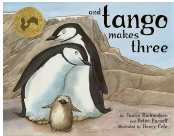


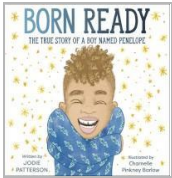
# Creating LGBTQ+ Inclusive Schools Booklist for Elementary



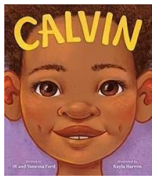
**Almost Flying.** Jake Maia Arlow. (5 – 8) A week-long amusement park road trip with her stepsister becomes a true roller coaster of emotion when Dalia realizes she has more-than-friend feelings for her new bestie.



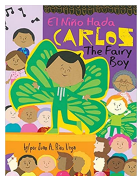
**And Tango Makes Three.** Justin Richardson. (Pre-K – 2) The story of two famous dads — penguins Roy and Silo from New York's Central Park Zoo. The two take turns sitting on an egg until it hatches, and Tango is born. **Spanish Edition: Tres con tango** [Lesson Plan](#)



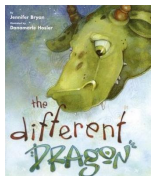
**Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope.** Jodie Patterson. (Pre-K – 3) Penelope knows that he's a boy. (And a ninja.) The problem is getting everyone else to realize it. Through frustrations and triumphs, Penelope's experiences show children that it always makes you stronger when you are true to yourself and who you really are. [Lesson Plan](#)



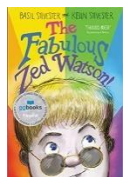
**Calvin.** JR Ford and Vanessa Ford. (Pre-K – 2) Calvin has always been a boy, even if the world sees him as a girl, but he hasn't yet told his family. As the first day of school approaches, he's nervous and the "what-ifs" gather up inside him, but his family, friends and teachers rally around him. [Lesson Plan](#)



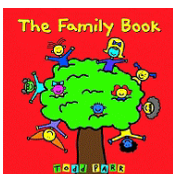
**Carlos, The Fairy Boy/Carlos, El Niño Hada (Bilingual).** Juan A Ríos Vega. (Pre-K – 3) Carlos is thrilled to travel to Panama's countryside with his parents. He is most excited about the Carnival stories his parents tell him. But when Carlos wants to join his cousins as fairies on the queen's float he finds out that boys are not allowed. Thankfully, he has a brilliant abuela with a bright idea!



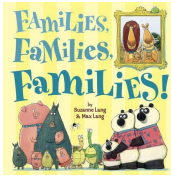
**The Different Dragon.** Jennifer Bryan. (Pre-K – 1) Shows how the wonderful curiosity and care of a little boy, with some help from his two moms, can lead to magical places with a dragon who is tired of being tough.



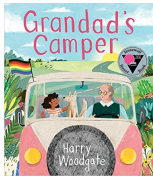
**The Fabulous Zed Watson!** Basil Sylvester. (3 – 7) The literary scavenger hunt of a lifetime, starring an endlessly endearing non-binary tween. Zed Watson loves a few things: their name (which they chose themselves!), their big rambunctious family and—oh yeah—monsters.



**The Family Book.** Todd Parr. (Pre-K – 2) All kinds of families are celebrated in a funny, silly and reassuring way. Includes adoptive families, stepfamilies, single-parent families, two-mom and two-dad families and families with a mom and a dad. **Spanish Edition: El libro de familia** [Lesson Plan](#)



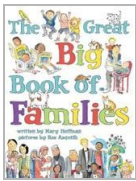
**Families, Families, Families!** Suzanne and Max Lang. (Pre-K – K) A host of silly animals represent all kinds of families. Depicted as portraits, framed and hung, these goofy creatures offer a warm celebration of family love.



**Grandad's Camper.** Harry Woodgate. (Pre-K – 2) Gramps and Grandad were adventurers. They would surf, climb mountains and tour the country in their amazing camper. Gramps just made everything extra special. But after Gramps dies, Granddad doesn't feel like traveling anymore. So, their amazing granddaughter comes up with a clever plan to fix up the old camper and get Grandad excited to explore again.



**Goldie Vance: The Hotel Whodunit.** Lilliam Rivera. (4 – 7) Move over, Nancy Drew—there's a new sleuth in town! Inspired by the beloved comic series, Goldie Vance is ready to sleuth her way through never-before-seen mysteries. Goldie, a biracial and LGBTQ 16-year-old lives and works at the Crossed Palms Resort Hotel with a whole slew of characters. Also see *Goldie Vance: The Hocus-Pocus Hoax*.



