness in all different kinds of Dads. "Some Dad's have hair", he writes, "and some don't". "All Daddies love watching their kids sleep", he says. Age: 0-4.

Laurel Porter-Gaylord

Love My Daddy Because...

Dutton Children's Books, 1991

Me and My Dad says: "This book explores not only the human/parent/child relationship but also the animal/parent/child relationship. All of the animal daddies help their children in a similar manner that human daddies help their children. The common bond of love is exhibited in all parent/child relationships. Many science/nature connections can be made using this book." Age: 2-7.

Patricia Quinlan

My Dad Takes Care of Me

Annick Press/Ragged Bear ISBN: 0920 30379 X

Single Parent Families Scotland Say: "This is a story of a young boy who is looked after by his father while his mother is out at work. The story sees the young boy come to accept that having a father who is

unemployed is nothing to be ashamed of and that his job is to look after him. Touching on the pressures of unemployment and financial insecurity, this book is particularly good for children whose parents, particularly fathers, are unemployed." Dads Can say: "Luke doesn't know what to say when other kids ask him what his dad does for a living, because his dad doesn't have a job right now. Luke likes having his father at home, but sometimes he makes up something else to tell the other kids. Then he meets Jillian's father, who tells Luke "My job is to take care of Jillian." Suddenly, Luke doesn't mind telling the other kids "My dad takes care of me." Age: 0-5

Read me another, Dad!

An activity book for fathers and their sons aged three to five, produced as part of a National Year of Reading funded project. Price £2.95. Contact: Save the Children Publication Sales, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD. Tel: 020 7703 5400.

Anne and Harlow Rockwell

Can I Help?

MacMillan Publishing Co., 1982.

Me and My Dad says: "Children should not and cannot always help out in the family roles for various reasons, namely for the safety of the young child. Can I Help? deals with the issue of children realizing that they are not yet ready to help in ALL aspects of family chores. This book also stresses the importance to ask for help when you need it, for we all could use a little help!" Age 4-8.

Michael Rosen, Helen Oxenbury Illustrator

We're going on a Bear Hunt

Walker Books 2000 ISBN 0744523230

"Already a classic, this picture book is bound to capture the imagination of almost any child. A father and his young children go out in search of a bear, but must negotiate a grassland, a river and even a snowstorm on their way! The repetitive text has a musical charm that lends itself to reading aloud to a group of individual." (Booktrusted) Age 2-6.

Joanne Ryder

My Father's Hands

William Morrow. 1994. ISBN: 068809189X

A girl watches her father gardening and learns about his love for nature. Age 4-8.

Cynthia Rylant, Sucie Stevenson

Henry And Mudge And the Forever Sea

Henry and Mudge, Book 6. Several editions.

Follows the seaside adventures of Henry, Henry's father, and Henry's big dog Mudge. Age 4-8.

Allen Say

Grandfather's Journey

Houghton Mifflin/Walter Lorraine Books. 1993. ISBN: 0395570352

A Japanese grandfather tells his immigration story. Age 4-8.

Smalls, Irene and Michael Hays

Kevin and His Dad

Little, Brown & Company. 1999. ISBN 0-316-79899-1

With Mom away on a Saturday, Kevin gets to spend the whole day with Dad. First, they clean the house together, then they practice baseball, then they take in a movie. This book evokes the pride, excitement, pleasure and love a boy can experience with a father who includes him in both the work and play of a weekend day. African-American family. Age 2-7.

Nicola Smee

Finish the Story, Dad

Walker Books ISBN: 0744530385

Ruby loves nothing better than having a story read to her by Dad, but she doesn't like it when he doesn't finish! He promises to read the rest the following night, but that isn't good enough for Ruby. As she counts herself to sleep, she meets all kinds of creatures, and asks them to finish her story. Fathers Direct say: "This is definitely not a good book to calm the sprog before going to sleep. Dad refuses to finish the story, sprog insists on acting out the argument that follows. And you have to act along too. So on page 2, you have to pretend to be too busy to carry on. That's the cue for sprog to leap off the bed onto your back and attach him or herself to your leg to be dragged around all over the floor upstairs. Then, at the end of the book, you just have to fall out of bed with big crash and run up and down the stairs!" Age 2-4.

Stinson, Kathy.

