

Books and Publications for Children from LGBTQ Families

123 A Family Counting Book

Fun with moms, dads, and pets! Celebrate alternative families and teach numbers to young children. Lovely illustrations, and great for young children with same-sex parents.

B. Combs. Two Lives Publishing. 2000

ABC A Family Alphabet Book

Teach children letters too!

B. Combs. Two Lives Publishing. 2001

A Beach Party With Alexis

This coloring book depicts Alexis and her friends during a day at the beach. Ages 2-7.

S. Johnson-Calvo. Alyson Publications. 1991

Asha's Mums

This Canadian book tells the story of Asha, whose classmates find out that she has two moms when she needs to get a field trip permission slip filled out. Several lively discussions with her classmates later, Asha feels great about her two moms and so do her friends. Ages 3-6

By Rosamund Elwin & Michele Paulse Illustrated by Dawn Lee.

And Tango Makes Three

This book that tells the story of two famous gay dads - penguins Roy and Silo from New York's Central Park Zoo. When they see all of the other couples hatching eggs, Roy and Silo put a rock in their nest and try to hatch it. The zookeeper brings them an egg that needs to be cared for, the two take turns sitting on it until it hatches, and Tango is born: "Tango was the very first penguin in the zoo to have two daddies." Ages 4-8

Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell. Illustrated by Henry Cole. Hardcover.

Best Best Colors/ Los Mejores Colores (Anti-Bias Book For Kids)

This bilingual children's book, in both English and Spanish, tells the story of how a group of children deal with a hate crime that occurs in their own neighborhood.

E. Hoffman (ed) E. Henriquez. Redleaf Press. 1999

Box Girl

Gwen's father is gay and her mother left years ago. Despite her struggles at school and with friends, her father and his boyfriend Leon provide Sarah with love and hope. Ages 9-12.

S. Withrow, Greenwood Publishing. 2001

The Boy Who Cried Fabulous

This rhymed book tells the story of a young boy who marvels at everything around him and is constantly late, upsetting his parents until they realize how truly fabulous their son is. Ages 5-8.

L. Newman. Ten Speed Press. 2004

The Case of the Stolen Scarab (Candlestone Inn Mystery #1)

When the Taylor-Michaelson family - Nikki and Travis and their two moms - buy an old inn in Vermont, they don't expect their first visitor to be the local sheriff with news of a robbery - and their second to be a bedraggled hiker with amnesia! Soon Nikki and Travis find themselves trying to solve a mystery that steadily grows more complicated - and perhaps dangerous as well. Ages 8-12.

N. Garden. Two Lives Publishing. 2002

A Clear Spring

During her stay with Aunt Ceci and her partner, Janie, who is a naturalist, Willa learns about environmentalism, gets to know more about her family, and solves a mystery. Ages 7-12.

B. Wilson. Feminist Press. 2002

Daddy's Roommate

Meet a boy, his gay dad and his dad's partner in this Lambda Literary Award winning book. Ages 2-9.
M. Wilhoite. Alyson Publications. 1991

The Dragon and the Doctor

This appealing story, with full-color illustrations, tells of a dragon who has a sore tail. When she goes to Dr. Judy and Nurse Benjamin for help, they discover all kinds of treasures zipped into the tail. Cured, the dragon takes Doctor Judy and Nurse Benjamin to meet her friends - an ostrich, a hippopotamus, a turtle, and a little creature who has two mothers. Ages 3-7.

B. Danish. Feminist Press. 1995

The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans and Other Stories

This is a collection of five original fairy tales: The Frog Prince, The Eagle Rider, The Dragon Sense, The Ogre's Boots and The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans. Embedded within the stories are a cast of gay and lesbian characters. Ages 6-10.

J. Valentine. Alyson Publications.

Else-Marie and her Seven Little Daddies

Else-Marie has seven little daddies instead of one big one, and she worries how the other children will react when her daddies come to pick her up at afternoon playgroup.

G. Charbonnet, P. Lindenbaum. Henry Holt & Co. 1991

Emma and Meesha My Boy: A Two Mom Story

A little girl learns to treat her cat gently. Ages 2-7.

K. Considine. Xlibris. 2004

Faerie Wars

The Faerie Wars is a snappy blend of fantasy, mythology and science. When Henry learns that his dad and mom are separating because his mom is in love with another woman, he feels like his world is falling apart. Then he meets Pyrgus, a faerie crown prince from another world, and forgets his own troubles as he helps Pyrgus save his people from the Faeries of the night. Ages 10 & up

By Herbie Brennan

Families: A Celebration Of Diversity, Commitment And Love

The true stories of seventeen kids and their families, accompanied by photographs. This book rejoices in the endless possibilities of the composition of a "family." Ages 9-12.

A. Jenness. Houghton Mifflin. 1993

The Family Book

A book celebrating all kinds of families, including ours: "Some families have two moms or two dads..." His bold, simple drawings of people and animals are just perfect for kids! Ages 4-8.

