Diverse LGBTQ Inclusive Picture Books

Books Featuring All Kinds of Families Inclusive of LGBTQ Families

**All Are Welcome.** Alexandra Penfold. (Pre-K – 1) Follow a diverse group of children from all kinds of families through a day at school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms. It lets young children know that no matter what, they have a place, they have a space, they are welcome in their school.

**Blanket of Love.** Alyssa Satin Capucilli. (Baby – Toddler) Features diverse families, including ones with two mom and two dads, in a simple exploration of the many kinds of comforting blankets in the world.

**Families.** Shelley Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly. (Pre-K – K) Big or small, similar or different, there are all kinds of families featured in the many photos. This inclusive look can help children see beyond their experiences and begin to understand others.

**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.

**The Family Book.** Todd Parr. (Pre-K – K) 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.

**Family Is a Family Is a Family.** Sara O’Leary. (Pre-K – K) 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.
Family Is A Superpower (DC Super Heroes). Michael Dahl. (Pre-K – 1)

Batman, Superman, and Wonder Woman have many extraordinary abilities, but their greatest superpower of all? Family! In this new addition, the diverse family structures of the World’s Greatest Heroes mirror the lives of real-life children and their equally diverse families.

The Great Big Book of Families. Mary Hoffman. (Pre-K – 3)

Features all kinds of families with 2-page spreads showcasing one aspect of home life - from houses and holidays, to schools and pets, to feelings and family trees.

Littles: And How They Grow. Kelly DiPucchio. (Baby – Toddler)

A love song to babies and how quickly they grow up. Heart-tugging rhyme meets the gorgeous, dimple-cheeked, multicultural babies.

Love Makes a Family. Sophie Beer. (Toddler – Pre-K)

Love is baking a special cake. Love is lending a helping hand. Love is reading one more book. Whether a child has two moms, two dads, one parent, or one of each, this book shows that what’s most important in each family’s life is the love the family members share.

Love Me Tender. Elvis Presley and Stephanie Graegin. (Baby – Toddler)

Adapted from the classic song. A heartwarming ode to the special bond between children and the adults who love and care for them – be they parents, grandparents, adoptive parents, aunts, uncles, or guardians.

One Family. George Shannon. (Pre-K – 2)

While the text looks at numbers and the concept of “one” – one batch of cookies, one family, one world – the images portray a diverse range of people and families – multigenerational, interracial, gay.

Over the River and Through the Woods. Linda Ashman. (Pre-K – 1)

The classic song gets a fresh new twist! The fun begins when Grandma and Grandpa send invitations to their far-flung, modern, and multiracial family
Welcoming Babies. Margy Burns Knight. (Toddler – K) Shows the diverse ways we treasure new life around the world—different countries, different religions and different families.

Who's in My Family? All About Our Families. Robie B. Harris. (Pre-K – K) Join Nellie and Gus and their family—plus all manner of other families—for a day at the zoo, where they see animal families galore!

Diverse Picture Books Featuring LGBTQ Family and Who You Love

The Adventures of Honey and Leon. Alan Cumming and Grant Shaffer. (Pre-K – 1) The two rescue dogs shadow their dads on a trip across the sea, keeping them out of danger at every turn! How did their dads survive without Honey and Leon’s protection for this long?

And Tango Makes Three. Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell. (Pre-K – 2) Penguins Roy and Silo at New York’s Central Park Zoo, keep putting a rock in their nest and try to hatch it. The zookeeper gives them a real egg that needs care. The penguins take turns sitting on it until it hatches, and Tango is born.

The Answer. Rebecca Sugar. (2 – 6) Set in the “Steven Universe”, an animated series on Cartoon Network. It explores the meaning of love as Ruby and Sapphire look to build a new life on a strange planet called Earth. One of many books set in the Steven Universe. Includes non-binary characters and an intersex character.

Antonio's Card / La Tarjeta de Antonio. Rigoberto Gonzales. (K – 2) As Mother’s Day approaches, Antonio must choose whether—or how—to express his connection and love for his mother and her partner, Leslie.

Baby's First Words and Mis primeras palabras. Christiane Engel. (Baby – Toddler) Featuring a family with two dads. Includes over 100 words designed to support the way babies naturally learn language — and to start conversations! Plus, search for the silly woolly mammoth on every page!
**The Bravest Knight Who Ever Lived.** Daniel Errico, (Pre-K – 1) Follow Cedric on his journey from a humble pumpkin farmer to a full-fledged knight. In the end, will he follow his heart, and prove that sometimes the bravest thing you can do is choose for yourself how your fairy tale ends? Made into a TV series on Hulu.

