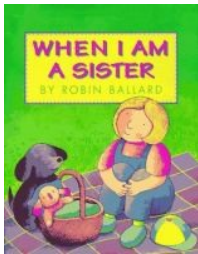
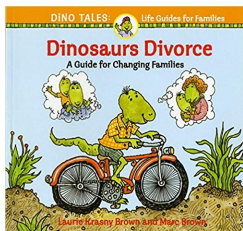


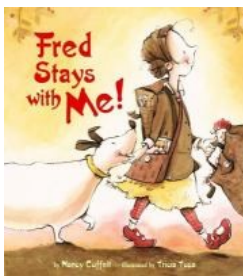
Divorce and Blended Families



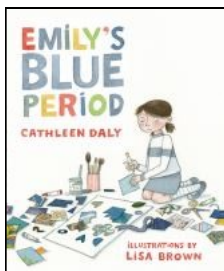
Ballard, R. When I Am a Sister. How will it be when the baby comes? This young narrator is worried. Where will she fit in when Papa and her stepmother, Kate, have the baby? Will there still be story time before bed? And swimming at the big pool? Papa agrees that some things will be different. But change can be good, especially when it means becoming someone's big sister or brother. j PAR PIC Ballard



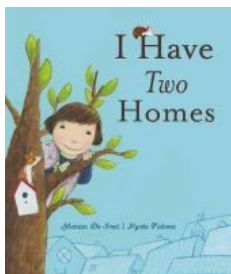
Brown, L. Dinosaurs Divorce. Sympathetic to the full range of feelings that divorce produces, the authors use evocative cartoon dinosaur characters to convey their message. Chapters address such concerns as why parents divorce, what will happen to "me," where will holidays be celebrated, living in two homes, etc. Expressively illustrated with accompanying succinct text, this upbeat, straightforward treatment of a potentially confusing, traumatic childhood experience is comprehensive. j 301.4284 Brown



Coffelt, N. Fred Stays with Me. Told from the point of view of a young child whose parents are divorced, *Fred Stays with Me* follows a girl and her dog, Fred, from one parent's house to the other's, giving her a sense of continuity and stability. With a simple text and childlike language, the story expresses and addresses a child's concerns, highlights the friendship between child and pet, presents a common ground for the parents, and resolves conflict in a positive way. j PAR PIC Coffelt



Daly, C. Emily's Blue Period. Emily wants to be an artist. She likes painting and loves the way artists like Pablo Picasso mixed things up. Emily's life is a little mixed up right now. Her dad doesn't live at home anymore, and it feels like everything around her is changing. "When Picasso was sad for a while," says Emily, "he only painted in blue. And now I am in my blue period." It might last quite some time. j PAR PIC Daly

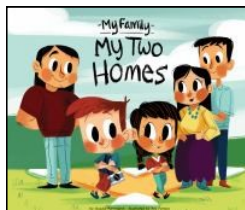


De Smet, M. I Have Two Homes. In this story, a rosy-cheeked girl named Nina talks matter-of-factly about her parents' divorce. "One day, our home became too small for the two of them," she says. "So there had to be two houses: One for Mom. One for Dad. And two for me." She talks about missing each parent while she is in the home of the other. Eventually she realizes that while her parents aren't happy with each other, they will always be happy with her. j PAR PIC DeSmet

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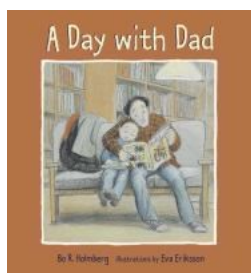


Gray, K. Mum and Dad Glue. A little boy tries to find a pot of parent glue to stick his mum and dad back together. His parents have come undone and he wants to mend their marriage, stick their smiles back on and make them better. This story is brilliantly told with a powerful message that even though his parents may be broken, their love for him is not. j PAR PIC Gray



Harrington, C. My Two Homes. Lenny, the class reporter and photographer, goes home with a new Student of the Week to learn about her family. Skye lives part of the time with her father and part of the time with her mother and stepdad. Lenny is impressed with the girl's two bedrooms, loving family, and wicked curve ball. Skye refers to all of the adults in her life as her parents and gives them credit for teaching her all she knows about baseball. A simple and approachable glimpse at blended families and divorce.

j 306.89 Harrington

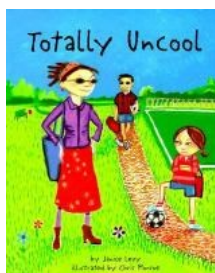


Holmberg, B. A Day with Dad. Tim lives with his mom. His dad lives in another town. But today, Tim's dad is coming on the train so the two can spend the whole day together — just Tim and Dad. Everywhere the pair goes — the movie theater, the pizzeria, the library — Tim proudly tells the people they meet, "This is my dad!" At the end of the day, Tim is sad to see his dad go but knows that they'll be together again soon. A sensitive and honest portrait of a special day between father and son. j PAR PIC Holmberg



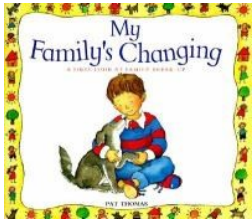
Hrab, N. Weekend Dad. His dad moved out on Monday and now it's Friday night, the start of his weekend with his dad. The boy and his dad follow their normal weekend routine — they eat eggs for breakfast, play cards and spend time at the park. And then they do the same things on Sunday. It is hard to say goodbye at the end of the weekend, but Dad gives his son a letter to remind him that, even if they can't always be together, the boy is loved.

j PAR PIC Hrab



Levy, J. Totally Uncool. A young girl describes all of the "tooly uncool" aspects of Dad's new girlfriend...she plays the tuba, sings opera to her goldfish, wears sneakers with skirts, and more. However, as she considers all that is not right with Dad's girlfriend, the child has to admit that Sweet Potato (a.k.a., Elizabeth) does have some positive traits. She is encouraging, helps with homework, and knows how to keep a secret. "Maybe there's hope for her yet." j PAR PIC Levy

Divorce and Blended Families



Thomas, P. My Family's Changing. This helpful picture book explores the issue of divorce in reassuringly simple terms. Children's fears, worries, and questions about this difficult experience are made accessible and approachable. This book will help promote interaction among children, parents and teachers on an issue that affects many families. A special feature, "What About You?" sidebars appear frequently with questions directed at the child reading the book. j 306.89 Thomas

Compiled by the Rochester Public Library Children's Room

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