

Primary School Lists

Community Picks

Artistic Expressions of Transgender Youth 1 & 2 Tony Ferraiolo



There are plenty of books in existence about transgender youth.

There are a lot of good people, trying to give good information, and for the most part they are. But you might be asking yourself what makes this book different than the others. This book is different because you will be educated directly by transgender children and teens.

Not by a medical professional. Not by a life coach. Not even by me.

This book will illustrate how transgender children and teens feel and think about themselves, as told through their art. Each drawing is accompanied by a statement where each child describes what their art means to them.

Call Me Max Kyle Lukoff



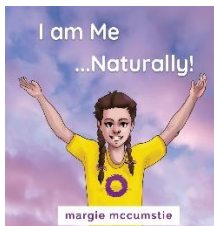
When Max starts school, the teacher hesitates to call out the name on the attendance sheet. Something doesn't seem to fit.

Max lets her know the name he wants to be called by--a boy's name.

This begins Max's journey as he makes new friends and reveals his feelings about his identity to his parents.

Written with warmth and sensitivity by trans writer Kyle Lukoff, this book is a sweet and age-appropriate introduction to what it means to be transgender.

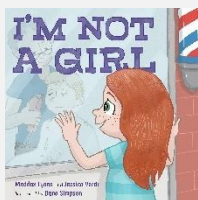
I am Me ...Naturally! Margie McCumstie



This story helps children understand that being intersex is natural and completely ok.

By exploring the natural world, the reader discovers that variations in sexual development are normal.

I'm Not A Girl: A Transgender Story Maddox Lyons



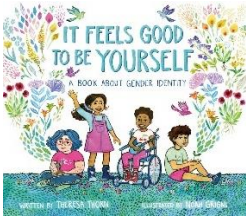
Based on a true transgender identity journey, the picture book *I'm Not a Girl* is an empowering story from writers Maddox Lyons and Jessica Verdi about a boy who is determined to be himself, illustrated by Dana Simpson.

Nobody seems to understand that Hannah is not a girl.

His parents ask why he won't wear the cute outfits they pick out. His friend thinks he must be a tomboy. His teacher insists he should be proud to be a girl.

But a birthday wish, a new word, and a stroke of courage might be just what Hannah needs to finally show the world who he really is.

It Feels Good To Be Yourself:
A Book About Gender Identity
Theresa Thorn

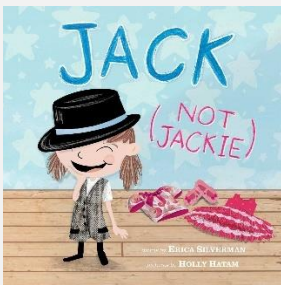


A picture book that introduces the concept of gender identity to the youngest reader from writer Theresa Thorn and illustrator Noah Grigni.

Some people are boys. Some people are girls. Some people are both, neither, or somewhere in between.

This sweet, straightforward exploration of gender identity will give children a fuller understanding of themselves and others. With child-friendly language and vibrant art, *It Feels Good to Be Yourself* provides young readers and parents alike with the vocabulary to discuss this important topic with sensitivity.

Jack (Not Jackie)
Erica Silverman



In this heartwarming picture book, a big sister realizes that her little sister, Jackie, doesn't like dresses or fairies-she likes ties and bugs!

Will she and her family be able to accept that Jackie identifies more as "Jack"?

Susan thinks her little sister Jackie has the best giggle! She can't wait for Jackie to get older so they can do all sorts of things like play forest fairies and be explorers together. But as Jackie grows, she doesn't want to play those games.

She wants to play with mud and be a super bug! Jackie also doesn't like dresses or her long hair, and she would rather be called Jack.

Readers will love this sweet story about change and acceptance. This book is published in partnership with GLAAD to accelerate LGBTQ inclusivity and acceptance.

Jacob's New Dress
Sarah Hoffman



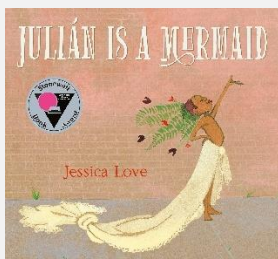
An affirming story about gender nonconformity.

Jacob loves playing dress-up, when he can be anything he wants to be.

Some kids at school say he can't wear "girl" clothes, but Jacob wants to wear a dress to school. Can he convince his parents to let him wear what he wants?

This heartwarming story speaks to the unique challenges faced by children who don't identify with traditional gender roles.

Julián Is a Mermaid
Jessica Love



While riding the subway home from the pool with his abuela one day, Julián notices three women spectacularly dressed up.

