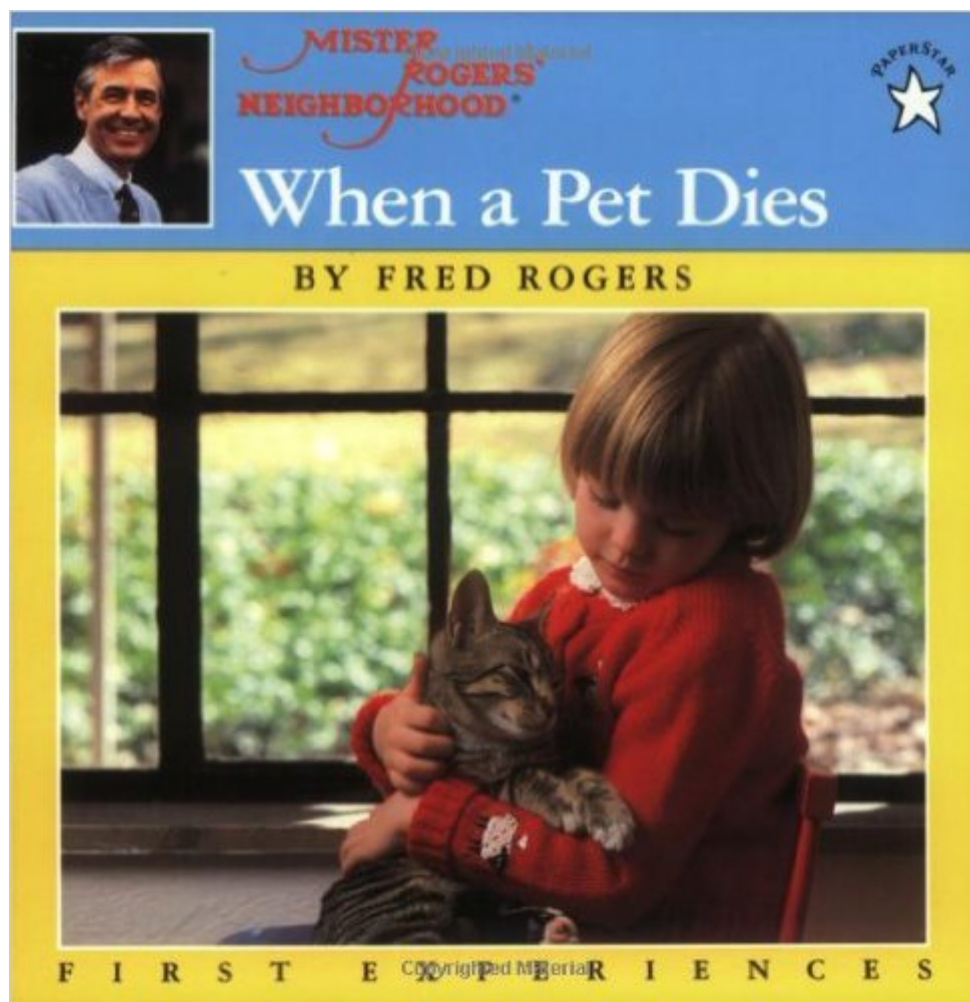


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# When A Pet Dies



## Synopsis

In this useful book from the First Experience series, the affable star of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood helps children share feelings of the loss of a pet while offering reassurance that grieving is a natural, healing thing to do. A sensitive and sensible first book about death. The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books Filled with warmth and reassurance,...When a Pet Dies assures youngsters that no matter how badly they feel when they lose a pet, in time their hurt will ease, and they will be able to remember with fondness the happiness they shared. Booklist Fred Rogers and Jim Judkis live in Pittsburgh, PA.

## Book Information

Series: Mr. Rogers

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reissue edition (April 13, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0698116666

ISBN-13: 978-0698116665

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.1 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (99 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,950 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #3 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Pet Loss #28 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #42 in Books > Self-Help > Death & Grief

