

3rd Annual

LGBTQ+ Literature Read-In Week

Recommended Booklist

2020



OAKLAND
PUBLIC EDUCATION FUND



**OAKLAND
SCHOOL
VOLUNTEERS**



**OAKLAND UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Community Schools, Thriving Students

This is a small list of books that we feel will make volunteers successful when reading aloud to a group of students to celebrate gender diversity. Our list does not intend to represent everyone, and we welcome any feedback or additional titles you may care to share. We have worked with multiple community partners to compile our list.

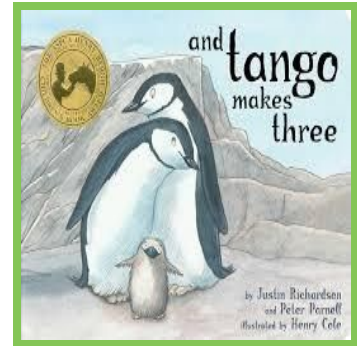
Featured Recommendations

1. *And Tango Makes Three*

Authors: Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell

Grade: PreK – K

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/qOkDAZelvk8>

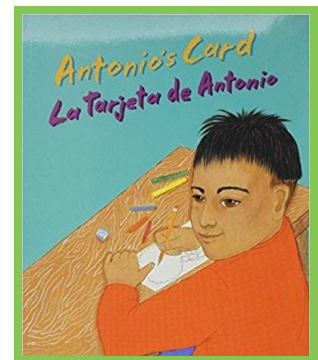


Description: The heartwarming true story of two penguins who create a nontraditional family is now available in a sturdy board book edition. At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. But their desire for a family was the same. And with the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own. In time for the tenth anniversary of *And Tango Makes Three*, this Classic Board Book edition is the perfect size for small hands.

2. *Antonio's Card* | *La tarjeta de Antonio*

Author: Rigoberto González

Grade: 2nd – 3rd Grade

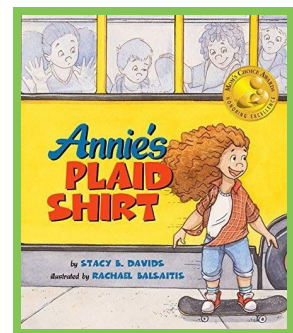


Description: Antonio loves words, because words have the power to express feelings like love, pride, or hurt. Mother's Day is coming soon, and Antonio searches for the words to express his love for his mother and her partner, Leslie. But he's not sure what to do when his classmates make fun of Leslie, an artist, who towers over everyone and wears paint-splattered overalls. As Mother's Day approaches, Antonio must choose whether or how to express his connection to both of the special women in his life. Rigoberto González's bilingual story about a nontraditional family resonates with all children who have been faced with speaking up for themselves or for the people they love.

3. *Annie's Plaid Shirt*

Author: Stacy B. Davids

Grade: PreK – 3



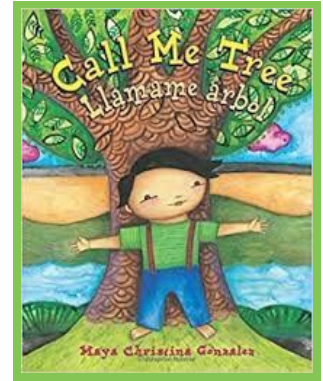
Description: Annie loves her plaid shirt and wears it everywhere. But one day her mom tells Annie that she must wear a dress to her uncle's wedding. Annie protests, but her mom insists and buys her a fancy new dress anyway. Annie is miserable. She feels weird in dresses. Why can't her mom understand?

4. *Call Me Tree*

Author: Maya Christina Gonzalez

Grade: PreK – 2nd

Description: In this spare, lyrically written story, we join a child on a journey of self-discovery. Finding a way to grow from the inside out, just like a tree, the child develops as an individual comfortable in the natural world and in relationships with others. The child begins Within. Soon the child discovers birds and the sky and other children! Each is different too. The child embraces them all because All trees have roots/ All trees belong. Young readers will be inspired to dream and reach, reach and dream . . . and to be as free and unique as trees.

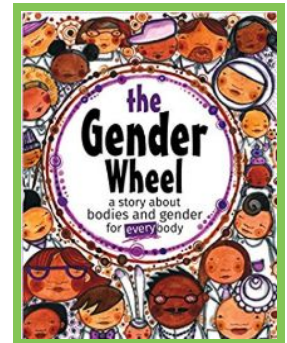


5. *The Gender Wheel: A Story about Bodies and Gender for Every Body*

Author: Maya Gonzalez

Grade: 2 – 5

Description: This body positive book is a powerful opportunity for a supportive adult and child to see a wide range of bodies, understand the origins of the current binary gender system, how we can learn from nature to see the truth that has always existed and revision a new story that includes room for all bodies and genders. The Gender Wheel offers a queer centric, holistic framework of radical gender inclusion in a kid-friendly way for the budding activists who will change our world. This is our world!



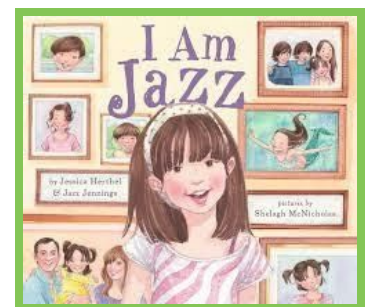
6. *I Am Jazz*

Author: Jessica Herthel & Jazz Jennings

Grade: PreK – 3

YouTube Link: https://youtu.be/Y0r9l3L_T8k

Description: From the time she was two years old, Jazz knew that she had a girl's brain in a boy's body. She loved pink and dressing up as a mermaid and didn't feel like herself in boys' clothing. This confused her family, until they took her to a doctor who said that Jazz was transgender and that she was born that way. Jazz's story is based on her real-life experience and she tells it in a simple, clear way that will be appreciated by picture book readers, their parents, and teachers.