**Christian, the Hugging Lion.** Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell. (Pre-K – 1) When John and Ace found a lion cub for sale, they knew that a store was no place for a lion. They took him home and raised him. But when Christian got too big, they knew that it was time to let him go back to Africa. Based on a true story.

**The Christmas Truck.** J.B. Blankenship. (Pre-K – 1) When celebrating a special Christmas tradition of helping other children things go awry. Papa, Dad, their amazing kid, and one fabulous grandmother work together and implement a plan to save Christmas for a child they have never met.

**A Crow of His Own.** Megan Dowd Lambert. (Pre-K – K) Clyde is the new rooster at Farmer Jay and Farmer Kevin’s Sunrise Farm. But he’s having trouble fitting in and replacing Larry—the beloved rooster. In the end, Clyde realizes that imitating Larry is not the way to succeed.

**Cuando Amamos Cantamos/When We Love Someone We Sing to Them.** Ernesto Javier Martinez. (K – 2) Follow the story of a young boy who asks his father if there is a song for a boy who loves a boy. 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. Bilingual.

**Daddy, Papa and Me.** Lesléa Newman. (Baby – Toddler) Rhythmic text and illustrations show a toddler spending the day with their daddies. Also see **Mommy, Mama and Me.**

**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.
Donovan's Big Day. Lesléa Newman. (Pre-K – 2) Captures the excitement of a young boy as he and his extended family prepare for the boy’s two moms’ wedding. A picture book about love, family, and marriage.

The Flower Girl Wore Celery. Meryl G. Gordon. (Pre-K – 1) Emma can't wait to be the flower girl. She'll wear a celery dress and walk down the aisle with the ring bear and happy bride and groom. Or at least, that’s what Emma assumes. But nothing turns out to be quite what she’s expecting.

Flying Free. Jennifer C. Gregg. (Pre-K – 1) Violet captures a firefly and plans to use it as a nightlight. Her mommies, Mommy Blue and Mama Red, go along with the idea, but the firefly refuses to live in a glass jar. After several attempts, the firefly devises the ultimate escape plan.

The Gay Rights Movement (Movements That Matter). Eric Braun. (3 – 5) What has changed throughout the history of the gay rights movement? Learn about the key people and events that have paved the way for the modern gay rights movement.

Ghost's Journey: A Refugee Story. Robin Stevenson. K-3 When Indonesia becomes a dangerous place for the LGBTQ+ community, Ghost and her family are forced to leave their home and escape to freedom in Canada. Ghost’s Journey is inspired by the true story of two gay refugees, Rainer and Eka, and their cat Ghost.

Grace for Gus. Harry Bliss. (K – 4) Grace knows that Gus, the class guinea pig, is lonely. So, after a quick dinner with her two dads, she sets off to help out her furry friend by playing music for donations around the city. Graphic novel with few words by a cover artist for the New Yorker magazine.

Harini and Padmini Say Namaste. Amy Maranville. (Pre-K – K) Padmini’s two moms bring her to her first yoga class where she finds her friend Harini. After a brief introduction to yoga and spirituality by the teacher, Padmini tries a series of basic yoga poses with help from Harini. Fun illustrations.
**Harriet Gets Carried Away.** Jessie Sima. (Toddler – K) Harriet, an African American girl, with two dads loves costumes and can get a little carried away! A fun story about remembering where you belong, no matter how far you roam, or what you’re wearing when you get there.

**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."

**Home at Last.** Vera B. Williams and Chris Raschka. (1 – 3) After Lester is adopted by Daddy Albert and Daddy Rich, he develops a big problem—he can't fall asleep. It's the sweet dog, Wincka, who finally solves the problem and helps Lester feel home at last.

**In Our Mothers’ House.** Patricia Polacco. (K – 2) Marmee, Meema, and their kids cook, laugh, and dance together in their home. But some families don’t accept them, saying they are different. Yet Marmee and Meema’s house is full of love. And they teach their children that different doesn’t mean wrong.

**Jerome By Heart.** Thomas Scotto. (Pre-K – 1) Raphael’s daily rhythm is steeped in his immense affection for his friend Jerome. The two young boys share jokes and snacks and plan future adventures. When he’s with Jerome, Raphael feels happy, liked, and understood.

