



When a family member is diagnosed with cancer, many questions and concerns can surface, including how to talk with and support school aged children.

The Family Connections Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute provides information, support and guidance to parents diagnosed with cancer and to their partners, family members and children. We hope this Parent Binder will be helpful to you. Inside you will find articles that cover topics of concern to most parents facing a cancer diagnosis, activities to help foster communication and encourage children to express their thoughts and feelings about cancer, and resources to provide further guidance, information and support.

The Family Connections Program also provides KidPacks for children ages 4 - 7, 8 - 12 and teenagers, all of which contain age-appropriate support information, comfort items and materials to encourage creativity and expression.

Additional information covering other important topics for families dealing with cancer is available at our website, www.dfci.org/familyconnections. Please visit the site as questions and concerns arise.

If you would like to reach us directly with your comments about the KidPacks or Parent Binder, please contact the Family Connections Program Coordinator at (617) 632-2605.

Your feedback is very important and is needed to help us improve the program. We have enclosed an evaluation form (in the front pocket) for your comments.



The information contained in this binder is intended to provide general educational information only and is not intended as medical advice, and should not be considered a replacement for consultations with **qualified health care professionals** for answers to personal questions. We encourage you to take information and specific questions back to your health care providers.