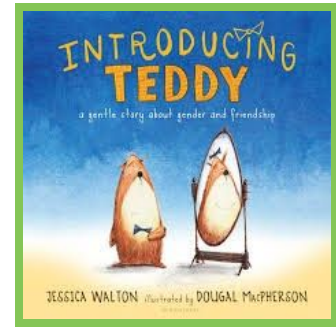
7. *Introducing Teddy*

Author: Jessica Walton

Grade: PreK – 1

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/r2jN5hdgi-4>

Description: This book introduces young readers to gender identity and transition in an accessible and heartwarming story about being true to yourself and being a good friend. Errol and his teddy, Thomas, are best friends who do everything together. One sunny day, Errol finds that Thomas is sad, even when they are playing in their favorite ways. Errol can't figure out why, until Thomas finally tells Errol what the teddy has been afraid to say: "In my heart, I've always known that I'm a girl teddy, not a boy teddy. I wish my name was Tilly, not Thomas." And Errol says, "I don't care if you're a girl teddy or a boy teddy! What matters is that you are my friend."

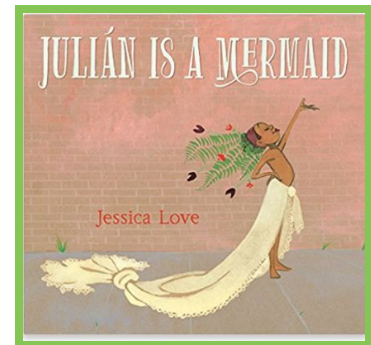


8. *Julián Is a Mermaid*

Author: Jessica Love

Grade: TK – 2

Description: While riding the subway home from the pool with his Abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up. When Julián gets home, daydreaming of the magic he's seen, all he can think about is dressing up just like the ladies in his own fabulous mermaid costume: a butter-yellow curtain for his tail, the fronds of a potted fern for his headdress. But what will Abuela think about the mess he makes — and even more importantly, what will she think about how Julián sees himself? Mesmerizing and full of heart, Jessica Love's author-illustrator debut is a jubilant picture of self-love and a radiant celebration of individuality.

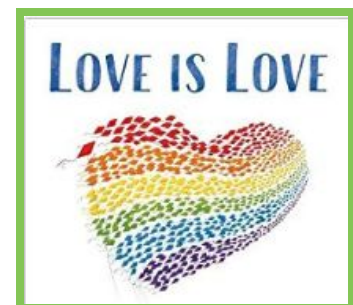


9. *Love is Love*

Author: Michael Genhart:

Grade: TK – 3

Description: Dr. Michael Genhart's debut story is the perfect resource to gently discuss discrimination with kids. This sweet and straightforward story shows that gay families and straight families and everything in between are all different kinds of normal. What makes a family real is the love that is shared.

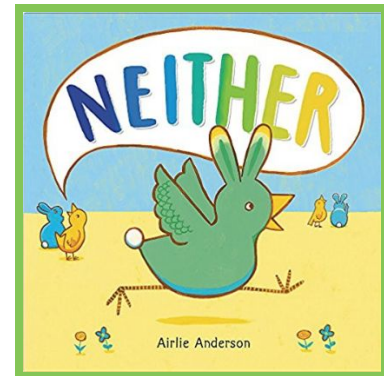


10. *Neither*

Author: Airlie Anderson

Grade: K – 2

Description: In the Land of This and That, there are only two kinds: blue bunnies and yellow birds. But one day a funny green egg hatches, and a little creature that's not quite a bird and not quite a bunny pops out. It's neither!



11. *One of a Kind, Like Me | Unico Como Yo*

Author: Laurin Mayeno

Grade: K – 3

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/eygh9GfyVvo>

Description: Tomorrow is the school parade, and Danny knows exactly what he will be: a princess. Mommy supports him 100%, and they race to the thrift store to find his costume. It's almost closing time will Danny find the costume of his dreams in time? One of A Kind, Like Me / Unico como yo is a sweet story about unconditional love and the beauty of individuality. It's a unique book that lifts up children who don't fit gender stereotypes, and reflects the power of a loving and supportive community.



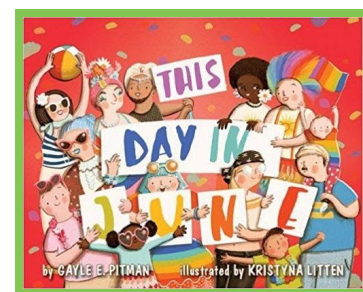
12. *This Day in June*

Author: Gayle E. Pitman

Grade: K – 3

YouTube Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= SLOo7EFrB>

Description: In a wildly whimsical, validating, and exuberant reflection of the LGBT community, *This Day In June* welcomes readers to experience a pride celebration and share in a day when we are all united.



ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Organized in alphabetical order by title.

TITLE	AUTHOR	GRADE LEVEL
"The Adventures of Honey and Leon"	Alan Cumming	TK - 2
"The Best Man"	Richard Peck	4 - 6
"The Boy & the Bindi"	Vivek Shraya	K - 2
"Donovan's Big Day"	Leslea Newman	TK - 2
"Families, Families, Families!"	Suzanne Lang	TK - 2
"From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea"	Kai Cheng Thom	TK - 3
"George"	Alex Gino	3 - 7
"The Great Big Book of Families"	Mary Hoffman and Ros Asquith	K - 3
"In Our Mothers' House"	Patricia Polacco	1 - 4
"Keesha's South African Adventure"	Cheril Clarke	1 - 4
"Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag"	Rob Sanders	K - 3
"You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P!"	Alex Gino	3 - 7