

Young Carers

Some fiction featuring children who care for their families from Tower Hamlets Schools Library Service

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Author	Title	Imprint	ISBN
Fine, Anne	Crummy Mummy And Me <i>keywords:</i> families; young carers; primary4; humour "I don't think my Mum's fit to be a parent, really I don't!" Minna find out that it is not easy being the only sensible one in the family	Puffin, 1989	0140328769
Fine, Anne	Press play <i>keywords:</i> primary2; families; instructions; independence; young carers; technology; electricity; survival Nicky and Tasha wake up one morning to find that their mum has had to go out and has left them a cassette recorder with instructions on how to get themselves and their baby brother ready for school	Egmont, 1994, new ed 2002	1405201851
Gleitzman, Morris	Bumface <i>keywords:</i> primary4; families; humour; young carers Angus is fed up of being the sensible one in the family and picking up the pieces after his scatty parents - but then he meets Rindi, child of superstar parents, and realises his problems are small in comparison. Funny, but with underlying seriousness. Ages 11+	Puffin, Feb 1999	0141303557
Hafner, Marylin	Mums don't get sick <i>keywords:</i> young carers; illness; health One Saturday morning mum feels sick and has to stay in bed. Then Dad goes out to the shops leaving Abby in charge of the house and baby.	Walker Books, 1996	0744547229
Laird, Elizabeth	Oranges in no man's land <i>keywords:</i> Lebanon; Beirut; short stories; primary4; war; journeys; courage; young carers Ayesha is a young girl living as a refugee in war-torn Beirut. Her grandmother needs medicine which can only be obtained from the wrong side of the green line. Ayesha's adventures show people at their best and worst and that no side is completely right or wrong in this simply told, effective and moving tale.	London: Pan Books, 2006	0330445588
Ure, Jean	Fruit and nutcase <i>keywords:</i> primary4; families; young carers; technology; talking Mandy has trouble writing but no trouble talking, so her brother suggests she record her chaotic life on tape.	Collins, 2001	0007121539
Wilson, Jacqueline	The Mum-Minder <i>keywords:</i> primary2; parents; one parent families; families; young carers Sadie's mum is a childminder who minds three young children. Disaster strikes when Sadie's mum gets the flu. All of the other mums get together to sort out the childcare arrangements; some of them are great fun for Sadie although she often has to take control. She also has her mum to look after, a task she does very willingly and calls herself a 'mum-minder'.	New York: Yearling	0440863023

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Cave, Patrick	Last chance <i>keywords:</i> independence; families; twins; young carers Julian comes home one day to find his father gone, leaving him to look after his two sisters and to keep the family going without anyone finding out they are on their own.	Oxford University Press, 2002	0192752413
Cole, Hannah	Bring in the spring <i>keywords:</i> young carers; illness; brain injuries Sarah's life finally changes when Bel, who is helping out on a school placement, recognises Sarah's attempts at communication and proves to Bel that she is not completely brain damaged. Life is not easy for Bel at the moment but, she is determined to help Sarah even if it means going against the school's authority. (from Birmingham city libraries)	Red Fox, 1994	0099254816
Cross, Gillian	Tightrope <i>keywords:</i> graffiti; gangs; urban communities; young carers Ashley is as good as gold and looks after her disabled mother by day, but climbs walls and writes the most amazing graffiti by night. Someone discovers her secret and is stalking her - but who? Gripping realism for ages 13 and above.	Oxford U.P., Jan 1999	0192717502
Desai, Anita	Village by the sea <i>keywords:</i> India; work; growing up; classics; young carers Set in India, four children have an ill mother and a father with a severe drink problem. With no other adults to help them, the two oldest children have to support the whole family and forego their own education and youth. The story does have a positive ending.	Penguin Plus, 1982	0140325050
Feeney, Josephine	The day my parents ran away <i>keywords:</i> parents; relationships; mental disability; mental health; primary4; young carers Sarah's dad has a nervous breakdown. Then, just when he seems to be getting better, he runs away. Her mum sets out to bring him back and Sarah has promised to tell no one they have gone. She is left alone with her two little sisters but how long can she keep the secret?	Puffin, Jul 1999	0140385126
Fine, Anne	The granny project <i>keywords:</i> resources; stereotyping; age; Great Britain; plays; family relationships; classroom activities; creative writing; role play; young carers Ivan and his brother and sisters cannot believe it when their parents want to put their Grandmother into a home for the elderly. They refuse to allow this to happen and find out what it is like to look after someone else.	LONDON: Collins, 1986	0003302342
Garisch, Dawn	Babys shoes <i>keywords:</i> family issues; babies; boys; South Africa; relationships; responsibility; young carers David has good reasons for leaving home with his baby half brother but a life of exploration without plans has problems and all relationships seem far too complicated	Simon & Schuster, 2004	068983778X
Kelleher, Damian	Life, interrupted <i>keywords:</i> families; illness; bereavement; emotions; primary4; young carers Fourteen year old Luke's world is turned upside down when his mum collapses at the hospital where she works as a nurse. He and his football-obsessed younger brother Jesse each cope in their different ways with the people sent to look after them, with people constantly asking questions and with the gradual realisation that this is not a trivial illness.	Piccadilly Press, 2009	1848120036