**The Great Big Book of Families.** Mary Hoffman. (Pre-K – 2) Features all kinds of families and their lives together. Each two-page spread showcases one aspect of home life—from houses and holidays, to schools and pets, to feelings and family trees.

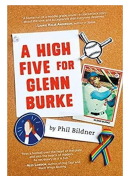
**Spanish Edition: El gran libro de las familias** [Lesson Plan](#)



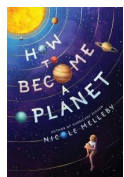
**Hazel Bly and the Deep Blue Sea.** Ashley Herring Blake. (4 – 7) After Hazel's Mum dies, her other mother, Mama, and her little sister, Peach, need a fresh start. They finally move to Maine where Hazel becomes obsessed with a local mermaid myth and magic that helps her emerge from grief stronger than before.



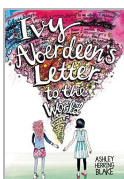
**Heather Has Two Mommies.** Lesléa Newman. (Pre-K – K) 25th Anniversary Edition. Heather's favorite number is two – two arms, two legs and two pets. And she also has two mommies. As school begins, Heather sees that, "the most important thing about a family is that all the people in it love one another."



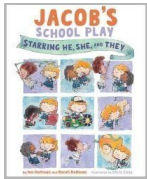
**A High Five for Glenn Burke.** Phil Bildner. (5 – 7) This book weaves the real history of Los Angeles Dodger and Oakland Athletic Glenn Burke--the first professional baseball player to come out as gay--into the story of a middle-school kid learning to be true to himself, even when not everyone feels you belong on the field.



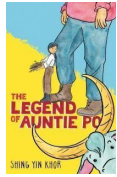
**How to Become a Planet.** Nicole Melleby. (5 – 7) Pluto has just been diagnosed with depression, and she feels like a black hole is sitting on her chest. It takes a new therapist, new tutor and new (cute) friend with a plan of her own for Pluto to see that there is no old or new her. There's just Pluto, discovering more about herself every day.



**Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World.** Ashley Herring Blake. (5 – 7) In the wake of a destructive tornado, one girl develops feelings for another in this stunning, tender novel about emerging identity.



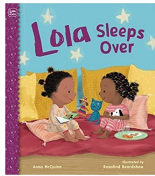
**Jacob's School Play: Starring He, She, and They.** Sarah and Ian Hoffman. (Pre-K – 1) While learning their lines and making their costumes for the school play, Jacob's class finds itself unexpectedly struggling with identity, and what it means to be "he," "she," or "they" as it introduces young readers to non-binary people and the pronoun options available to us all. Also see *Jacob's New Dress* and *Jacob's Room to Choose*.



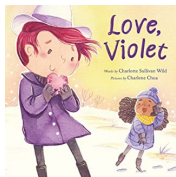
**The Legend of Auntie Po.** Shing Yin Khor. (5 – 8) Aware of the racial tumult in the years after the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act, 13-year-old Mei tries to remain focused on her job, her growing romantic feelings for the camp foreman's daughter, and telling stories about Paul Bunyan—reinvented as Auntie Po, an elderly Chinese matriarch.



**The Legend of Korra: Turf Wars Trilogy.** Michael Dante DiMartino. (3 – 5) Relishing their newfound feelings for each other, Korra and Asami leave the Spirit World...finding nothing in Republic City but political hijinks and human vs. spirit conflict! Graphic novel.



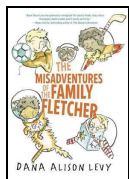
**Lola Sleeps Over.** Anna McQuinn. (Pre-K – K) Lola has been to her cousin Hani's house many times, but she's never spent the night until now. The two girls play, build, dress up and have dinner with Hani's two moms before settling in for the night. It was the best sleepover ever.



**Love, Violet.** Charlotte Sullivan Wild. (Pre-K – 1) There's only one person in Violet's class she wants to go on adventures with: Mira, the girl with the cheeriest laugh who races like the wind. So, Violet has made Mira a very special Valentine because Mira is magnificent.



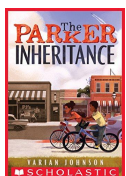
**Maiden Voyage.** Jaimee Poipoi, Adam Reynolds & Chaz Harris. (Pre-K – 1) When a fisherman's daughter inherits a map and joins the crew of a courageous female captain, a bond between them soon forms into love. Pursuing them on the high seas adventure is a fierce band of pirates, bewitched by a wicked Queen.