Mom and Dad Don't Live Together Anymore

Annick. 1984. ISBN 0-920236-92-8

A little girl adjusts to Mom and Dad living in different homes. Although she wishes they could all be together, she finds things to like about Mom's place and Dad's place, and she learns that her parents both love her no matter where they are. Age 4-8.

Louise Vitellaro Tidd, Dorothy Handelman (Photographer)

Let Me Help! (Real Kid Readers: Level 1)

"Tara's good intentions to help only make more work for her father when she spills the bag of potting soil, knocks the basket of clean clothes into the freshly potted planters, and tips paint on the floor. The model of patience and forgiveness, Dad merely cautions her to slow down and be more careful, and he encourages her helpfulness. The tables turn when Dad insists on carrying too many grocery bags. When they fall, it's Tara's turn to help clean up. In an appealing twist, Dad is shown being responsible for tasks stereotypically on a mom's to-do list. The ever-smiling father and daughter are brightly photographed, and the simply constructed, yet engaging, energetic sentences repeat the phonics sounds that, as in other Real Kids Readers, are identified and explained at the book's end." East Asian family. Ages 4-8.

Ann Tompert

Grandfather Tang's Story

Dragonfly. 1997. ISBN: 0517885581

Little Soo's grandfather tells her a story. Good for teaching spatial relations. East Asian family. Ages 3-7.

Charlotte Voake

Here Comes the Train

Walker. 2000. ISBN 0744572967

"As Chloe and William stand on the bridge with their dad waiting for the trains to go rushing underneath them, they eagerly anticipate the moment they can cry, "Here comes the train!". This gentle, very appealing tale with expressive watercolour illustrations is a gem of a book." (Booktrusted) Age 3-7.

Mark and Ashley Vitosh

The Forest Where Ashley Lives

Iowa State Univ Extension & Dist ISBN: 0970052804

A book written by a father and daughter, about a girl helping her dad out in the urban forest where they live. Web version at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1812.pdf> Accompanying CD available. Age 4-8.

Martin Waddell

You and Me, Little Bear

Walker Books 2000 ISBN 0744567211

"Big Bear is very busy carrying out daily chores around the cave. Little Bear, on the other hand, wants to play. Finally, when the household chores are finished, Big Bear and Little Bear get to go outside and enjoy a game of hide-and-seek. Busy parents will relate to the father figure in this book, who (like many parents/carers) sometimes finds it difficult to satisfy the youngsters insatiable appetite for play and attention." (Booktrusted) Age 0-4.

Waboose, Jan Bourdeau

Morning on the Lake

Kids Can Press. 1997. ISBN 1-55074-373-2

Three linked stories show an Ojibway grandfather "Mishomis" guiding his grandchild "Noshen" lovingly through nature. Moshen discovers his links to the world in the safety and wisdom of his grandfather's favourite times and places. Age 5-8.

Wark, Laurie

Katie's Hand-Me-Down Day

Kids Can Press. 1994. ISBN 1-55074-159-4

On the day before her 5th birthday, Katie decided she wanted something brand new that belonged to her rather than all the "hand-me-downs" from her older brother and sister, from her cousin, and even from the lady across the street. So Dad and Katie go shopping and she discovers new stories and feelings about being the hand-me-down kid. Age 4-8.

Jacqueline Wilson

Grubbslyme

Yearling ISBN: 04408 6231 0

Rebecca, who lives with her father, makes friends with a huge toad in this lively fantasy. Features singles dad and daughter. Age Range: 5-12

Sharon Dennie Wyeth

Always My Dad

Scholastic, Inc., 1995.

Me and My Dad says: "In this beautifully illustrated picture book, a young African American girl must deal with the often times sad and harsh reality that her father is not always there for her. Her dad moves from job to job, and the young girl's mother sends her daughter and her three sons to the country to live with their grandparents on a farm for the summer. Throughout the summer, the young girl misses her father a great deal, but one day her father returns. Their summer instantly becomes much better and all the children are a great deal happier. Her father must leave again because he needs to get his life back in order. The children are greatly saddened and upset by this, but they know that no matter where their father may go, he will always be their dad and he will always love them." Features black family. For age 4-7.

Charlotte Zolotow

William's Doll

Editions include: HarperCollins, Picture Lions

William wants a doll, so he can practice being a dad! Age 4-8.