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Laird, Elizabeth	Red sky in the morning <i>keywords:</i> hydrocephalus; mental disability; mental health; primary4; young carers A very moving sensitive story that is both sad and funny. The story tells how Anna comes to terms with her new baby brother Ben who is born with a disability.	London: Pan Books	0330398679
Mahy, Margaret	Memory <i>keywords:</i> bereavement; death; brothers and sisters; guilt; New Zealand; Maoris; mysteries; scary; young carers Johnny still blames himself for his sister's death. He searches for Bonny, who was his sister's best friend. During his search, he meets up with Sophie, an elderly lady who has senile dementia. He is horrified to learn she lives alone, and decides to do something about it.	Collins Flamingo, 2002	000712337X
Moore, Ishbel	Daughter <i>keywords:</i> primary4; disabilities; Alzheimers disease; families; young carers; relationships Fourteen year old Sylvie enjoys fashion, parties, music and is beginning to be interested in boys too, but her mum is starting to behave strangely. Some days she can't even remember her daughter's name and Sylvie's life is turning upside down. A touching teenage novel about a family coping with Alzheimer's disease.	OXFORD: Oxford U.P., 2001	0192718746
Paul, Bette	Becca's race <i>keywords:</i> illness; leukaemia; young carers Digby sees life as one big movie. Even when his sister is diagnosed as having Leukaemia and he has to look after his younger brother he cannot help seeing events as a 'scene' in a film he is going to make. However the extra responsibility and his first serious relationship with a girl makes him come back down to earth ... sometimes. (from Birmingham libraries)	Deutsch, 1992	0590550527
Rees, Gwyneth	My mum's from planet Pluto <i>keywords:</i> embarrassment; parents; mental illness; primary4; young carers When his mother becomes headteacher at this school, 12 year old Daniel can think of nothing more embarrassing. But with his father away on business, his mother stops taking her special medicine and Daniel has to cope with her re-emerging mental illness.	London: Macmillan Children's, 2005	0330437283
Sones, Sonya	Stop pretending :what happened when my big sister went crazy <i>keywords:</i> poetry; emotions; feelings; mental illness; sisters; family issues; young carers When her older sister has a mental breakdown and has to go to hospital, a young girl is left behind to cope with a family torn apart by grief. Told in a succession of powerful poems.	Dolphin, 2002	1842550756
Wilson, Jacqueline	The Illustrated mum <i>keywords:</i> primary4; relationships; mothers; identity; stereotypes; young carers Many people say that Marigold is a dreadful mother but to Dolphin she is the best and most beautiful mum in the world. She is totally covered in tattoos and has mood swings due to manic depression, so Dolphin and her sister work hard at trying to make her happy.	Corgi Yearling, 2007	978044086781