How can we answer the many questions young children have about death? Doris Stickney and her minister husband were looking for a meaningful way to explain to neighborhood children the death of a five-year-old friend -- an explanation that would satisfy not only the children but adult minds as well.
While they were preparing for the child's memorial service, the fable of the water bug that changed into a dragonfly came to mind. Every so Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children one of them climbs up a lily stalk and disappears from sight, never to return. Those left behind are faced with the mystery of figuring out what has become of them. Revealing the "miracle that makes shiny dragonflies out of ugly bugs", this graceful story reminds us that God has given us the means of transforming our metaphorical selves into dragonflies capable of winging off contentedly into a new world.

Recognizing that "the old answers will not satisfy today's children", Stickney presents instead a simple, wise tale that illuminates a difficult reality without pretending to contain all the answers.

This bona fide bestseller -- more than two million copies have been Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children -- is presented here in a deluxe gift edition, including newly rendered full-color illustrations. Set in large type so that young readers can enjoy it themselves, Water Bugs also includes accompanying information that offers the author's own insights for explaining how adults can effectively assist children in coping with death.

What would you like to know about this product?

Please enter your Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children, your email and your question regarding the product in the fields below, and we'll answer you in the next hours. You can unsubscribe at any time. Enter email address. Welcome to Christianbook. Sign in or create an account. Search by title, catalog stockauthor, isbn, etc. Bible Sale of the Season.


Waterbugs and Dragonflies by Doris Stickney

Waterbugs and Dragonflies by Doris Stickney Waterbugs and Dragonflies : Explaining Death to Young Children' Down below the surface of a quiet pond lived a little colony of water bugs. They were a happy colony, living far away from the sun. For many months they were very busy, scurrying over the Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children mud on the bottom of the pond.

They did notice that every once in awhile one of their colony seemed to lose interest in going about. Clinging to the stem of a pond lily it gradually moved out of sight and was seen no more. Where do you think she is going? Even as they watched, the water bug disappeared from sight. Its friends waited and waited but it didn't return. No Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children had an answer.

One spring day, not long after, the very water bug who had suggested the plan found himself climbing up the lily stalk. Up, up, up, he went. Before he knew what was happening, he had broke through the surface of the water and fallen onto the broad, green lily pad above. When he awoke, he looked about with surprise. He couldn't believe what he saw.

A startling change had come to his old body. His movement revealed four silver wings and a long tail. Even as he struggled, he felt an impulse to move his wings The warmth of the sun soon dried the moisture from the new body. He moved his wings again and suddenly found himself up above the water. He had become a dragonfly!! Swooping and dipping in great curves, he flew through the air. He felt exhilarated in the new atmosphere.

By and by the new dragonfly lighted happily on a lily pad to rest. Then it was that he chanced to look below to the bottom of the pond. Why, he was right above his old friends, the water bugs! There they were scurrying around, just as he had been doing some time before.

The dragonfly remembered the promise: "The next one of us who climbs up the lily stalk must promise to come back and tell us where he or she went and Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children had the lily stalk must promise to come back and tell us where he or she went and Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children went." Down below the surface of a

Then they'll understand what has happened to me, and where I went. To create a memorial for your dearly departed at Beloved Hearts click here. Com P. All images on the BelovedHearts. Use of any images from the BelovedHearts. Volunteer Guardian Login Contact Us.


Preview — Waterbugs and Dragonflies Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children Doris Stickney. How can we answer the many questions young children have about death? Looking for a meaningful way to explain to neighbourhood children the death of a five year old friend, Doris Stickney adapted the graceful fable about the water bug that Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children into a dragonfly. First published under the title "Death" in Colloquy December the story was revised and expanded in 1 How can we answer the many questions young children have about death?
Explaining Death to Young Children

I was pleasantly surprised at the symbolism. The waterbugs notice that every so often, one of their number decides to walk up the stem of a water lily above the surface of the water, and they never return. They make a group decision that the next one to go up the stem will come back down and tell the others what happened. One day a little waterbug finds himself walking up the stem, and when he lies on the lilypad the sun is so warm that he goes into a deep sleep. When he awakes, he has grown wings - he has become a dragonfly! He is so excited flying about, and only just remembers his promise to the other waterbugs to tell them what happened. He dives down to the water, but finds he cannot break the surface - his wings prevent him from going below. Since he can't get to his friends, he realises they will just have to find Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children in their own time about the wonderful world above the water.

