

Serving ALL Families in Your Library: Inclusive Library Collections and Programs for LGBTQ Families & Children

RECOMMENDED BOARD BOOKS

Bromber, Stacey and Joe Taravella. *Hugs of Three: My Daddies and Me*. Illus. by Jessica Warrick. Forward Footsteps, 2012.

Newman, Lesléa. *Daddy, Papa and Me and Mama, Mommy and Me*. Illus. by Carol Thompson. Tricycle Press, 2009.

RECOMMENDED CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS

Austrian, J.J. *Worm Loves Worm*. Illus. by Mike Curato. Balzer + Bray/HarperCollins, 2016.

Baldacchino, Christine. *Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress*. Illus. by Isabelle Malenfant. Groundwood Books, 2014.**

Bey-Clarke, Monica and Cheril N. Clarke. *Keesha and Her Two Moms Go Swimming*. Illus. by Aiswarya Mukherjee. Dodi Press, 2011.

Crowther, Kitty. *Jack and Jim*. Hyperion, 2000.

de Haan, Linda and Stern Nijland. *King & King*. Tricycle Press, 2002

dePaola, Tomie. *Oliver Button is a Sissy*. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1979.**

Dodd, Emma. *Forever*. Templar, 2013.

Gonzalez, Maya Christina. *Call Me Tree/Llamame arbol*. Lee & Low, 2014.**

González, Rigoberto. *Antonio's Card/La tarjeta de Antonio*. Illus. by Cecilia Concepción Álvarez. Children's Book Press, 2005.

Hall, Michael. *Red: A Crayon's Story*. Greenwillow Books, 2015.**

Herthel, Jessica and Jazz Jennings. *I Am Jazz*. Illus. by Shelagh McNicholas. Dial Books, 2014.

Hoffman, Sarah and Ian. *Jacob's New Dress*. Illus. by Chris Case. Albert Whitman & Co., 2014.**

Horáček, Petr. *Puffin Peter*. Candlewick Press, 2013. (First U.S. edition). **

Ismail, Yasmeen. *I'm a Girl!* Bloomsbury, 2016**

Kasza, Keiko. *A Mother for Choco*. Penguin Putnam, 1992.**

Kemp, Anna. *Dogs Don't Do Ballet*. Illus. by Sara Ogilvie. Simon & Schuster, 2010.**

Kirk Daniel. *Ten Things I Love About You*. Nancy Paulsen Books/Penguin Young Readers, 2013.**

Kushner, Elisabeth. *The Purim Superhero*. Illus. by Mike Byrne. Kar-Ben Publishing, 2013.

Lambert, Megan Dowd. *Real Sisters Pretend*. Illus. by Nicole Tagdell. Tilbury House Publishers, 2016

Lang, Suzanne & Max. *Families, Families, Families*. Random House, 2015.

Leaf, Munro. *The Story of Ferdinand*. Illus. by Robert Lawson. Viking Press, 1936.**

Levine, Arthur A. *Monday Is One Day*. Illus. by Julian Hector. Scholastic, 2011.

Lindenbaum, Pija. *Mini Mia and Her Darling Uncle*. R&S/Farrar Straus & Giroux, 2007.

Meyers, Susan. *Everywhere Babies*. Illus. by Marla Frazee. Harcourt, 2001.

Newman, Lesléa. *Donovan's Big Day*. Illus. by Mike Dutton. Tricycle Press, 2011.

Newman, Lesléa. *Heather Has Two Mommies*. Illus. by Laura Cornell. Candlewick Press, 2015 (Note: This new version has updated illustrations and a revised text that make it more kid-friendly.)

Oelschlager, Vanita. *A Tale of Two Daddies*. Illus. by Karen Blackwood. Vanita Books, 2010. (Also: *A Tale of Two Mommies*. Illustrated by Mike Blanc. 2011).

Parr, Todd. *The Family Book*. Megan Tingley/Little, Brown, 2003 (Also: *The Daddy Book*, *The Mommy Book*, and *It's Okay to be Different*)

Pitman, Gayle. *This Day in June*. Illus. by Kristyna Litten. Magination Press, 2014.

Polacco, Patricia. *In Our Mothers' House*. Philomel Books, 2009.

Rotner, Shelley and Sheila M. Kelly. *Families*. Holiday House, 2015.

