

Recommended Reads

LGBTQ+

For Older Children



Aurora
Public
Library
District

J
ARLO, J

Almost Flying
Jake Maia Arlow



In this unabashedly queer middle grade debut, a week-long amusement park road trip becomes a true roller coaster of emotion when Dalia realizes she has more-than-friend feelings for her new bestie.

J
BAIL, S

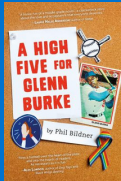
Obie is Man Enough
Schuyler Bailar



A coming-of-age story about transgender tween Obie, who didn't think being himself would cause such a splash.

J
BILD, P

A High Five for Glenn Burke
Phil Bildner



After researching Glenn Burke, the first major league baseball player to come out as gay, sixth-grader Silas Wade slowly comes out to his best friend Zoey, then his coach, with unexpected consequences.

J
BLAK, A

Hazel Bly and the Deep Blue Sea
Ashley Herring Blake



For two years, twelve-year-old Hazel has coped with her Mum's accidental death by overprotecting her sister and Mama, but when Mama reconnects with her first love, roles begin to shift.

J
GINO, A

Rick
Alex Gino



Eleven-year-old Rick Ramsey has generally gone along with everybody. But now in middle school he discovers the Rainbow Spectrum club, where kids of many genders and identities can express themselves--and maybe among them he can find new friends and discover his own identity.

J
LUKO, K

Too Bright to See
Kyle Lukoff



In the summer before middle school, eleven-year-old Bug must contend with best friend Moira suddenly caring about clothes, makeup, and boys; a ghost haunting; and the truth about Bug's gender identity.

J
ROSE, K

The Derby Daredevils: Kenzie Kickstarts a Team
Kit Rosewater



Fifth-grade best friends Kenzie "Kenzilla" and Shelly "Bombshell" dream of becoming roller derby superstars one day, but when a junior league forms and they must recruit teammates, will their friendship survive?

J
SALA, A

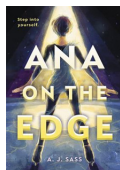
The Moon Within
Aida Salazar



Eleven-year-old Celi Rivera is uncomfortable about her approaching period, and the changes that are happening to her body; she is horrified that her mother wants to hold a traditional public moon ceremony to celebrate the occasion--until she finds out that her best friend Magda is contemplating an even more profound change of life.

J
SASS, A

Ana on the Edge
A.J. Sass



Twelve-year-old figure skater Ana strives to win her competitions while learning about gender identity--Ana's own and that of a new friend--and how to navigate the best path forward.

J
THI

This is Our Rainbow: 16 Stories of Her, Him, Them, and Us



Edited by Katherine Locke & Nicole Melleby

This first LGBTQA+ anthology for middle-grade readers presents stories of queer fantasy, historical and contemporary stories for every letter of the acronym.

J
TURL, B

The Flyers
Beth Turley



Picked to become an intern at her favorite teen magazine and spend an adventure-packed summer, between seventh and eighth grades, in New York City, Elena is excited but also worried about losing her best friend.

J
VANO, A

Cattywampus
Ash Van Otterloo



Magic is strictly forbidden in the McGill house, but Delpha has found the family book of spells; Katybird Hearn comes from a rival family of witches, but her magic has been slow to emerge and she thinks a spell book is just what she needs--and when a quarrel between the two unleashes a graveyard full of angry zombies the two girls must work together to save Howler's Hollow, and themselves.

JGN
LAYN, A

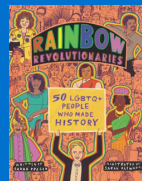
Beetle & the Hollowbones
Aliza Layne



Twelve-year-old goblin and witch-in-training Beetle enlists her former best friend, Kat Hollowbones, to help stop Kat's sorceress aunt from demolishing the mall where Beetle's friend Blob Ghost is trapped.

J 155.33
PRAG, S

Rainbow Revolutionaries: 50 LGBTQ+ People Who Made History
Sarah Prager



Rainbow Revolutionaries brings to life the vibrant histories of fifty pioneering LGBTQ+ people from around the world.

MORE LGBTQ+ BOOKS:

Hurricane Child | J Callender

Better Nate Than Ever | J Federle

George | J Gino

The Best At It | J Pancholy

Other Boys | JGN Alexander

You Be You!: The Kid's Guide to Gender, Sexuality, and Family

| J 305.3 BRAN, J

Gay & Lesbian History for Kids | J 323.3 POHL, J

Recommended Reads

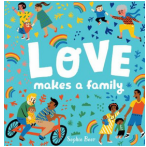
LGBTQ+ For Young Children



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BB P

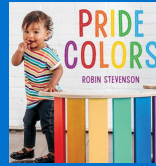
Love Makes a Family Sophie Beer



Whether you have one parent, two moms, two dads, a mom and a dad, or another wonderful caregiver, there's one thing that makes a family... and that's love.

