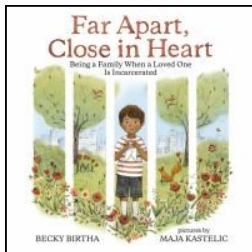
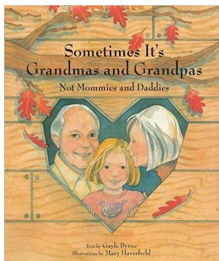


Families Facing Challenges:

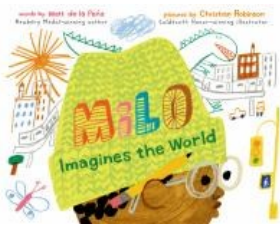
Foster Care, Grandfamilies, Incarceration, etc.



Birtha, B. Far Apart, Close in Heart: Being a Family When a Loved One is Incarcerated. Children can experience many emotions when a parent is in jail or prison. They may be angry, sad, lonely, or scared. Sometimes friends act differently toward them. Sometimes the children begin acting differently too. In this important book, young readers will learn that even when it feels like nothing can get better again, there are ways they can improve their circumstances. Sending letters, talking to a trusted grown-up about their feelings, and even visiting a parent in jail or prison can help keep a parent close in their hearts. j PAR PIC Birtha



Byrne, G. Sometimes It's Grandmas and Grandpas: Not Mommies and Daddies. This warm and loving story shares a child's experience living with and being cared for by grandparents through the eyes of a cheerful and delightful little girl. Poignant moments expressing the child's curiosity and questions give way to comforting and playful exchanges at home with Nonnie and Poppy. Spending the day with this grandparent-led family, we see that it's not always Mommies or Daddies that care for children, and that's okay! j PAR PIC Byrne



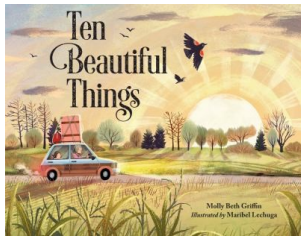
de la Pena, M. Milo Imagines the World. Milo is on a long subway ride with his older sister. To pass the time, he studies the faces around him and makes pictures of their lives. But when the boy in the suit gets off on the same stop as Milo--walking the same path, going to the exact same place--Milo realizes that you can't really know anyone just by looking at them. This picture book offers a child's view of the impacts of incarceration on families.



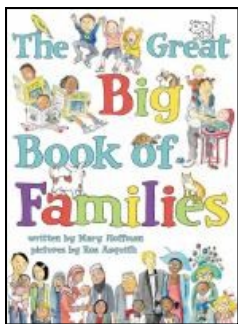
Duncan, A. Just Like a Mama. Carol Olivia Clementine lives with Mama Rose. Mama Rose is everything—tender and sweet. She is also as stern and demanding as any good parent should be. In the midst of their happy home, Carol misses her mother and father. She longs to be with them. But until that time comes around, she learns to surrender to the love that is present. Mama Rose becomes her “home.” And Carol Olivia Clementine concludes that she loves Miss Rose, “just like a mama.” jP Duncan

Families Facing Challenges:

Foster Care, Grandfamilies, Incarceration, etc.



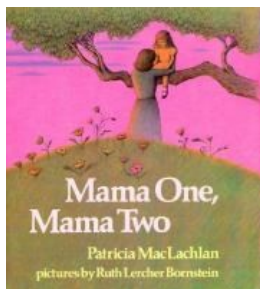
Griffin, M. B. Ten Beautiful Things. Lily and her grandmother search for ten beautiful things as they take a long car ride to Iowa and Lily's new home with Gran. At first, Lily sees nothing beautiful in the April slush and cloudy sky. Soon though, Lily can see beauty in unexpected places, from the smell of spring mud to a cloud shaped like a swan to a dilapidated barn. A furious rainstorm mirrors Lily's anxiety, but as it clears Lily discovers the tenth beautiful thing: Lily and Gran and their love for each other. jP Griffin



Hoffman, M. The Great Big Book of Families. Many families are depicted here, "...in all sorts of shapes and sizes." Beyond those children living with "mommy and daddy," there are also those living with just one parent, with grandparents, with "two mommies or two daddies," or adopted or in foster care. We move on to members of the reader's family: brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, etc. Families live in all kinds of homes; some cannot find any. On double pages, Hoffman continues to note the varieties of schools, jobs, holidays and vacations, foods, clothing, pets, celebrations, hobbies, means of transportation, and emotions of different families. j 306.85 Hoffman



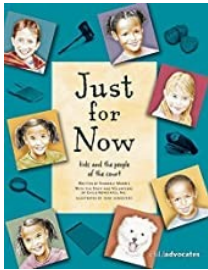
Kerstein, L. Home for A While. A foster child tests his foster mother's patience, but she takes him exactly as he is and gains his trust, quieting his fears, and giving him a safety that he seems never to have experienced. Calvin is a tiny white boy who is full of cynicism about this latest place he's landed in: This story takes apart the fostering experience as few books have—from the newcomer's point of view. Calvin smashes objects and waits for punishment, but Maggie, who is Black, presents as someone with deep wells of compassion. She takes a breath, and tries to see what's behind Calvin's moves. j PAR PIC Kerstein



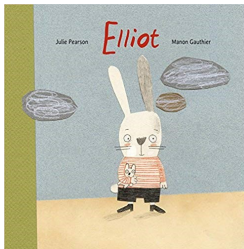
MacLachlan, P. Mama One, Mama Two. In the middle of the night a woman, a little girl and a baby, (who needs his nighttime bottle) cuddle together to share a story. It is the story of Mama One who was so sad she stayed in her room all day and had to go away to get better. The story is told by Mama One's little girl who misses her. It is also the story of Mama Two, who loves the little girl and will take care of her until Mama One is better. j PAR PIC MacLachlan

Families Facing Challenges:

Foster Care, Grandfamilies, Incarceration, etc.



Morris, K. Just for Now: Kids and the People of the Court. When Gilbert and his big sister Rachel go into foster care they meet a lot of adults who are there to help them-- a caseworker, foster parents, foster brothers and sisters, a lawyer, a therapist, a judge, their own court appointed special advocate (CASA), and a dog named Spud. Explains the roles of various people in the court system. j PAR PIC Morris



Pearson, J. Elliott. Not all children are born into families where their needs can be met....Whatever the reason, there are times when children must be placed in foster care to ensure their growth and well-being....Honest and heartfelt, this book about foster parenting and adoption is a needed addition to any collection. Told in soothing, repetitive text prose, with soft illustrations featuring approachable rabbit characters, this book reflects the experiences of many children. j PAR PIC Pearson