Schiffer, Miriam. *Stella Brings the Family*. Illus. by Holly Clifton-Brown. Chronicle, 2015.

Settington, Ken. *Mom and Mum Are Getting Married*. Illus. by Alice Priestley. Second Story Press, 2004.

Walton, Jessica. *Introducing Teddy: A Gentle Story About Gender and Friendship*. Illus. By Dougal MacPherson. Bloomsbury, 2016.

Zolotow, Charlotte. *William's Doll*. Illus by William Pene du Bois. Harper and Row, 1972.**

RECOMMENDED BEGINNING READERS

Howe, James. *Pinky and Rex and the Bully*. Illus. by Melissa Sweet. Atheneum/Simon & Schuster, 1996.**

Moore, Julianne. *Freckleface Strawberry: Best Friends Forever*. Illustrated by LeUyen Pham. Bloomsbury USA, 2011. (Also: *Freckleface Strawberry: Backpacks*. Random House, 2015).

Wyeth, Sharon Dennis. *Tomboy Trouble*. Illus. by Lynne Woodcock Cravath. Random House, 1998.*

RECOMMENDED CHAPTER BOOKS

Agnell, Charlotte. *The Accidental Adventures of India McAllister*. Henry Holt, 2010.

Burch, Christian. *The Manny Files*. Atheneum, 2006. (Also: *Hit the Road, Manny*).

Federle, Tim. *Better Nate Than Ever*. Simon & Schuster, 2013.**

Gino, Alex. *George*. Scholastic, 2015.

Ignatow, Amy. *The Popularity Papers*. Series. Amulet Books/Abrams, 2010-2015.

Lantz, Frances. *The Day Joanie Frankenhauser Became a Boy*. Dutton, 2005.**

Levy, Dana Alison. *The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher*. Delacorte Books for Young Readers 2014. (Also: *The Family Fletcher Takes Rock Island*, Delacorte Books for Young Readers 2016)

Polonsky, Ami. *Gracefully Grayson*. Hyperion, 2014.

Ryan, Pam Muñoz. *Riding Freedom*. Scholastic, 1998.**

Selznick, Brian. *The Marvels*. Scholastic, 2015.

RECOMMENDED INFORMATIONAL BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Gonzalez, Maya Christina. *Gender Now Coloring Book: A Learning Adventure for Children and Adults*. (School Edition). Reflection Press, 2011.

Hoffman, Mary. *Welcome to the Family*. Illus. by Ros Asquith. Frances Lincoln, 2014.

Kay, Verla. *Rough, Tough Charley*. Illus. by Adam Gustavson. Tricycle Press, 2007.**

Krakow, Kari. *The Harvey Milk Story*. Illus. by David Gardner. Two Lives, 2002.

Kuklin, Susan. *Families*. Hyperion, 2006.

McCarthy, Meghan. *Daredevil: The Daring Life of Betty Skelton*. Simon & Schuster, 2013.**

Richardson, Justin and Peter Parnell. *And Tango Makes Three*. Illus. by Henry Cole. Simon & Schuster, 2005.

Shannon, George. *One Family*. Illus. by Blanca Gomez. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2015.

Silverberg, Cory. *Sex is a Funny Word: A Book about Bodies, Feelings, and YOU*. Illus. by Fiona Smyth. Seven Stories, 2015.

Thomas, Pat. *This is My Family: A First Look at Same-Sex Parents*. Illus. by Lesley Harker. Barron's, 2012.

Winter, Jonah. *Gertrude is Gertrude is Gertrude is Gertrude*. Illus. by Calef Brown. Atheneum, 2009.**

RESOURCES FOR COLLECTIONS, SERVICES, & PROGRAMS

Naidoo, Jamie Campbell. *Rainbow Family Collections: Selecting and Using Children's Books with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Content*. Libraries Unlimited, 2012.