Their hair billows in brilliant hues, their dresses end in fishtails, and their joy fills the train car. 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.

Melissa
(previously titled 'George')
Alex Gino

MELISSA

REWRITTEN FROM THE BOOK BY GEORGE
ALEX GINO

When people look at Melissa, they think they see a boy named George. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl.

Melissa thinks she'll have to keep this a secret forever. Then her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web. Melissa really, really, REALLY wants to play Charlotte.

But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part... because she's a boy.

With the help of her best friend, Kelly, Melissa comes up with a plan. Not just so she can be Charlotte -- but so everyone can know who she is, once and for all.

One of a Kind, Like Me
(Único Como Yo)
Laurin Mayeno &
Robert Liu-Trujillo

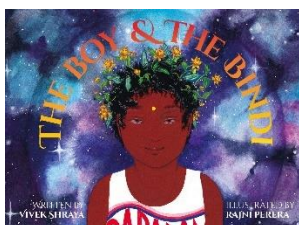


Tomorrow is the school parade, and Danny knows exactly what he will be: a princess. Mummy supports him 100%, and they race to the thrift store to find his costume.

It's almost closing time - will Danny find the costume of his dreams in time?

One of A Kind, Like Me / Único 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.

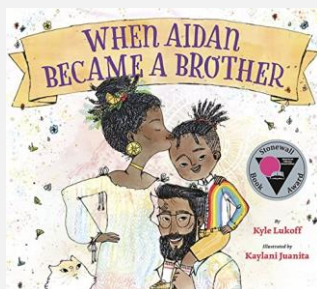
The Boy & the Bindi
Vivek Shraya



In this beautiful children's picture book by Vivek Shraya, author of the acclaimed *God Loves Hair*, a five-year-old South Asian boy becomes fascinated with his mother's bindi, the red dot commonly worn by Hindu women to indicate the point at which creation begins, and wishes to have one of his own. Rather than chastise her son, she agrees to it, and teaches him about its cultural significance, allowing the boy to discover the magic of the bindi, which in turn gives him permission to be more fully himself.

Beautifully illustrated by Rajni Perera, *The Boy & the Bindi* is a joyful celebration of gender and cultural difference.

When Aidan Became a Brother
Kyle Lukoff



When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl. His parents gave him a pretty name, his room looked like a girl's room, and he wore clothes that other girls liked wearing. After he realized he was a trans boy, Aidan and his parents fixed the parts of his life that didn't fit anymore, and he settled happily into his new life.

Then Mum and Dad announce that they're going to have another baby, and Aidan wants to do everything he can to make things right for his new sibling from the beginning –

From choosing the perfect name to creating a beautiful room to picking out the cutest onesie. But what does "making things right" actually mean?

And what happens if he messes up? With a little help, Aidan comes to understand that mistakes can be fixed with honesty and communication, and that he already knows the most important thing about being a big brother: how to love with his whole self.

School's Recommend

Non-Fiction

Megan Rapinoe
Maria Isabel Sánchez
Vegara
& Paulina Morgan



Discover the life of Megan Rapinoe, the world record-breaking footballer and activist. Chasing a ball in the school playground, Megan discovered her calling at a young age. Even if she didn't always fit in at school, she was a star on the field – and her teammates thought so too.

Her passion, skill and leadership took Team USA to Olympic Gold and a World Cup victory, while she continues to champion women's and LGBTQ+ rights and representation in sport.

Pride In: Change
Pride In: Sports
Pride In: STEM
Pride In: The Arts
Emilie Dufresne



Sometimes being who you are can be a hard thing to do.

Learn about people from across the LGBTQIA+ community who celebrate who they are and never stop fighting for what they believe in.

No matter who you are, inside or out, this book is here to teach you that you can be proud of who you are.

SHFPACT and Hares and Hyenas Recommend:

Fiction:

A Family is a Family is a Family Sara O'Leary



When a teacher asks her class to think about what makes their families special, the answers are all different, but the same in one important way ...

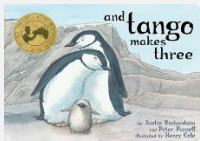
When a teacher asks the children in her class to think about what makes their families special, the answers are all different in many ways -- but the same in the one way that matters most of all.

One child is worried that her family is just too different to explain, but listens as her classmates talk about what makes their families special. One is raised by a grandmother, and another has two dads. One has many stepsiblings, and another has a new baby in the family.

As her classmates describe who they live with and who loves them -- family of every shape, size and every kind of relation -- the child realizes that as long as her family is full of caring people, it is special.