**Keesha & Her Two Moms Go Swimming.** Monica Bey-Clarke and Cheril Clarke. (Pre-K – 1) Follows Keesha and her two moms for a day of swimming at the pool where she meets up with her best friend, Trevor and his two dads.

**Keesha’s South African Adventure.** Cheril N Clarke and Monica Bey-Clarke. (Pre-K – 1) After learning about South Africa in school, the inquisitive and lighthearted Keesha dreams of going to see it for herself. She gets the surprise of a lifetime when her two moms decide to take her there.
Keith Haring: The Boy Who Just Kept Drawing. Kay Haring. (1 – 5) Explores the life and art of Keith Haring, from his childhood through his meteoric rise to fame as told by his sister. Through his artwork he was able to reach a wide audience and spread awareness of AIDS.

King and King. Linda de Haan. (Pre-K – 1) The queen made up her mind that it was time for the prince to marry and become king before the end of the summer. Many princesses came to visit but no one was quite right— until another sweet prince came along.

Last Week Tonight with John Oliver Presents a Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo. Jill Twiss and Marlon Bundo. (K – 2) Marlon Bundo is a Very Special boy bunny who falls in love with another boy bunny. He was lonely living with his Grampa, Mike Pence - the Vice President. But on this Very Special Day, Marlon’s life is about to change forever.

Little Pig Saves the Ship. David Hyde Costello. (Pre-K – 1) Little Pig is too little to go to summer camp with his older brothers and sisters. He is left behind with Grandpa and Poppy.

Maiden & Princess. Daniel Haack. (Pre-K – 1) Once in a faraway kingdom, a strong, brave maiden is invited to attend the prince’s royal ball. 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.

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.

Mommy, Mama and Me. Lesléa Newman. (Baby – Toddler) Rhythmic text and illustrations show a toddler spending the day with their mommies. Also see Daddy, Papa and Me.
**My Footprints.** Bao Phi. Pre-K – K Walking home one winter afternoon, Thuy who is Vietnamese American with two moms, is angry and lonely after a bully’s taunts. Then a bird catches her attention and sets Thuy on an imaginary exploration. What if she could fly away like a bird? What if she could sprint like a deer, or roar like a bear?

**My Two Dads and Me.** Michael Joosten. (Toddler – Pre-K) Follow busy dads and their kids through the day—eating breakfast, getting dressed, heading out to the park, and settling back in at night with a bubble bath and a good-night lullaby. Also see: **My Two Moms and Me.**

**Our Rainbow.** Little Bee Books. (Baby – Pre-K) Children will learn about the colors of the iconic pride flag and the simple acts of kindness that can brighten up our world.

**Pickles + Ocho.** Dan Wellik. (Pre-K – 1) Pickles is a happy French bulldog. He has many toys and gets lots of attention from his two papas. Life for Pickles is just perfect, until Ocho arrives. Ocho? A puppy?

**A Plan for Pops.** Heather Smith. (K – 2) Lou spends every Saturday with Grandad and Pops reading books, listening to rock and roll. But everything changes one Saturday. Pops has a fall and needs a wheelchair. He becomes withdrawn and shuts himself in his room. But with a little help from their neighbors, Lou and Grandad come up with a plan for Pops.

**Plum.** Sean Hayes and Scott Icenogle. (Pre-K – 1) From *Will & Grace* star Sean Hayes and composer Scott Icenogle comes a tale inspired by *The Nutcracker.* For as long as she can remember, Plum has lived in an orphanage. But when Christmas is threatened, Plum is determined to help, and in doing so, she might just find the family she’s always dreamed of.

**Pride Colors.** Robin Stevenson. (Baby – Pre-K) With colorful photographs of adorable children and the colors of the rainbow flag, see the love of parents for their children as they let them know they will always be loved whoever they choose to be.

Prince & Knight. Daniel Haack. (PreK - K) A prince searched near and far for a bride. When his lands were threatened by a dragon, the prince raced back to protect his kingdom and was met by a brave knight in a suit of brightly shining armor. Together they fought the dragon and discovered that special something the prince was looking for all along.

Promised Land. Adam Reynolds and Chaz Harris. (Pre-K – 1) After a young Prince and a farm boy meet in the forest, their friendship blossoms into love.

The Purim Superhero. Elisabeth Kushner. (Pre-K – 1) Nate loves aliens and he really wants to wear an alien costume for Purim, but his friends are all dressing as superheroes and he wants to fit in. What will he do? With the help of his two dads he makes a surprising decision.

