

## More Books about Family Changes

### ***Divorced Together For the Sake of the Children*** by Kristi Schwartz

Can divorce have a happy ending? Colin and Allie's parents share some news that will change their daily lives, but exactly what will change? The book shares the concept of co-parenting, with the children's best interests first and foremost in the minds of the divorcing parents as well as providing a unique and positive way of looking at, and living with, divorce. Ages 4-8 (2010)

### ***Families Change: A Book for Children Experiencing Termination of Parental Rights*** by Julie Nelson

All families change over time. Sometimes a baby is born or a grown-up gets married. Sometimes a child gets a new foster parent or a new adopted mom or dad. Children need to know that when this happens, it's not their fault. They need to understand that they can remember and value their birth family and love their new family, too. Straightforward words and full-color illustrations offer hope and support for children facing or experiencing change. Includes resources and information for birth parents, foster parents, social workers, counselors, and teachers. Ages 4-8 (2006)

### ***Kids Need to Be Safe: A Book for Children in Foster Care***

by Julie Nelson

"Kids are important... They need safe places to live, and safe places to play." For some kids, this means living with foster parents. This book explains why some kids move to foster homes, what foster parents do, and ways kids might feel during foster care. This book makes it clear that the troubles in their lives are not their fault; the message throughout is one of hope and support. Includes resources and information for parents, foster parents, social workers, counselors, and teachers. Ages 4-8 (2005)

### ***Murphy's Three Homes a story for children in foster care***

by Jan Levinson Gilman

Murphy, a Tibetan terrier puppy is told he is a 'good luck dog'--he is cheerful, happy, and loves to play and wag his tail. However, after going through two different homes and an animal shelter, Murphy starts to feel like a 'bad luck dog' who nobody wants. The book follows this adorable pup through his placement in three new homes, as well as through his anxiety, self-doubt, and hope for a new, loving family. Finally, Murphy is placed in a caring foster home where he feels comfortable and valued. He learns that he is not a bad dog after all and can go back to being a playful puppy and a 'good luck dog'! Ages 4-8 (2008)

### ***My Dog is as Smelly as Dirty Socks and Other Funny Family Portraits*** by

Hanoch Piven

In this book, the portraits are of a fictional family, including their dog, Schmutz. Objects here stand in for physical characteristics tied to the similes used to describe each family member. Poor Schmutz is as "stinky as one onion" (pictured as his tail), "as nasty as canned fish" (his front paws), "as icky as pepperoni" (his snout), and so forth. The final two pages show objects children might use to make their own family portraits. Children will get caught up in this playful, fun, creative, and easy-to-do art concept and will want to follow through with their own creations. Ages 4-8 (2007)

***Standing on My Own Two Feet a Child's Affirmation of Love in the Midst of Divorce*** by Tamera Schmitz

When Addison's parents get divorced, he ends up with two homes, and he feels safe in both of them. He knows that his mom and dad will always love him. The text uses simple straightforward statements; for example, "Mom and Dad do not always get along. But it's not because of me" and "Even though I wish we could all live together again, that probably won't happen. It's not up to me." Schmitz uses repetition in the best possible way to drive home her main points of unconditional love and that Addison is not to blame for the divorce. The brightly colored illustrations have exactly the right images to support the story. Ages 4-8 (2008)

***The Star-a story to help children understand foster care***

(book and leader's guide) by Cynthia Miller Lovell

The book follows a fictional young girl, Kit, who is taken from her mother to the safety, and different world, of a foster home. On Kit's first night in foster care, she becomes friends with a star outside her bedroom window. The star tells Kit about other foster children it has seen. Through the story, the star is a source of comfort for Kit as she experiences many emotions and adjusts to all the new things in her foster home. To get the most out of this book, the author recommends also reading QUESTIONS & ACTIVITIES FOR THE STAR: A HANDBOOK FOR FOSTER PARENTS. Ages 4-8 (2005)

***We Belong Together: A Book about Adoption & Families*** by Todd Parr

In a kid-friendly, accessible way, this book explores the ways that people can choose to come together to make a family. It's about sharing your home and sharing your heart to make a family that belongs together. Ages 4-8 (2007)

This list is provided as a service and does not suggest any particular endorsement.  
Descriptions taken from Amazon.com

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