

Age Appropriate Responses

What You Can Do

<p><i>Infants</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">More cryingThumb or finger suckingSenses anxiety, sorrow	<p><i>Infants</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Keep to baby's scheduleKeep baby in her own home with few visitorsTalk to infant as you hold him
<p><i>1-2 Years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">May clingDoesn't want parent to leaveMay sleep moreMay wake frequentlyMay be more "hyper"	<p><i>1-2 years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Be honestAnswer questionsExplain what death isExplain some feelings they may haveRemind them they did not cause the deathInvolve them in the funeralLet them know they will be taken care of
<p><i>3-5 years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bedwetting is commonUnable to verbalize feelingsMay ask questionPlays "death"Reverts to baby talkMay want bottle and diapers	<p><i>3-5 years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Answer questionsBe honestExplain feelingsTalk about fearsInvolve the child in the funeral
<p><i>6-10 years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Plays "death" and "funeral"Shyness may increaseActing out may increaseGrades may sufferSchool may become safe haven	<p><i>6-10 years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Be honestAnswer questionsExplain feelingsProvide a journalOffer love, understanding and supportInvolve them in the funeral service
<p><i>11-Teens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Anger is normalFeelings that life is "unfair"Acting out occursPhilosophical talk with friendsSearch for SpiritualityRisky behaviors not uncommon	<p><i>11-Teens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Talk openly about feelingsEncourage teens to talk to a school counselorEncourage them to journal or drawCreate rituals of memoryTell them what you needLet them tell you what they need