A warm and whimsical look at many types of families.

And Tango Makes Three Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell



The heart-warming true story of two penguins who create a non-traditional 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.

With the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own.

A Tale of Two Daddies Vanita Oelschlager



A Tale of Two Daddies is a playground conversation between two children. The boy says he heard that the girl has two dads. The girl says that is right--she has Daddy and Poppa.

True to a child's curiosity, practical questions follow: "Which dad helps when your team needs a coach? / Which dad cooks you eggs and toast?" To which she answers: "Daddy is my soccer coach. / Poppa cooks me eggs and toast."

This picture book is intended for 4- to 8-year olds, and introduces a type of family increasingly visible in modern society and reflects a child's practical and innocent look at the adults who nurture and love her. It becomes clear that the family's loving bond is unburdened by any cultural discomforts

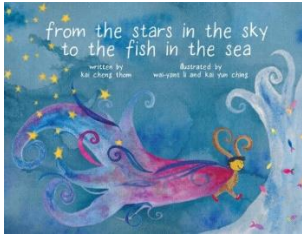
Be Who You Are Jennifer Carr



Nick was born in a boy's body but has always felt like a girl inside. Nick's family supports him when he says he no longer wants to be called a boy or dress like a boy; Nick's parents find a group for families like theirs.

With their support, Nick expresses a desire to be addressed as "she," and then to be named "Hope." Based on the author's experiences with her children.

*From the Stars in the Sky to
the Fish in the Sea*
Kai Cheng Thom



In the magical time between night and day, when both the sun and the moon are in the sky, a child is born in a little blue house on a hill. Miu Lan is not just any child, but one who can change into any shape they can imagine.

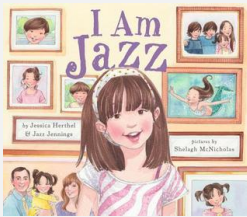
The only problem is they can't decide what to be: A boy or a girl? A bird or a fish? A flower or a shooting star? At school, though, they must endure inquisitive looks and difficult questions from the other children, and they have trouble finding friends who will accept them for who they are.

But they find comfort in the loving arms of their mother, who always offers them the same loving refrain: "Whatever you dream of / I believe you can be / From the stars in the sky to the fish in the sea."

In this captivating, beautifully imagined picture book about gender, identity, and the acceptance of the differences between us, Miu Lan faces many questions about who they are and who they may be.

But one thing's for sure: no matter what this child becomes, their mother will love them just the same.

I am Jazz
Jessica Herthel
& Jazz Jennings

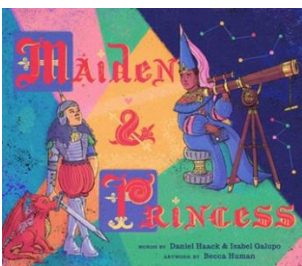


From the time she was two years old, Jazz knew that she had a girl's brain in a boy's body. She loved pink and dressing up as a mermaid and didn't feel like herself in boys' clothing.

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.

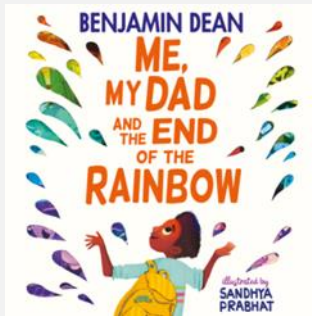
Maiden & Princess
Daniel Haack &
Isabel Galupo



Once in a faraway kingdom, a strong, brave maiden is invited to attend the prince's royal ball, but she's not as excited to go as everyone else.

After her mother convinces her to make an appearance, she makes a huge impression on everyone present, from the villagers to the king and queen, but she ends up finding true love in a most surprising place.

Me, My Dad and the End of the Rainbow
Benjamin Dean



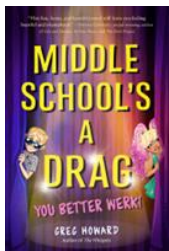
Archie Albright's parents are splitting up. So far, unhappily normal - but Archie senses his parents are hiding something from him.

His mother seems angry but also sad, and yet his parents still seem to care for each other. It's only when he overhears them arguing that he learns the truth – his dad is gay.

Benjamin Dean crafts some brilliant comedy scenes in this sweet, heart-warming story about Archie's determination to go to Pride in London to support his Dad. He is also great at conveying the rabbit-in-the-headlights psychological response of a pre-teen boy who cares about his family but doesn't know how to express his emotions. Refreshingly, homophobia doesn't form the focus of this book, and all the main characters accept Archie's dad's sexuality without question.