Naidoo, Jamie Campbell. (2015) "Access to a World of Rainbow Family Children's Books via Partnerships and Programs: Suggestions for Library Outreach to LGBT Family Associations." Paper presented at IFLA WLIC 2015 - Cape Town, South Africa. Available: <http://library.ifla.org/1289/>

Allie the Ally – Developed by Black High School's Gay-Straight Alliance (Silver Spring, Maryland), this inclusive paper doll holds great potential for inclusive storytimes and passive programming that welcomes Rainbow Families. Think of Allie as Flat Stanley and dream of all the places she can visit! <http://allietheally.tumblr.com/aboutallie>

COLAGE: People with a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Queer Parent - National support group for youth with LGBTQ parents/caregivers. The website contains bibliographies of recommended LGBTQ youth literature, online resources and activities for youth of LGBTQ parents/caregivers, and much more. Available: <http://www.colage.org/>

Rainbow Families Council – This Australian volunteer community organization provides information to LGBT adults interested in adopting and starting families. The particularly useful parts of the website are the 'Who's in your family?' information sheets and posters. These attractive full-color, posters and information sheets can be downloaded used in libraries Rainbow Families.

<http://rainbowfamilies.org.au/>

Transgender Student Educational Resources – Youth-led organization dedicated to helping educators better understand gender nonconforming and transgender children and teens. Includes a helpful infographic The Gender Unicorn that explains various terminology related to gender. Available:

<http://www.transstudent.org/>

Welcoming Schools – Sponsored by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, this website is filled with lesson plans, teaching points, librarian tips, extensive bibliographies (of books for all ages covering a broad spectrum of LGBTQ topics), and other resources for creating welcoming environments for Rainbow Families. Particularly useful is a free 93-page resource guide.

<http://www.welcomingschools.org/resources/> and <http://www.welcomingschools.org/pages/steps-you-can-take-as-a-librarian>

TransKids Purple Rainbow Foundation – Dedicated to promoting and funding research related to serving transgender children and youth. This resource includes various links to videos about transgender children, research reports, etc. Available: <http://www.transkidspurplerainbow.org/>

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network) – Provides suggestions for making schools inclusive for LGBTQ children and families and offers educator guides and lesson plans related to bullying, diversity, and bias. <http://glsen.org/educate/resources>

Open to All: Serving the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Community in your Library – This toolkit, developed by the GLBT Round Table (GLBTRT) of ALA, includes recommendations of resources for collection development and program considerations for serving LGBTQ children, teens, and adults. Available:

<http://www.ala.org/glbtrt/sites/ala.org.glbtrt/files/content/professionaltools/160309-glbtrt-open-to-all-toolkit-online.pdf>

Gender Spectrum – Nonprofit dedicated to creating gender inclusive environments for all children and teens. Website includes information and resources for caregivers and educators working with these youth. Available: <https://www.genderspectrum.org/>

Selecting Counter-LGBTQ Materials – Here are two resources to consult and consider as you make your decision. ALSC Blog Post “Anti-Gay Books and Your Library” (<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2013/02/anti-gay-books-and-your-library/>) and Words, Ideas, and Things Blog Post “Anti-Gay Books and Professional Disagreement” (<http://wordsideasandthings.blogspot.com/2013/03/anti-gay-books-and-professional.html>).

Responding to Challenges of LGBTQ Materials – Here is a library director’s response to a challenge of Uncle Bobby’s Wedding, courtesy of Jamie LaRue’s Blog. Available:

<http://jaslarue.blogspot.com/2008/07/uncle-bobbys-wedding.html>

Support for Dealing with Challenges - For support dealing with challenges and a sample “Request for Reconsideration of Library Resources” form can be found on the Banned Books website run by ALA The Office for Intellectual Freedom. Available:

<http://www.ala.org/bbooks/challengedmaterials/support>

LGBTQ Right to Read Resource Guide – Created by the National Coalition Against Censorship, this resource provides links to selected censorship attempts on LGBTQ-themed literature and describes why children and teens need books with queer content. Available: <http://ncac.org/resource/krrp-lgbtq-content-right-to-read-resource>

PERIODICALS FOR RAINBOW FAMILIES

Gay Parent Magazine – This relatively inexpensive magazine, available in both print and online formats, is directed towards LGBTQ parents across the nation, though it does have a specific focus on NY, NJ, and the surrounding area. Contents include books reviews, personal parenting stories, information about Rainbow Family vacations and events, and gay-friendly school information. <http://www.gayparentmag.com/>

Pink Parenting – Launched in Summer 2011 this UK magazine for LGBTQ parents and Rainbow Families provides parenting tips, new articles, surrogacy and adoption information and more for today's modern queer family. Available in both online and print subscriptions. <http://www.pink-parenting.com/>

