Divorce
Books available at the Columbus Metropolitan Library

PICTURE BOOKS

Here and There by Tamara Ellis Smith, 2019
After Ivan's parents separate, he has trouble finding joy at either of their homes until he discovers that the birds and music that he loves may be found in both places. (Grades K-2)

Mila and the Monsters by Judith Koppens, 2021
An endearing story about being a little bit afraid of the dark and how that looks when co-parenting. Mila is lying in her bed in Mommy's house and Mommy forgot to check if there were any monsters! Daddy always checks, but this is Mommy's house. Does Mommy have someone to chase away the monsters? (PreK-1)

When Things Are Hard, Remember by Joanna Rowland, 2021
With gentle storytelling and poetic language, Joanna Rowland explores what it means to have hope --- hope that things will get better, hope that you are cared for even when things are hard, and hope that new growth is waiting to burst forth, just around the corner. (PreK-2)

FICTION

Blended by Sharon Draper, 2018
Piano-prodigy Isabella, eleven, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school, her parents both become engaged, and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police. (Grades 4-7)

Cookies & Milk by Shawn Amos, 2022
Eleven-year-old Ellis discovers family secrets, makes new friends, and adjusts to his parents' recent divorce during a hijinks-filled summer helping his father open the world's first chocolate chip cookie store in 1976 Hollywood. (Grades 3-6)

The Do-over by Jennifer Torres, 2022
Twins Raquel and Lucinda Mendoza used to be inseparable. Since their parents divorced, the twins have grown apart and the pandemic made things worse. They are sent to their father's ranch in California and the girls wonder if trying to bring the Mendoza family back together is worth the struggle. (Grades 3-7)

Every Other Weekend by Abigail Johnson, 2020
Forced to spend every other weekend in the same apartment building, the boy who thinks forgiveness makes him weak and the girl who thinks love is for fools begin an unlikely friendship. (Grades 9-12)

Genius Jolene by Sara Cassidy, 2020
In this illustrated early chapter book, Jolene travels with her long-haul trucker father to Los Angeles. (Grades 1-3)
The List of Things that Will Not Change by Rebecca Stead, 2020  
Bea, 12, reflects on her parents’ divorce and grapples with her changing family as her father prepares to marry his new partner, Jesse, who has a daughter Bea’s age. Stead explores difficult topics like divorce, mental health and therapy in a graceful and age-appropriate way. (Grades 5-8)

NON-FICTION

J 306.89 B878d  
For over 30 years, changing families have been using Dinosaurs Divorce to learn to talk to each other about one of life’s most difficult moments. (PreK-2)

J 306.89 B167g  
This workbook will guide kids through a number of difficult scenarios that can arise during a divorce. (Grades K-5)

Why Do Families Change? Our First Talk About Separation and Divorce by Jillian Roberts, 2017  
J 306.89 R645w  
Often young children blame themselves or are unsure of their place in the family if these events occur. Child psychologist Dr. Jillian Roberts designed the Just Enough series to empower parents/caregivers to start conversations with young ones about difficult or challenging subject matter. (PreK–1)

You Make Your Parents Super Happy! A Book about Parents Separating by Richy K. Chandler, 2018  
J 306.89 C456y  
This simple graphic story helps children whose parents are separated to feel better. The book says why some parents have to live in different places, and reassures them that both parents will keep looking after them, and love them just as before. (PreK-1)

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Just Pretend by Tori Sharp, 2021  
J 741.5 S531j  
This is an energetic, affecting graphic memoir, in which a young girl uses her active imagination to navigate middle school as well as the fallout from her parents’ divorce. (Grades 4-8)

Mend A Story of Divorce by Sophia Recca, 2018  
J 741.5 R294m  
The fourteen-year-old author tells the story of her parents’ divorce and how she demanded that both parents remain in her life, no matter what. (Grades 5-8)