

## Resource List

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### Websites:

- “It’s My Life” [PBSkids.org/itsmylife/](http://PBSkids.org/itsmylife/)



This site fills you in on divorce topics like “the big questions” and “dealing with the Big D”. It also has a special feature on step-families. On this cool interactive site, you can even watch videos, take quizzes, and create your own journal!

- Kids’ Turn [www.kidsturn.org](http://www.kidsturn.org)



This website has its very own section for kids like you! Check out the artwork, the questions and answers section, and the activities!

- Kid’s Health – A Kid’s Guide to Divorce  
[Kidshealth.org](http://Kidshealth.org)



This site has a great overview of topics from our class and is fun too. You can information sent straight to your email inbox!

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- What’s Happening in Court [www.wicourts.gov/services/kid/docs/activitybook.pdf](http://www.wicourts.gov/services/kid/docs/activitybook.pdf)

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### Games:

The Upside Down Divorce Board Game

### Movies / DVD’s:

***Kramer vs. Kramer*** - Winner of five Academy Awards including Best Picture, Actor, and Screenplay, *Kramer vs. Kramer* remains as powerfully moving today as it was when released in 1979, simply because its drama will remain relevant for couples of any generation. It begins when Joanna Kramer (Meryl Streep) bluntly informs her husband Ted (Dustin Hoffman) that she's leaving him, just as his advertising career is advancing and demanding most of his waking hours. Self-involvement is just one of the film's underlying themes, along with the search for identity that prompts Joanna to leave Ted with their first-grade son (Justin Henry), who now finds himself living with a workaholic parent he barely knows. Juggling his domestic challenge with professional deadlines, Ted is further pressured when his wife files for custody of their son. This legal battle forms the dramatic spine of the film, but its power is derived from Benton's flawlessly observant script and the superlative performances of his entire cast. Because Benton refuses to assign blame and deals fairly with both sides of a devastating dilemma, the film arrives at equal levels of pain, growth, and integrity under emotionally stressful circumstances. That gives virtually every scene the unmistakable ring of truth--a quality of dramatic honesty that makes *Kramer vs. Kramer* not merely a classic tearjerker, but one of the finest American dramas of its decade.

***Mrs. Doubtfire*** - This huge 1993 hit for Robin Williams and director Chris Columbus (*Home Alone*), based on a novel called *Alias Madame Doubtfire* by Anne Fine, stars Williams as a loving but flaky father estranged from his frustrated wife (Sally Field). Devastated by a court order limiting his time with the children, Williams's character disguises himself as a warm, old British nanny who becomes the kids' best friend. As with Dustin Hoffman's performance in *Tootsie*, Williams's drag act--buried under layers of latex and padding--is the show, and everything and everyone else on screen serves his sometimes frantic role. Since that's the case, it's fortunate that Williams is Williams, and his performance is terribly funny at times and exceptionally believable in those scenes where his character misses his children. Playing Williams's brother, a professional makeup artist, Harvey Fierstein has a good support role in a bright sequence where he tries a number of feminine looks on Williams before settling on Mrs. Doubtfire's visage.

***Bye Bye Love*** - Ah, the sensitive male of the 1990s. He's nowhere to be found in this wan comedy about three divorced dads and the weekend each spends with his kids. It opens with the ritual of the divorced: mothers handing off kids to dads in neutral territory, the local McDonald's. Then the three buddies at the center of this film (Paul Reiser, Randy Quaid, and Matthew Modine) go their separate ways. Reiser is looking for a way to win his ex-wife back (and comes across as a hangdog drip); Modine is the group's

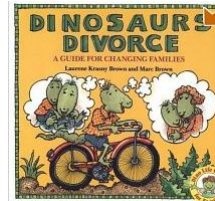
womanizer who chases a variety of females, while seemingly ignoring his kid. Quaid has the film's only comedically fruitful role as the group's most cynical member who goes on the world's worst blind date with the hilariously off-the-wall Janeane Garofalo. Harmless, occasionally funny, but unremarkable.

***The Purple Family*** – Created for divorcing parents and their children, the Purple Family video provides insight on difficult issues that arise when separation occurs. In the video, all family members live in a world that is purple, a balanced mixture of red and blue. But as signs of separation appear, husband and wife and all surroundings turn distinctly red or blue.

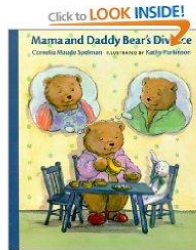
***Taking the “Duh” out of Divorce*** - Is it all just a bad dream? Skye's parents have just dropped a bombshell - they're getting divorced! Is it her fault? She's hurt, she's angry and she believes she's the only one who can keep her mom and dad together. Exhausted, she falls asleep and finds herself in the middle of a dream where she has taken her parents to court in a last-ditch attempt to deny their divorce?!?! With Jack representing the defense and Trevor sitting in as the judge, Skye attempts to prove that her parent's divorce is undesirable, unnecessary and most importantly, totally unfair to her! I mean - what are her friends going to think? How can she live in two houses at the same time? What about holidays? How can they be so selfish? And so she presents her case. There are no easy answers, but. Using gentle humor, original music and a compelling storyline, Trevor Romain uses Skye's experience to give kids practical, helpful advice for dealing with the pain of divorce - such as knowing that it isn't their fault, they shouldn't take sides, don't hide their emotions and talking to friends can really help. After all, as Skye discovers, her parents aren't divorcing her - they love her!

**Books:**

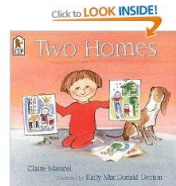
- *Dinosaurs Divorce – A Guide For Changing Families:*  
by Laurene Krasny Brown and Marc Brown



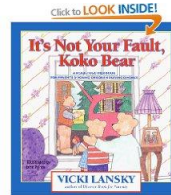
- *Mama and Daddy Bear's Divorce:*  
by Cornelia Maude Spelman



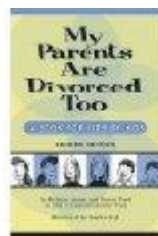
- *Two Homes:*  
by Claire Masurel



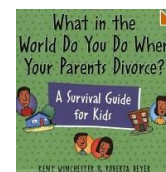
- *It's Not Your Fault, Koko Bear:*  
by Vicki Lansky



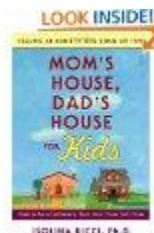
- *My Parents are Divorced, too:*  
by Melanie, Annie and Steve Ford



- *What in the World Do You Do When Your Parents Divorce?:*  
by Kent Winchester & Roberta Beyer



- *Mom's House, Dad's House for Kids:*  
by Isolina Ricci, Ph.D.



- *Don't Ask Me to Choose – Teens Write About Divorce:*  
by Youth Communication

