

**Johnston, Tony – Off to Kindergarten**

A young boy lists all the things he will have to take with him on his first day in kindergarten.

**McGhee, Alison – Countdown to Kindergarten**

Ten days before the start of kindergarten, a preschooler cannot tie her shoes by herself and fears the worst.

**Penn, Audrey – The Kissing Hand**

When Chester the raccoon is reluctant to go to kindergarten for the first time, his mother teaches him a secret way to carry her love with him.

**Vernick, Audrey – Is Your Buffalo Ready for Kindergarten?**

Although kindergarten provides unique challenges for a young buffalo, one who follows the rules and tries his best will get along fine.

# Issues Preschoolers May Face



*Compiled by the Children's Services Advisory Council of the Vermont Dept. of Libraries.*

<http://www.libraries.vermont.gov>



This publication is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act.

**Vermont Department of Libraries  
Montpelier, VT 05609**

## Adoption

### Bunting, Eve – **Jin Woo**

Davey is dubious about having a new adopted brother from Korea, but when he finds out that his parents still love him, he decides that having a baby brother will be fine.

### Cole, Joanna – **How I Was Adopted: Samantha's Story**

A young girl tells the story of how she came to be her parents' child through adoption.

### Curtis, Jamie Lee – **Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born**

A young girl asks her parents to tell her again the cherished family story of her birth and adoption.

### Heo, Yumi – **Ten Days and Nine Nights**

A young girl eagerly awaits the arrival of her newly-adopted sister from Korea, while her whole family prepares.

### Lewis, Rose – **I Love You Like Crazy Cakes**

A woman describes how she went to China to adopt a special baby girl. Based on the author's own experiences.

### McCutcheon, John – **Happy Adoption Day!**

Parents celebrate the day on which they adopted their child and continue to reassure the new addition to their family that it is wanted, loved, and very special.

### McDonnell, Christine – **Goyangi Means Cat**

An understanding cat helps a young Korean girl adjust to her new home in America.

### Parr, Todd – **We Belong Together**

The joy of adoption and bringing families together is presented in this tale.



## Moving

### Denise, Anika – **Bella and Stella Come Home**

A little girl tries to reassure her favorite stuffed animal, an elephant, when they move to a new, and very different, home.

### Gleeson, Libby – **Half a World Away**

When Louie's best friend Amy moves to the other side of the world, Louie must find a way to reconnect with her.

### Harper, Jessica – **I Like Where I Am**

The rhyming story of a six-year-old boy who is sad about moving to a new home but ends up being happy when he gets there.

### Maisner, Heather – **We're Moving!**

When Amy and her family move into a new house, it takes some effort to make it feel like home.

### McGeorge, Constance – **Boomer's Big Day**

Moving day proves confusing for Boomer, a golden retriever, until he at last explores his new home and finds his own favorite and familiar things.

### Taback, Simms – **I Miss You Every Day**

A little girl misses someone so much that she wraps herself up like a package and sends herself through the mail.

### Viorst, Judith – **Alexander Who's Not (Do You Hear Me? I Mean It!) Going to Move**

Angry Alexander refuses to move away if it means having to leave his favorite friends and special places.

## School

### Carlson, Nancy – **Look Out Kindergarten, Here I Come!**

Even though Henry is looking forward to going to kindergarten, he is not sure about staying once he gets there.

### Harris, Robie H. – **I Am Not Going to School Today**

A little boy decides to skip his very first day of school, because on the first day one doesn't know anything, but on the second, one knows everything.

Urban, Linda – **Mouse Was Mad**

Mouse struggles to find the right way to express his anger, modeling the behavior of Hare, Bear, Hedgehog, and Bobcat, only to discover that his own way may be the best way of all.

Vail, Rachel – **Sometimes I’m Bombaloo**

When Katie Honors feels angry and out of control, her mother helps her to be herself again.

**Illness / Doctor Visits**

Berger, Melvin – **Germ’s Make Me Sick**

Explains how bacteria and viruses affect the human body and how the body fights them.

Cousins, Lucy – **Doctor Maisy**

Doctor Maisy and Nurse Tallulah play hospital.



Marx, David – **Hello, Doctor**

A little boy does everything the doctor tells him to do when he goes for his check-up.

Rogers, Fred – **Going to the Hospital**

Describes what happens during a stay in the hospital, including some of the common forms of medical treatment.