Rainbow: A First Book of Pride. Michael Genhart. (Toddler – K) As the book reveals the colorful meaning behind each rainbow stripe, readers celebrate the life, healing, light, nature, harmony and spirit the rainbow Pride flag represents.

Rumplepimple. Suzanne DeWitt Hall. (Pre-K – 1) Life isn’t easy when your big sister is an annoying cat and your moms can’t understand a word you say. But that doesn’t stop Rumplepimple, a dog, from saving the day in a most unusual way. Also see: Rumplepimple Goes to Jail after he tries to protect his tutu-wearing friend Mr. Noodles.

Santa’s Husband. Daniel Kibblesmith and A P. Quach. (Pre-K – 2) A clever book that tells the story of a black Santa, his white husband, and their life in the North Pole. In the weeks before Christmas, Santa’s husband helps with all the work, from double-checking lists to feeding the reindeer (organic gluten-free grains, of course).
Sewing the Rainbow: A Story About Gilbert Baker. Gayle E. Pitman. (1 – 3) This book takes readers from Gilbert’s childhood in a small town in Kansas where he didn’t fit in, to the creation of the rainbow flag, and his historic artistic career in San Francisco.

The Sissy Duckling. Harvey Fierstein. (K – 2) While other boy ducklings like to build forts, Elmer loves to bake cakes. While they play baseball, he wants to put on the halftime show. Elmer is a great big sissy. When his father is wounded by a hunter’s shot, Elmer proves that the biggest sissy can also be the greatest hero.

Stella Brings the Family. Miriam B. Schiffer. (Pre-K – 1) 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.

Stonewall: A Building. An Uprising. A Revolution. Rob Sanders. (Gr. 1 – 3) From the building’s origins as a stable in the 1800s to the Stonewall Inn of the 1960s, the story captures a sense of place, community and the people who stood up for their rights at the Stonewall Riots in 1969.

A Tale of Two Daddies. Vanita Oelschlager. (Toddler – K) A young girl answers a friend’s questions about what it is like to have two fathers. The boy asks straightforward questions. The story ends with simply, “Who is your dad when you’re sad and need some love?” Both, of course. Also see A Tale of Two Mommies.

Tinyville Town: I’m a Librarian. Brian Biggs. (Toddler – Pre-K) Get to know the town librarian as he helps a little boy find a favorite book. See a glimpse of the librarian’s life at home with his husband/boyfriend. Fourth in a series.

The True Adventures of Esther the Wonder Pig. Steve Jenkins and Derek Walter. (Pre-K – 2) The true story of social media sensation Esther the Wonder Pig and her two dads. When Steve and Derek adopted a mini pig named Esther, they had no idea that she would turn out to be not-so-mini after all.
Two Dads: A book about adoption. Carolyn Robertson. (Pre-K – K) Having Two Dads is double the fun! Many families are different, this family has Two Dads. A sweet, affirming story of life with Two Dads, written from the perspective of their adopted child. Also see Two Moms.

Two Moms and a Menagerie. Carolyn Robertson. (Pre-K – K) They have plenty of space and plenty of love, but will the Moms and their children be able to manage their ever-expanding animal family?

Uncle Bobby’s Wedding. Sarah S. Brannen. (Pre-K – 1) Everyone is happy but the young girl who fears losing her favorite uncle when he gets married until she sees she is really gaining a new uncle.

What Does a Princess Really Look Like? Mark Loewen. (Pre-K - 1) Chloe dreams of being a ballerina princess. As she draws a princess, she realizes that they are not just about how they look but also their unique character. When she feels insecure about her art, her dad's point out that the personal quirks make her princess unique!

When Aidan Became a Big Brother. Kyle Lukoff and Kaylani Juanita. (Pre-K – 2) When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl, but as he grew older, he realized he was a trans boy. When he finds out he is going to be a big brother, he learns the most important thing about being an older sibling: how to love with his whole self.

When You Look Out the Window: How Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin Built a Community. Gayle E. Pitman. (K – 2) Phyllis and Del point out landmarks through the city that can be seen out their window. Introduces children to untold stories in history while being a clever tribute to this notable couple.

Willow and the Wedding. Denise Brennan-Nelson. (Pre-K – 1) Willow is excited to be flower girl for her uncle and his boyfriend’s wedding – the ceremony, the dinner, the dancing! But – Uncle Ash refuses to dance these days until Willow makes it her mission to remind him of the joy he found in dancing years ago.