The perfect analogy for death being a change, not an ending, to life. Jan 19, Jessica rated it really liked it Shelves: goodbooksornothingnowhile. With a much loved family member slowly slipping away from us, I needed help explaining death to my kids, ages 10, 7, and 4. A friend who has suffered losses recommended this book and Tear Soup. Simplistic in its ideas, this children's book illustrates the change that happens with death, keeping in line with our beliefs that death is not an ending at all and that we will be reunited.

But there is a separation. And sometimes those left behind just don't understand. I think this book will be of most help to my youngest.

The older kids might relate better to Tear Soup, even though the two books have different perspectives on death and grieving. Tear Soup is more for those that are grieving while Waterbugs and Dragonflies focuses on the death and change that comes with it. Talking Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children death is never easy; talking about death with children is awful. I was pleasantly surprised at the feeling I had for the dragonfly when he realized that he could not return as promised to tell everyone what happened. Could this be confusing for kids? Perhaps, because the dragonfly didn't die nor really did Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children water bug; it changed and becam. Talking about death is never easy; talking about death with children is awful. Perhaps, because the dragonfly didn't die nor really did the water bug; it changed and became something else. I kind of like that idea but not sure if kids would get it and wonder if they might start looking elsewhere for their "missing" loved one. Sep 12, Shirley rated it really liked it Shelves: "...". While not told on a spiritual level, this story can be adapted to explain to children, whether with a religious context or not, the concept of death and moving on. What I like about this story is the simplicity of the concept. It is not complex and allows children to visualize the similarities between humans and the characters in this short story. Overall, it is a wonderful While not told on a spiritual level, this story can be adapted to explain to children, whether with a religious context or not, the concept of death and moving on. Overall, it is a wonderful aid to help children with the loss of a loved one. I was disappointed by this book. I think partly because I had to wait a long time to get a copy of it and had high expectations. The text was in a cheesy Comic Sans font. To me it was not a "gentle" explanation of death for children. I felt it was too vague, especially for very young children. Also it really presents a christian perspective on an afterlife and doesn't necessarily deal with the death itself. Jan 04, Marcia rated it not like it Shelves: gradespicture-books. A fable that explains death to children using water bugs who transform to dragonflies. The idea is that dragonflies can never return underwater to visit the water bugs, just as one who has died cannot return to life.

And the text was in a cheesy Comic Sans font. To me it was not a "gentle" explanation of death for children. I felt it was too vague, especially for very young children. Also it really presents a christian perspective on an afterlife and doesn't necessarily deal with the death itself. Jan 04, Marcia rated it not like it Shelves: gradespicture-books. A fable that explains death to children using water bugs who transform to dragonflies. The idea is that dragonflies can never return underwater to visit the water bugs, just as one who has died cannot return to life.

I didn't like it at all, I don't think it works as a fable and think it will confuse kids. I'm surprised it was on many recommended reading lists for books that help children deal with death. Dec 12, Genaphur rated it it was amazing. This is one of the best books I have ever come across on how to explain death to small children. It's a story book to read to them and it has a nice little questions answers section in the back to further help explain how the child might be feeling with the loss of a loved one.

I got this book for Rory when her grandpa died last year and I think it helped me just as much as it helped her. This is one book I will hand out over and over. Dec 08, Amy Cottrell rated it liked it. This book is a very simple parable explaining death to children.

Interesting and clever but not particularly relatable for my children. I don't think they understood very well. This Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children work better if my children were a little older. Waterbugs and Dragonflies: Explaining Death to Young Children...
15, Kristi rated it it was amazing. Purchased for my nieces, but read it before I mailed it to them. I highly recommend this book to anyone, any age. Apr 10, Hazel marked it as recommended-for-meredith.

Recommended by a colleague. This uses insect metamorphosis as a parable for death.