



books about dementia for young people



Title	Author	Year	Description
Always My Grandpa: A Story for Children about Alzheimer's Disease	Linda Scacco	2005	This heartwarming tale describes what it is like to be close to a grandparent who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Daniel and his mom spend every summer with his Grandpa at a cottage by the sea. But as the summers pass, Grandpa begins to change. Daniel learns that since Grandpa has Alzheimer's disease, he will have trouble remembering all the things that belong to him - his clothes, his words, his memories - and eventually, his own grandson. Through gentle narration and easy-to-understand explanations, the book explains Alzheimer's and how it affects children and families.
Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip	Jordan Sonnenblick	2014	There's nothing All Star pitcher Peter Friedman loves more than baseball. It's his life. He breathes baseball, dreams about it, and works his tail off to be great. Most kids are nervous about starting high school, but Pete's amazing arm is going to make his life pretty easy. Until freshman year doesn't turn out as planned. A pitching accident over the summer ruins his arm. If he isn't the star pitcher, then who is he? Pete's best friend and pitching partner, AJ, tells him he'll be back to his normal self by spring training. To make matters more complicated, there's something going on with Pete's grampa -- and Pete's mother doesn't want to talk about it.
My Little Grandmother Often Forgets	Reeve Lindbergh	2007	Sometimes Tom's grandmother forgets the way home from the market, or that Tom's name is Tom and not Roy. But Tom doesn't mind. He loves to help his grandmother and just spend time with her. The special bond between a beloved grandmother affected by memory loss and her devoted grandson is described in Reeve Lindbergh's most personal book for children, one that is based on her own and her son's relationship with her mother in the last years of her life. Kathryn Brown's watercolor illustrations tenderly capture the unique characters — and the love that is universal.

Pop	Gordon Korman	2011	When Marcus moves to a new town in the dead of summer, he doesn't know a soul. While practicing football for impending tryouts, he strikes up an unlikely friendship with an older man. Charlie is a charismatic prankster—and the best football player Marcus has ever seen. He can't believe his good luck when he finds out that Charlie is actually Charlie Popovich, or "the King of Pop," as he had been nicknamed during his career as an NFL linebacker. But that's not all. There is a secret about Charlie that his own family is desperate to hide.
Remember Me? Te acuerdas de mi?	Sue Glass	2002	A young girl's grandfather can't or doesn't want to remember her anymore. Her mother is upset. What did she do wrong? Understanding comes after the guilt and secrecy surrounding her Grandfather's Alzheimer's disease is exposed. The story is told through the eyes of a child to help children understand the emotions of this affliction. Full story told in English and Spanish.
Remember, Grandma?	Laura Langston	2004	This book will strike a chord with many readers. For families who have a relative facing memory loss, it may trigger important conversations. And for all children with aging family members, it provides gentle reassurance about the love within families that endures even when memory does not.
Singing with Momma Lou	Linda Jacobs Altman	2011	As dementia transports her mother into a world devoid of memory, language and ability, the author sheds denial and begins a ceaseless struggle for the only "treatment" that her mother needs: compassionate care.
Still My Grandma	Veronique Van Den Abeele and Claude K. Dubois	2007	The realities of Alzheimer's disease are gently introduced in this story for young readers about the special relationship between a girl and her grandmother. Camille and Grandma have sleepovers, bake cupcakes, giggle at old photographs, and go shopping together. But one day Grandma forgets Camille's name. Then she can't remember where to put her shoes. Camille learns that her grandma has Alzheimer's disease, which is what makes her do strange things. And even though Grandma has to move out of her house and rely on nurses to care for her, Camille finds creative ways to maintain their friendship. Sensitive illustrations emphasize the story's theme of unconditional love.
Striped Shirts and Flowered Pants	Barbara Schnurbush	2007	Barbara Schnurbush helps children understand how Alzheimer's disease will ultimately change older people they are close to, such as their grandparents, and provides hints for parents to provide ways that they can help their children handle their feelings and worries.
The Graduation of Jake Moon	Barbara Park	2002	Jake Moon used to love the time he spent with his grandfather, Skelly, but that was before Skelly got Alzheimer's disease. All of a sudden, it's as if Skelly is the kid, and Jake has to be the grown-up. Much of Skelly's care becomes Jake's responsibility, and that doesn't leave much time for a life of his own. Then, one day Jake rebels, and the unthinkable happens. Has Jake discovered too late how much his grandfather still means to him?

The Last Best Days of Summer	Valerie Hobbs	2014	For twelve-year-old Lucy Crandall, the last week of August is the most perfect time in the world. It's the week she gets to spend with Grams at the lake house, canoeing, baking cookies, and glazing pots in Grams's potting shed. Grams has a way of making Lucy feel centered, like one of the pots on her kick wheel—perfect, steady, and completely at peace. But this summer, Grams doesn't seem to be exactly the person she once was. And as the week turns into a roller coaster of surprises—some good, some awful—Lucy can't help but wonder: Will things ever be centered again?
The Memory Box	Mary Bahr and David Cunningham	1992	When Gramps realizes he has Alzheimer's disease, he starts a memory box with his grandson, Zach, to keep memories of all the times they have shared.
Tip-Tap Pop	Sarah Lynn	2010	Emma and her grandpa, Pop, are tap-dancing pals. They dig-shuffle-chug through town and put on a clickity-clacking, tip-tapping show every year on Emma's birthday. But Pop is getting old. He starts forgetting things, even Emma's birthday. And he stops dancing. Can Emma help Pop's feet remember how to dance? Clickity-clack, clickity-clack, stomp-stomp-clickity-clack. . . . Endearing illustrations rendered in gouache and pencils show that even the smallest act may spark a memory in an Alzheimer's sufferer.
What's Happening to Grandpa?	Maria Shriver	2004	Kate has always adored her grandpa's storytelling - but lately he's been repeating the same stories again and again. One day, he even forgets Kate's name. Her mother's patient explanations open Kate's eyes to what so many of the elderly must confront: Alzheimer's disease and other forms of memory loss. Determined to support her grandfather, Kate explores ways to help him - and herself - cope by creating a photo album of their times together, memories that will remain in their hearts forever.
What's Wrong with Grandma? A Family's Experience with Alzheimer's	Margaret Shawver	1996	Every day, children of all ages are forced to confront the reality that a family member has Alzheimer's Disease. With so many "adult" discussions going on, a child sometimes feels left out and confused. What's Wrong with Grandma? speaks to the children trying to cope with an elder who's acting very strange. Young Ellen expresses, as only a child can, the frustration, sadness, and even anger felt toward Grandma's peculiar behavior, her lapses of memory, and her unexplained fears. But she also captures the warmth and humor of special moments the family shares with Grandma.
Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge	Mem Fox and Julie Vivas	1989	Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge, a rather small boy, lives next door to a nursing home in which resides Miss Nancy Alison Delacourt Cooper, his favorite friend, because she has four names as well. When Miss Nancy "loses" her memory, the intrepid Wilfrid sets out to find it for her.

Wordsworth Dances the Waltz	Frances H. Kakugawa	2007	In Wordsworth Dances the Waltz, children are introduced to the concept that as grandparents age, they may become different, and even forget important things. Wordsworth finds comfort in writing poems that express his confusion over the changes in his beloved grandparent and the fond memories he has of her more vibrant days.
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