This is a kind book which frames the topic of a parent coming out with a gentle story about decent people dealing as best they can with seismic changes to their lives, and one which will be warmly welcomed by readers waiting to read about a story that mirrors their own.

Middle School's a Drag, You Better Werk!
Greg Howard

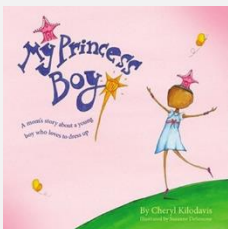


Twelve-year-old Mikey Pruitt-president, founder, and CEO of Anything, Inc.- has always been an entrepreneur at heart. Inspired by his grandfather Pap Pruitt, who successfully ran all sorts of businesses from a car wash to a roadside peanut stand, Mikey is still looking for his million-dollar idea. Unfortunately, most of his ideas so far have failed.

It isn't until kid drag queen Coco Caliente, Mistress of Madness and Mayhem (aka eighth grader Julian Vasquez) walks into his office (aka his family's storage/laundry room) looking for an agent that Mikey thinks he's finally found his million-dollar idea, and the Anything Talent and Pizzazz Agency is born!

Soon, Mikey has a whole roster of kid clients looking to hit it big or at least win the middle school talent show's hundred-dollar prize. As newly out Mikey prepares Julian for the gig of a lifetime, he realizes there's no rulebook for being gay--and if Julian can be openly gay at school, maybe Mikey can, too, and tell his crush, dreamy Colton Sanford, how he feels.

My Princess Boy
Cheryl Kilodavis



Dyson loves the colour pink and sparkly things.

Sometimes he wears dresses, and sometimes he wears jeans. He likes to wear his princess tiara, even when climbing trees.

He's a Princess Boy, and his family loves him exactly the way he is.

This is a story about love and acceptance. It is also a call for tolerance and an end to bullying and judgments. The world is a brighter place when we accept everyone for who they are.

My Shadow is Purple
& *My Shadow is Pink*
Scott Stuart

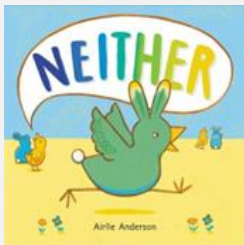


Beautifully written rhyming stories that touch on the subjects of gender identity, self acceptance, equality and diversity.

Inspired by the author's own little boy, 'Shadow's' main character likes princesses, fairies and things 'not for boys'...he soon learns (through the support of his dad) that everyone has a shadow that they sometimes feel they need to hide.

Important books for a new generation of children (and adults alike), exemplifying the concepts of unconditional love, respect and positive parenting.

Neither
Airlie Anderson



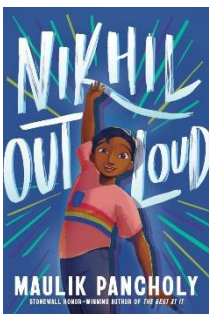
In this colorful and touching board book that celebrates what makes each of us unique, a little creature that's not quite a bird and not quite a bunny—it's "neither"—searches for a place to fit in.

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!

Neither tries hard to fit in, but its bird legs aren't good for jumping like the other bunnies, and its fluffy tail isn't good for flapping like the other birds. It sets out to find a new home and discovers a very different place, one with endless colors and shapes and creatures of all kinds. But when a blue bunny and a yellow bird with some hidden differences of their own arrive, it's up to Neither to decide if they are welcome in the Land of All.

This thoughtful story promotes diversity and offers a valuable lesson to the youngest of audiences: it is our differences that unite us.

Nikhil Out Loud
Maulik Pancholy



Thirteen-year-old Nikhil Shah is the beloved voice actor for Raj Reddy on the hit animated series *Raj Reddy in Outer Space*.

But being a star on TV doesn't mean you have everything figured out behind the scenes...

When his mom temporarily moves them to the small town in Ohio where she grew up to take care of Nikhil's sick grandfather, Nikhil feels as out of orbit as his character.

Nikhil's fame lands him the lead in the school musical, but he's terrified that everyone will realize he's a fraud once they find out he has stage fright.

And when a group of conservative parents start to protest, making it clear they're not happy with an openly gay TV star being in the starring role, Nikhil feels like his life would be easier if only he could be Raj Reddy full-time.

Then Nikhil wakes up one morning and hears a crack in his voice, which means his job playing Raj will have to come to an end. Life on earth is way more complicated than life on television. And some mysteries—like new friendships or a sick grandparent or finding the courage to speak out about what's right—don't wrap up neatly between commercial breaks.