T. Parr. Little, Brown. 2003

Felicia's Favorite Story

This book tells Felicia's favorite bedtime story of how Mama Nessa and Mama Linda adopted her, with a read-along style and charming watercolor illustrations. Ages 4-7.

L. Newman. Two Lives Publishing. 2002

Heather Has Two Mommies

This beautifully illustrated book tells the story of three-year-old Heather and her two moms. Ages 4-7.

L. Newman. Alyson Publications. 1991

Holly's Secret

When Holly's family moves to a new town, she decides to take on a new identity at her new middle school and lies about her two moms, hoping that she'll fit in. She learns that her true friends will stand by her and that love is the most important thing. Ages 7-12.

N. Garden. Farrar, Straus and Giroux Inc. 2000.

How it Feels to Have a Gay or Lesbian Parent: A Book by Kids for Kids of All Ages

First-person accounts by children of gay or lesbian parents, ranging in age from 7 to 31.

J. Snow, Harrington Park Press. 2004

How My Family Came to Be—Daddy, Papa and Me

The story of a young boy's adoption by his Daddy and Papa, with the message that families are made up of people who love each other. Simple sentences and big, bold playful illustrations. Ages 4-8.

A. Aldrich. New Family Press. 2003.

King & King

A prince who is reluctant to marry any of the princesses his mother invites to the castle finally finds love with another prince in this charming, colorful and exuberantly collaged story. Ages 7-10.

L. de Haan, S. Nijland. Ten Speed Press. 2000.

King & King & Family

In this sequel to King & King, the two kings go on a honeymoon trip to the jungle, where they see lots of animal families and return home with a surprise of their own. Ages 7-10.

L. de Haan, S. Nijland. Ten Speed Press. 2004.

Losing Uncle Tim

A touching and beautifully illustrated story about a young boy who must deal with the fact that his beloved uncle Tim is dying of AIDS. Ages 6-12.

M. Jordan. Albert Whitman & Co. 1989

Love Makes a Family: Portraits of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Parents and Their Families

A beautiful book filled with photographs and interviews with LGBT families.

G. Kaeser, P. Gillespie. University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst MA. 1999.

Lucy Goes To The Country

The story of Lucy the cat and her two "big guys" who travel to the country every weekend, and run into a little bit of trouble. Contains many queer characters, including a lesbian couple with a daughter. Ages 5-7.

J. Kennedy, (Il) J. Canemaker. Alyson Wonderland. 1998.

Mama Eat Ant, Yuck

This book told in the form of a funny poem is about the family life of one-year-old Emma, her Mama and Mommy, and her siblings. One day Emma is delighted when her mother receives a surprise in her raisins. Ages 4-8

B.L. Edmonds, M. Danielle. Barby's House Books. 2000

Molly's Family

When Molly draws a picture of her family for kindergarten Open School Night, one of her classmates makes her feel bad because he says "you can't have a mommy and a mama." After talking to her teacher and her parents, she feels better knowing there are all different kinds of families, even in her own class.

N. Garden. Farrar Straus Giroux. 2004

Morning Light

The story of a family whose mother has AIDS and eventually dies. The story is intended to help children and their families face serious illness and death in a straightforward manner, instead of hiding or denying feelings.

M. Merrifield, Stoddart Kids, 1996

Mom and Mum Are Getting Married

When Rosie finds out that her two mothers are planning to get married, she has only one worry...will she get to be a flower girl? Fantastic, full color pictures show warm scenes of family and friends as everyone gets ready for the big day! Ages 4-8

Ken Setterington Illustrated by Alice Priestley

My Dad Has HIV

A young girl whose father has HIV learns about the virus and is proud of her dad for trying to stay healthy. This book is very easy to read, with simple, colorful illustrations. Ages 5-8.

E. Alexander, S. Rudin, P. Sejkora. Fairview Press. 1996.

My Family, Our Family, Your Family

A fabulous coloring book depicting a diverse variety of lgbt families doing mundane things like going shopping, eating dinner, and playing games together. Ages 2-7.

L. Black, J. Lovvorn. 2004

My Two Uncles

Elly is upset when her grandfather refuses to invite her uncle and his partner to a family party.

J. Vigna. Albert Whitman & Company. 1995

My Really Cool Baby Book

A book that focuses on baby's first year; designed and Written with alternative families in mind.

By: Todd Parr

Saturday Is Pattyday

Frankie used to live with his two moms, Allie and Patty, but they have separated. Frankie brings Doris Delores Brontausaurus to visit Allie in her new apartment, and learns that Allie will always be part of his life. Ages 4-9.

L. Newman, Women's Press, Toronto, Canada. 1993

The Skull of Truth: A Magic Shop Book

A boy who is forced through magic to tell the truth faces issues of his uncle's homosexuality and friend's cancer. Especially appealing to reluctant readers. Ages 9-12.

B. Coville. Harcourt Brace. 1997.

Tiger Flowers

When Joel's uncle dies of AIDS, he works to keep the memory of his uncle alive with his dreams and thoughts.

By: Patricia Quinlan

Too Far Away to Touch

This is the story of Zoë and her relationship with her uncle as he grows sick from AIDS. Zoë's uncle explains to her that when he dies he won't be close enough to touch but, like the stars, close enough to see.

