

## **Books for Children Coping with a Family Member's Cancer Diagnosis**

### Our Family Has Cancer by *Christine Clifford*

When their mother is diagnosed with cancer, sixth-grader Tim and his younger brother visit her in the hospital where they learn about radiation, chemotherapy and help with the chores at home.

### Because... Someone I Love Has Cancer by *American Cancer Society*

This inspired publication is designed to address the basic goals of therapeutic support for children who have a loved one with cancer. This activity book, featuring five self-sharpening crayons to inspire creativity also includes a 16-page removable guide for caregivers with family and group activities, as well as activities that offer ways to discover inner strengths and enhance self-esteem.

### Mom Has Cancer by *Jennifer Moore-Mallinos*

Learning that Mom has cancer can be a frightening experience for a child. The little boy in this story wonders: Is it his fault that his mother has cancer? How is life going to change for him and his family?

### Mom and the Polka-Dot Boo-Boo by *Eileen Sutherland*

“Mom and the Polka-Dot Boo-Boo” is an informative and reassuring story that helps families talk about breast cancer.

### Nowhere Hair by *Edith Buenen*

The little girl in NOWHERE HAIR knows two things: Her mom's hair is not on her head anymore, so therefore it must be somewhere around the house. After searching the obvious places, the story reveals that her mother, although going through cancer treatment, is still silly, attentive, happy and yes, sometimes very tired and cranky. She learns that she didn't cause the cancer, can't catch it, and that Mommy still is very much up for the job of mothering. The book, written in rhyme, explains hats, scarves, wigs, going bald in public, and the idea of being

nice to people who may look a little different than you. It ends with the idea that what is inside of us is far more important than how we look on the outside.

## **Books for Children Coping with Cancer at School**

"Victoria's Smile" by Rita Geller

When Victoria, the new girl in class, is shunned by her classmates because of how she looks, her mother comes to school one day to explain about Victoria's battle with cancer so they will understand.

"Takin Cancer to School" (Special Kids in School Series) by Kim Gosselin

This beautifully illustrated and fun-to-read storybook simplifies and normalizes complicated childhood conditions, like cancer. When read aloud, other children can identify why a peer may be treated differently and begin to empathize with them. In addition, children whose conditions set them apart as being different begin to feel accepted and safe.

[https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/sites/default/files/fields/resource/file/2016-08/fsac\\_what\\_do\\_i\\_tell\\_the\\_kids\\_smaller.pdf](https://www.cancersupportcommunity.org/sites/default/files/fields/resource/file/2016-08/fsac_what_do_i_tell_the_kids_smaller.pdf)