Prince & Knight
Daniel Haack



Once upon a time, in a kingdom far from here, there was a prince in line to take the throne, so his parents set out to find him a kind and worthy bride.

The three of them travelled the land far and wide, but the prince didn't quite find what he was looking for in the princesses they met.

In this modern fairy tale, a noble prince and a brave knight come together to defeat a terrible monster and in the process find true love in a most unexpected place.

Sybilla Dankworth and Her Unusual Uncles (Series)
Andrew McNamara



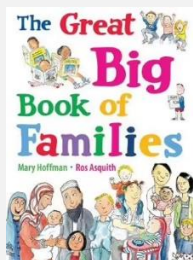
International criminals are attempting to gain control of the world's weather.

A twelve year-old girl named Sybilla Dankworth is determined to stop them. Sybilla's parents died in strange circumstances when she was one year old.

Since then, she's been brought up by two uncles: her father's brother George, who's a transgender man, and her mother's brother Martin, who's a fussy, gay languages teacher.

Sometimes, Sybilla is bullied at school because of her rainbow family. Sybilla and her uncles travel to remote Queensland, intending to quietly gather information, but instead encountering theft and murder. When her uncles are held at gunpoint, Sybilla knows she must take action to save them.

The Great Big Book of Families
Mary Hoffman



What is a family? Once, it was said to be a father, mother, boy, girl, cat, and dog living in a house with a garden. But as times have changed, families have changed too, and now there are almost as many kinds of families as colours of the rainbow - from a mum and dad or single parent to two mums or two dads, from a mixed-race family to children with different mums and dads, to families with a disabled member.

Mary Hoffman takes a look through children's eyes at the wide varieties of family life: from homes, food, ways of celebrating, schools and holidays to getting around, jobs and housework, from extended families, languages and hobbies to pets and family trees - and she concludes that, for most people, their own family is the best one of all!

A fresh, optimistic look at families of today.

The Cardboard Kingdom Series
Chad Sell



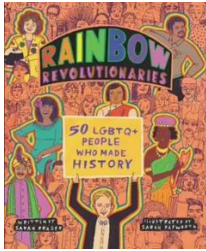
Welcome to a neighbourhood of kids who transform ordinary boxes into colourful costumes, and their ordinary block into cardboard kingdom.

This is the summer when sixteen kids encounter knights and rogues, robots and monsters—and their own inner demons—on one last quest before school starts again.

In the Cardboard Kingdom, you can be anything you want to be—imagine that!

Non-Fiction:

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

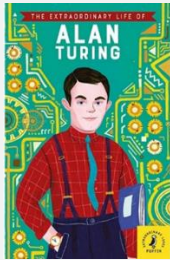


This ground-breaking, pop-culture-infused illustrated biography collection takes readers on an eye-opening journey through the lives of fifty influential queer figures who have made a mark on every century of human existence.

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

This book is a celebration of the many ways these heroes have made a difference and will inspire young readers to make a difference, too.

The Extraordinary Life of Alan Turing
Michael Lee Richardson



The man whose maths saved millions of lives.

Alan Turing was a mathematician, scientist and codebreaker who helped defeat the Nazis in the Second World War with his incredible decoding of secret messages from enemy soldiers.

Discover his life story in this beautifully illustrated book, from his childhood as a quiet boy who loved maths, to becoming one of the most important scientists and codebreakers in history.

Often considered the father of modern computer science, Alan Turing is famous for his work developing the first modern computers

The Extraordinary Life of Freddie Mercury
Michael Lee Richardson



Farrokh Bulsara was a little boy growing up in Zanzibar, who was shy and gentle and kind, and sometimes teased for his unusual teeth.

Farrokh would grow up to become the superstar musician Freddie Mercury, who could hold crowds in the palm of his hand and stun audiences with his musical talent (and who would one day say that those very same teeth are what gave him his distinctive voice and four-octave range).

This is the story of a man who sang his way to the top, a man whose extraordinary influence on the world is still felt to this day.

My Life, Your Life:
Understanding Transgender
&
Understanding Sexuality: What it Means to be Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual
Honor Head



A sensitive book that explores the issue of people who feel they do belong to the gender they were born with. It looks at what this means for the person and their family, issues around school policy, bullying and discrimination and explores the journey of transitioning

This book looks at the issues around sexuality - what it means, being lesbian, gay or bisexual, coming out, homophobia and accepting yourself and being happy in your own skin. It includes talking and debating points and is perfect for someone starting to question their sexuality or for PSHE lessons.

Part of the series MY LIFE, YOUR LIFE, which takes a sensitive and positive look at some of the issues that concern children aged 10+.