Rainbow Rumpus – Billed as the only online literary magazine for children with gay and lesbian parents, this interactive and informative website includes book reviews, short stories, e-books, children's art, activities, and more. Rainbow Rumpus has a sister site, Rainbow Riot, that is an online literary magazine just for teens. <http://www.rainbowrumpus.org/> and <http://rainbowriot.org/teens>

BOOK AWARDS & BLOGS FOR LGBTQ CHILDREN'S & YA BOOKS

Lambda Literary Awards - Presented by the Lambda Literary Foundation, these awards celebrate the best in literary fiction and nonfiction books that represent LGBTQ experiences. There are several categories of annual awards for adults and one for children's and young adult titles. Available: <http://www.lambdaliterary.org/complete-list-of-award-recipients/> .

Gay-Themed Picture Books for Children - Created by Patricia Sarles, this extensive website lists numerous children's picture books with LGBT content. Each book includes a cover of the photo and then a blurb about the book from either the Library of Congress, Books in Print, or publisher catalogs. <http://booksforkidsingayfamilies.blogspot.com/>

Rainbow Books – Awarded annually by the ALA's Social Responsibility Roundtable and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table (GLBTRT), this booklist includes fiction and nonfiction youth titles that authentically portray LGBTQ topics. Available: <http://glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks/rainbow-books-lists>

Stonewall Children's and Young Adult Literature Awards – Presented by the ALA's GLBTRT, this award recognizes youth books that positively and accurately represent the experiences of LGBTQ youth and families. Available: <http://www.ala.org/glbtrt/award>

Amelia Bloomer List - Established in 2002 by the Feminist Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table (SRRT) of ALA, this project identifies children's and YA books that have strong feminist content. These books could be used with gender-variant or gender-nonconforming children. Available: <http://ameliabloomer.wordpress.com/>

PLANNING STORYTIMES INCLUSIVE OF RAINBOW FAMILIES

Suggestions on how to plan children's programs with gay-friendly books that aren't "out there:"

- ★ Change pronouns while reading a book with androgynous animal characters to include same-sex friendships and relationships or characters that defy gender classifications.

- ★ Use terms such as “parent” or “caregiver” when describing families in books or when referring to families in the library.
- ★ Include books with single parents in your library programs and displays. Single parents can represent many different things to many different children and families.
- ★ Share books with ambiguous family constructs such as multiple fathers, aunt and mother caregivers, etc.
- ★ Invite “out of the box” community guest speakers that defy gender norms such as male nurses, female cops, etc.
- ★ Change the names of characters in books and oral stories/songs to be androgynous such as Rene, Michele, Mel, Pat, Chris, Stevie, Jaime, etc.

CREATING WELCOMING SPACES FOR RAINBOW FAMILIES

- ★ Ensure library staff maintains respectful verbal and nonverbal language when interacting with adults and youth (children and teens) in Rainbow Families. This includes interactions during programming and reader’s advisory but also using respectful language regarding Rainbow families. Do not assume how individuals identify themselves.
- ★ Take advantage of teachable moments to address children’s inquiries related to queer issues and Rainbow Families. Know ahead of time how to respond to children’s questions about gender diversity and families with two moms, two dads, etc.
- ★ Confront any observed instances of teasing and bullying related to diversity in sexual or gender identity. These could be interactions between children, teens, parents, or even library staff.
- ★ Encourage LGBTQ caregivers to volunteer and participate in library programs for children and teens.
- ★ Collaborate with community agencies that serve children, teens, and/or adults in Rainbow Families.
- ★ Create visual displays and bulletin boards that include all families, introducing Rainbow Families along with single parent families, grandparent headed families, stepfamilies, multiracial families, foster families, etc.
- ★ Integrate LGBTQ children’s books into regular story times and library programs and display them on bookshelves alongside other children’s books.
- ★ Examine library materials for stereotypes and biases such as gender stereotypes, sex role stereotypes, homophobia, etc.
- ★ Provide current and relevant information in both print and digital resources and organize them in such a way that will promote easy location of materials.

**** DENOTES THAT THE TITLE WORKS FOR LGBTQ INCLUSIVE LIBRARY PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND CAREGIVERS.**