Rosenberry, Vera – **When Vera Was Sick**

When spots break out all over her body, Vera must stay in the sick room where it is lonely and scary and where she can’t fall asleep.

Singer, Marilyn – **I’m Getting a Checkup**

Three children visit their pediatrician for a typical checkup and learn about tools that doctors and nurses use.

Thomas, Pat – **Do I Have to Go to the Hospital?**

A reassuring look at what happens in a hospital.



**Death & Dying**

**Family and Friends**

DePaola, Tomie – **Nana Upstairs & Nana Downstairs**

Four-year-old Tommy enjoys his relationship with both his grandmother and great-grandmother, but eventually learns to face their inevitable death.

Raschka, Chris – **The Purple Balloon**

Easy-to-read text reveals that dying is hard work, for the old and especially the young, and how good it is that so many people help when a person dies, from medical staff to clergy and friends to family members.

Schotter, Roni – **In the Piney Woods**

Grandpa and his granddaughter spend his last summer visiting and enjoying the pine woods near their house.

Varley, Susan – **Badger’s Parting Gifts**

Badger’s friends are sad when he dies, but they treasure the legacies he left them.

**Pets**



DiSalvo-Ryan, Dyanne – **A Dog Like Jack**

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.

Harris, Robie H. – **Goodbye Mousie**

A boy grieves for his dead pet Mousie, helps to bury him, and begins to come to terms with his loss.

Partridge, Elizabeth – **Big Cat Pepper**

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."

Rylant, Cynthia – **Cat Heaven**

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.

Rylant, Cynthia – **Dog Heaven**

God created Dog Heaven, a place where dogs can eat ice cream biscuits, sleep on fluffy clouds, and run through unending fields.

Wild, Margaret – **Harry & Hopper**

When Harry's beloved dog Hopper is killed in an accident, Harry can't accept the reality.

Wilhelm, Hans – **I'll Always Love You**

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."

**Disabilities**

Cowen-Fletcher, Jane – **Mama Zooms**

A boy's wonderful mama takes him zooming everywhere with her, because her wheelchair is a zooming machine.



Millman, Isaac – **Moses Goes to a Concert**

Moses and his schoolmates, all deaf, attend a concert where the orchestra's percussionist is also deaf.

Petrillo, Genevieve – **Keep Your Ear to the Ball**

Davey, a blind student, refuses all help from his new classmates, even while playing kickball at recess, until they find a way to help without doing everything for him.

Shirley, Debra – **Best Friend on Wheels**

A young girl relates all the ways she and her best friend, Sarah, are alike, in spite of the fact that Sarah uses a wheelchair.

**Divorce / Family**

Brown, Laurie Krasney & Marc Brown – **Dinosaurs Divorce**

Text and illustrations of dinosaur characters introduce aspects of divorce such as its causes and effects, living with a single parent, spending holidays in two separate households, and adjusting to a stepparent.

Coffelt, Nancy – **Fred Stays with Me**

A child describes how she lives sometimes with her mother and sometimes with her father, but her dog is her constant companion.

Coy, John – **Two Old Potatoes and Me**

After a young girl finds two old potatoes at her father's house, they plant and tend them to see if they will have new potatoes in September.

Holmberg, Bo R. – **A Day with Dad**

Tim waits with excitement for a train to bring his father, who lives in another town, then spends an entire day with him, doing all of their favorite things, until it is time for Dad to catch the train home.

Masurel, Claire – **Two Homes**

A young boy named Alex enjoys the homes of both of his parents who live apart but love Alex very much.

**Emotions**

Bang, Molly – **When Sophie Gets Angry, Really, Really Angry**

A young girl is upset and doesn't know how to manage her anger but takes the time to cool off and regain her composure.

Fox, Mem – **Harriet, You'll Drive Me Wild**

When a young girl has a series of mishaps at home one day, her mother tries not to lose her temper--and does not quite succeed.

Gravett, Emily – **Little Mouse's Big Book of Fears**

Little Mouse draws pictures of some of the many things he is afraid of, including creepy crawlies, sharp knives, and having accidents, and provides the correct scientific name for each of his fears.

Spelman, Cornelia Maude – **When I Feel Scared**

A young bear describes situations that bring about fear, how it feels to be scared, and what can make things better.

Tompert, Ann – **Will You Come Back for Me?**

Four-year-old Suki is worried about being left in day care for the first time until her mother reassures her that she loves her and will always return for her.