L. Newman. Ticknor and Fields, 1995

“What Does Gay Mean?”: How to Talk with Kids about Sexual Orientation and Prejudice

This booklet provides resources and tips for talking with kids about sexual orientation and homophobia.

Ponton, L. National Mental Health Association. 2002

Women in Love: Portraits of Lesbian Mothers and their Families

A wonderful book of photographs of lesbian mothers and their families, with interviews of the mothers.

B. Seyda, D. Herrera. Little, Brown & Co. 1998

The White Swan Express

Four couples adopt children from China and are getting ready for the Big Day when the children arrive home. One of the families is a lesbian family.

Jean Davies Okimoto and Elaine M. Aoki, Clarion Books 2002

Zack's Story

A photo-story about an eleven-year-old boy who describes life as part of a family made up of himself, his mother, her lesbian partner, and his younger sister. Ages 8-13.

K. Greenburg. Lerner Publishing Group. 1996

Publications Of Interest

Arise: For Diverse People Of African Descent

Made for LGBT people, and their loved ones, of African descent. Covers family, travel, music and many other areas of interest.

2121 Perlata St., Loft 126, Oakland CA 94907, (510)663-2743 arisemagazine@aol.com

Gay Parent

A resource for lesbian and gay parents or prospective parents.

Gay Parent Magazine, P.O. Box 75085, Forest Hills, NY, 11375

gayparentmag@banet.com

HipMama Magazine

The independent magazine that serves as proof that motherhood doesn't need to be boring or a-political!

Hip Mama, PO Box 12525, Portland, OR 97212

www.hipmama.com

Just For Us

COLAGE's quarterly newsletter, packed with fun stuff for children and LGBT parents!

COLAGE, 3543 18th St. #1, San Francisco 94110

colage@colage.org

In The Family: The Magazine for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals And Their Relations

A magazine about love, intimacy and family.

P.O. Box 5387, Takoma Park, MD 20913, (301)270-4771, www.inthefamily.com

Out Of Print

The following is a list of excellent books that are out of print. We suggest that you try to find them at your local library or used bookstore

Amy Asks a Question

Amy asks, "Grandma, what's a lesbian?" A beautiful conversation between Amy and her lesbian grandmother ensues. Ages 6 and up.

J. Arnold. Mother Courage Press. Racine, WI. 1996

Anna Day and the O-Ring

A day in the life of a boy with two moms, told through photographs. Ages 2-7.

E. Wickens. Alyson Publications. 1994

Belinda's Bouquet

Belinda and her friend Daniel discover that it's okay to be different. Ages 4-8.

L. Newman. Alyson Publications. 1989

The Daddy Machine

Two children with lesbian mothers wonder what it would be like to have a father, so they make themselves a daddy machine, turn it on, and a dad pops out. Then comes another, and another, and another. Ages 2-9.

J. Valentine. Alyson Publications, Boston

The Day They Put a Tax on Rainbows and Other Stories

Three original fairy tales featuring main characters who just happen to have gay parents. These children, along with dragons, mermaids and elves, are depicted in detailed watercolor drawings. Ages 6-10.

J. Valentine. Alyson Publications. 1992.

The Entertainer

A story, told only in pictures, about a little boy who loves to juggle, and his adventures. Ages 3-8.

M. Willhoite. Alyson Publications. 1992

Generous Jefferson Bartleby Jones

A story of a boy with two dads who can always loan out one Dad because he's got another...until the weekend he loans them both out by mistake. Ages 3-9.

F. Brown. Alyson Publications. 1991

How Would You Feel If Your Dad Was Gay?

When Jasmine announces in class that her dad is gay, her brother complains that she had no right to reveal a fact that he wanted to keep secret. Ages 6-12.

A.Heron and M. Maran. Alyson Publications. 1991

Jenny Lives With Eric And Martin

A photostory about the day-to-day life of a young Danish girl living with her two dads. A candid and realistic portrayal of a gay family. Ages 4-7.

S. Bosche. Gay Men's Press, London, England. 1983

Lots of Mommies

Six-year-old Emily lives with her mother and four other women in a commune. When Emily tells her classmates that she has lots of mommies, they laugh disbelievingly. But when she falls and all her mommies come to the rescue, the other children come to respect and admire her family.

J. Severance. Lollipop Power. 1983

One Dad, Two Dads, Brown Dad, Blue Dad

Lou and a friend compare notes on their families in this breezy book about parents who seem different. Ages 2-8.

J. Valentine. Alyson Publications. 1994

When Megan Went Away

Shannon is upset when her moms break up. One of the earliest stories featuring an LGBT family!

J. Severance. Lollipop Power, Chapel Hill, NC. 1979

Transgender Tapestry

A leading source for stimulating dialogue covering a wide range of gender topics, from medical and psychological care to family and partner issues.

P.O. Box 540229, Waltham, MA 02454-0229 (781)894-8340, www.ifge.org/tgmag/tgmagtop.htm

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