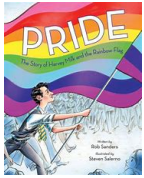
**The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher.** Dana Alison Levy. (3 – 5) From new schools to old friends, from imaginary cheetahs to very real skunks, the Fletchers' school year is anything but boring – four boys, two dads and one new neighbor who just might ruin everything.



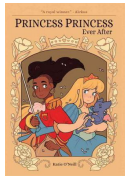
**The Other Half of Happy.** Rebecca Balcárcel. (5 – 9) One-half Guatemalan, one-half American. One-half crush, one-half buddy. Quijana found a buddy in Jayden, but she can't help the growing feelings she has for him while he has growing feelings for Seth. Quijana must figure out which parts of her identities are most important and how they fit together.



**The Parker Inheritance.** Varian Johnson. (3 – 6) Candice discovers a mysterious old letter about an injustice from decades ago. With the help of Brandon, she begins to decipher the clues to a story that leads them deep into their South Carolina town's history—a history full of ugly deeds and forgotten heroes. Good historical detail and LGBTQ+ characters included.



**Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag.** Ron Sanders. (3 – 5) In this deeply moving and empowering true story, young readers will trace the life of the Gay Pride Flag, from its beginnings in 1978 with social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker to its spanning of the globe and its role in today's world. [Lesson Plan](#)



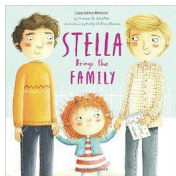
**Princess Princess Ever After.** Katie O'Neill. (1 – 5) When the heroic princess Amira rescues the kind-hearted princess Sadie from her tower prison, neither expects to find a true friend in the bargain. They join forces to defeat a jealous sorceress while realizing their happily ever after is with each other. Graphic novel.



**Sapphire the Great and the Meaning of Life.** Beverley Brenna. (3 – 5) Narrated by nine-year-old Jeannie and her hamster, Sapphire, in alternating chapters, the book explores themes of family and self-identity as Jeannie's family is changing in ways she doesn't quite understand. It includes a transgender neighbor and a father coming out as gay.



**Snapdragon.** Kat Leyh. (4 – 6) Snap's town had a witch. At least, that's how the rumor goes. But Snap thinks Jacks is kind of cool. As Snap starts to get to know her, she realizes that Jacks may in fact have real magic—and a connection with Snap's family's past. Snap is bold, independent and deals with bullies. She finds friendship with Lulu, a transgender youth who lives in the same trailer park and shares a love of scary movies.



**Stella Brings the Family.** Miriam B. Schiffer. (Pre-K – 2) Stella's class is having a Mother's Day celebration, but what's a girl with two daddies to do? Fortunately, Stella finds a unique solution to her party problem in this sweet story about love, acceptance and the true meaning of family.

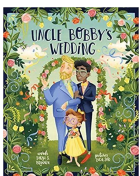
[Lesson Plan](#)



**Too Bright to See.** Kyle Lukoff. (4 – 7) Moira has decided she and Bug need to prepare for middle school – figuring out the right clothes and makeup and deciding which boys are cute. But none of this appeals to Bug. There's something more important to worry about: A ghost is haunting Bug's old house...and maybe haunting Bug in particular. As Bug begins to untangle the mystery of the ghost an altogether different truth comes to light--Bug is transgender.



**The Unbelievable Oliver and the Sawed-in-Half Dads.** Pseudonymous Bosch. (2 – 4) Teenie and Bea's fathers are finally getting married, and Oliver is supposed to entertain at the rehearsal brunch. He has chosen the classic sawed-in-half trick, which will be especially amusing when he calls up the grooms as volunteers. What could go wrong?



**Uncle Bobby's Wedding (Updated 2020 edition).** Sarah S. Brannen. (Pre-K – 1) Chloe's favorite uncle is getting married, and she's not happy about it. But after a magical day with Uncle Bobby and his boyfriend, Jamie, Chloe realizes she's not losing an uncle, but gaining one.



**When We Love Someone We Sing to Them/Cuando Amamos Cantamos (Bilingual).** Ernesto Javier Martínez. (2 – 5) *When We Love Someone We Sing to Them* reframes a treasured cultural tradition to include LGBTQ experience. In this book, we learn about the Mexican tradition of singing to family and loved ones through one boy who naturally assumes the tradition includes him and his experience.