BB P

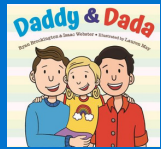
Pride Colors Robin Stevenson



In this photographic concept book, babies and toddlers are introduced to the PRIDE flag and the meaning behind each color.

J
BROC, R

Daddy & Dada Ryan Brockington & Isaac Webster



A little girl explains how families, including hers, come in many shapes and sizes--some with a mom and a dad, some with two dads, some with two moms, and more.

P
LOVE, J

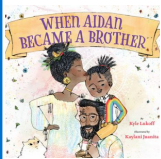
Julián is a Mermaid Jessica Love



In an exuberant picture book, a glimpse of costumed mermaids leaves one boy flooded with wonder and ready to dazzle the world.

J
LUKO, K

When Aidan Became a Brother Kyle Lukoff



Aidan, a transgender boy, experiences complicated emotions as he and his parents prepare for the arrival of a new baby.

P
MANU, F

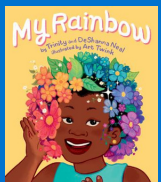
Plenty of Hugs Fran Manushkin



Illustrations and gently rhyming text follow two mothers and their toddler on a sunny day.

P
NEAL, T

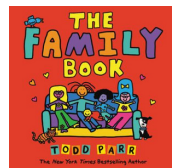
My Rainbow Trinity Neal & DeShanna Neal



A dedicated mom puts love into action as she creates the perfect rainbow-colored wig for her transgender daughter, based on the real-life experience of mother-daughter advocate duo Trinity and DeShanna Neal.

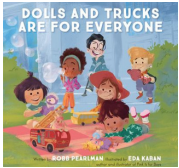
P
PARR, T

The Family Book Todd Parr



Represents a variety of families, some big and some small, some with only one parent and some with two moms or dads, some quiet and some noisy, but all alike in some ways and special no matter what.

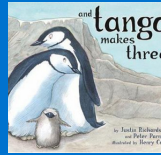
**P
PEAR, R**



Dolls and Trucks Are For Everyone
Robb Pearlman

From the author and illustrator team behind *Pink Is for Boys* comes an empowering read-aloud picture book that teaches kids and adults alike that gender cannot define who you are or want to become. Dolls and trucks are for boys and girls, as are dancing shoes, figure skating and hockey, and many more activities and hobbies.

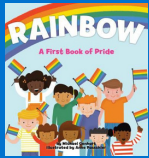
**P
RICH, J**



And Tango Makes Three
Justin Richardson

At New York City's Central Park Zoo, two male penguins fall in love and start a family by taking turns sitting on an abandoned egg until it hatches.

**PSC
COLOR
GENH, M**



Rainbow: a First Book of Pride
Michael Genhart

Children from different kinds of families demonstrate the original meanings of the colors in the rainbow flag, and then come together at a Pride parade.

**POR
BRAN, S**



Uncle Bobby's Wedding
Sarah S. Brannen

Chloe is jealous and sad when her favorite uncle announces that he will be getting married, but as she gets to know Jamie better and becomes involved in planning the wedding, she discovers that she will always be special to Uncle Bobby--and to Uncle Jamie, too.

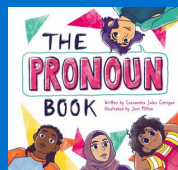
**J 305.3
THOR, T**



It Feels Good to Be Yourself: a Book About Gender Identity
Theresa Thorn

A picture book that introduces the concept of gender identity to the youngest reader. Some people are boys. Some people are girls. Some people are both, neither, or somewhere in between.

**J 425.55
CORR, C**



The Pronoun Book: She, He, They, and Me!
Cassandra Jules Corrigan

A fun and beautifully illustrated book that celebrates gender diversity through educating young children on pronouns. The book teaches pronoun etiquette, why it is so important, and how it relates to us. It covers they/them pronouns, trans and non-binary identities, and neo-pronouns with a dedicated section for adults.

MORE LGBTQ+ BOOKS:

Worm Loves Worm | P Austrain

Prince & Knight | P Haack

Red: A Crayon's Story | P Hall

Sparkle Boy | P Newman

This Day in June | P Pitman

Papa, Daddy, and Riley | P Kirst

Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope

| JB Patterson