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This was just sent to me via email:"This is one of the kindest things I've ever experienced. I have no way to know who sent it, but there is a beautiful soul working in the dead letter office of the US postal service. Our 14 year old dog, Abbey, died last month. The day after she died, my 4 year old daughter Meredith was crying and talking about how much she missed Abbey. She asked if we could write a letter to God so that when Abbey got to heaven, God would recognize her. I told her that I thought we could so she dictated these words:Dear God,Will you please take care of my dog? She died yesterday and is with you in heaven. I miss her very much. I am happy that you let me have her as my dog even though she got sick. I hope you will play with her. She likes to play with

balls and to swim. I am sending a picture of her so when you see her. You will know that she is my dog. I really miss her. Love, Meredith. We put the letter in an envelope with a picture of Abbey and Meredith and addressed it to God/Heaven. We put our return address on it. Then Meredith pasted several stamps on the front of the envelope because she said it would take lots of stamps to get the letter all the way to heaven. That afternoon she dropped it into the letter box at the post office. A few days later, she asked if God had gotten the letter yet. I told her that I thought He had. Yesterday, there was a package wrapped in gold paper on our front porch addressed, 'To Meredith' in an unfamiliar hand. Meredith opened it. Inside was a book by Mr. Rogers called, 'When a Pet Dies.' Taped to the inside front cover was the letter we had written to God in its opened envelope. On the opposite page was the picture of Abbey & Meredith and this note: Dear Meredith, Abbey arrived safely in heaven. Having the picture was a big help. I recognized Abbey right away. Abbey isn't sick anymore. Her spirit is here with me just like it stays in your heart. Abbey loved being your dog. Since we don't need our bodies in heaven, I don't have any pockets to keep your picture in, so I am sending it back to you in this little book for you to keep and have something to remember Abbey by. Thank you for the beautiful letter and thank your mother for helping you write it and sending it to me. What a wonderful mother you have. I picked her especially for you. I send my blessings every day and remember that I love you very much. By the way, I'm easy to find, I am wherever there is love. Love, GOD"

This is an excellent book to give to families that have just lost a pet and have young children in the family. It helps the Mother &/or Father explain to the younger members why the circle of life happens. It helps to explain the pain, the anger and then healing. I think that it also helps the parents too - it builds a foundation of communication and trust. I highly recommend this publication.

Many children have experienced the death of a pet. This can be their first experience with grief and can help shape how they deal with later experiences with loss. This illustrated book deals with a child's feelings about the loss of a beloved pet. Mr. Rogers is sensitive but clear and direct when he explains the finality of death. This book can also be used to initiate a conversation about the death of a relative in a less threatening way. The parent may want to read the book as well to help explain it to the child. Carol E. Watkins, M.D.

"When a Pet Dies" is a book intended to help children understand and cope with the death of a favorite pet. I believe it does. Well illustrated with to the point photos, it gives the joy of having a pet

and the sorrow of having one die. It allows the child to realize that each person is unique, and may have their own way of expressing their grief and their own way of recovering from that grief. As a near 75 year old man, I bought the book to see how Mr Rogers handled this subject and he did extremely well. I can remember some of the pets that I have had over the years and even the ones that I knew and had 65 years ago still have a place in my being. "When a pet dies, we can grow to know that the love we shared is still alive in us and always will be.", is the concluding sentence of the book and is a great one because it is always true.

I purchased this book because both my dogs are getting quite old, and both have had mini-strokes in the past few months. I have two small grandchildren and I know when the time comes they will be upset and confused. They don't have any pets of their own yet so they have no experience of death or loss. This book is very informative and gentle and I believe will help me to help them understand.

The gentle style of Fred Rogers is continued in this book for young children who need help expressing grief over the death of a loved pet. My little one sobbed through the story but asked me to read it again and again as it guided for release of anger, sadness and loss. In the book, it mentions that someday you maybe ready to have a new pet, this was also a source of comfort and my child has already expressed a desire to do so. Our family found this book to be a gentle and kind way that helped us through a difficult time.

I bought this book in preparation for the passing of our 18 year old cat whom my 3 year old daughter adored. The day our cat passed away, we sat our daughter down and tried to explain what had happened. Then we read this book. It did a great job of explaining death in a very basic way that small children could understand. It sticks to the basics with no mention of an afterlife so if you're looking for something more spiritual this isn't that book, but I found it very helpful in explaining exactly what happened and why our beloved pet wouldn't be with us any longer. Thank you Mr. Rogers. You continue to help children (and parents) everywhere.

Our beloved dog who my 4 year old knew since birth had passed away. We all grieved his loss. My son had a lot of questions and while I did the best I could to answer them, I was just as emotional and had a hard time, too. I was so grateful to find that Mr. Rogers had a whole series of books on all different subjects. I blubbered through reading it by myself first, and then read it to him. It really helped. Thank you, Mr. Rogers!

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