

LGBTQ Pride Month and Education Resources

Teaching about LGBTQ+



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LGBTQ Pride Month is commemorated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York City. In June of 1969, patrons and supporters of the Stonewall Inn staged an uprising to resist the police harassment and persecution to which LGBTQ Americans were commonly subjected. This uprising marked the beginning of a movement to outlaw discriminatory laws and practices against LGBTQ Americans. Today, LGBTQ Pride Month celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, attracting millions of participants around the world.

In schools and classrooms, LGBTQ Pride Month is an excellent time to talk with students about LGBTQ people and their struggles to achieve equity and justice in all aspects of their lives. It is an opportunity to learn about important LGBTQ people in history, read literature that features LGBTQ people, analyze heterosexism and explore its causes and solutions. As with other similarly themed months, it is important not to isolate the exploration of LGBTQ people and culture into one month during the year. LGBTQ history is U.S. history and should be integrated into the curriculum throughout the school year.

Below is a list of relevant K-12 curriculum, children's books and other resources to bring LGBTQ Pride Month to your schools and classrooms.

Lesson Plans

LESSON PLAN

What is Marriage Equality?

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, MIDDLE SCHOOL

This lesson provides an opportunity for elementary and middle school students to explore marriage equality, gain background information about it and reflect on their own thoughts and feelings about marriage equality.



Boy Scouts of America Lifts Ban on Gay Leaders

MIDDLE SCHOOL

This lesson provides an opportunity for students to learn more about the evolution of the Boy Scouts' position on gay members and leaders, analyze Robert Gates' recent speech on the issue and explore students' own points of view by writing persuasive essays.



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Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr.: Hate Crimes Prevention Act

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

This lesson provides an opportunity for middle and high school students to understand the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, learn about how hate escalates, connect the understanding of the escalation of hate with Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr.'s murders and consider what young people can do in their schools and communities to prevent hate crimes.





LESSON PLAN

Understanding Heterosexism and How to Be an Ally

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

This lesson is geared toward increasing middle and high school students' understanding of and empathy for how heterosexism manifests itself in schools and society, including actions they can take on behalf of their school or community.



Wikicommons / InSapphoWeTrust from Los Angeles, California, USA

LESSON PLAN

The Stonewall Uprising

HIGH SCHOOL

Teach high school students about the Stonewall uprising and reflect on LGBTQ rights and activism throughout U.S. history.



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LESSON PLAN

Identity and Diversity in My Generation

HIGH SCHOOL

"Gen Z" is the most racially diverse generation in U.S. history. High school students review and analyze racial diversity through Census data, self-portraits and the pictures and words of others.





LESSON PLAN

Wedding Cake, Same-Sex Marriage and Discrimination

HIGH SCHOOL

High school students learn about the case of *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission* and its related Constitutional principles.



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LESSON PLAN

Unheard Voices: Stories of LGBT History

MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

An oral history and curriculum project that will help educators to integrate LGBT history, people and issues into their instructional programs.



Wikipedia.org

LESSON PLAN

Transgender Identity and Issues

HIGH SCHOOL

This lesson will provide an opportunity for high school students to learn more about transgender identity and issues, the barriers faced by people who identify as transgender or are gender non-conforming and how we can make our schools safe and welcoming for transgender and gender non-conforming students.





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LESSON PLAN

Analyzing Hate Crimes Statistics

HIGH SCHOOL

This lesson provides an opportunity for students to learn more about hate crimes, the annual report and background on the 2009 Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA).



Joe Ellis/The Clarion-Ledger/AP

Educational Resources

Beyond the Binary: Discussing Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Identity in K-12 Schools

In order to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for all students, it is important to discuss transgender and gender non-conforming identity and issues in schools. This guide provides suggestions and resources.



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Let's Get it Right: Using Correct Pronouns and Names

Educator resource about using accurate pronouns and names to convey understanding and respect for all people, especially for those who are transgender, gender non-conforming and non-binary.





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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Safe and Inclusive Schools for All

Tips to foster a safe, respectful and inclusive learning environment.



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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

Stonewall and LGBTQ Equity

Talk with your family about the Stonewall uprising, which took place on June 28, 1969 and is viewed by many as sparking the movement for LGBTQ rights in the U.S.





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TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

What Is Heterosexism and What Can I Do About It?

Engage in a family discussion about the different ways that heterosexism manifests in society and schools and explore ways to address it.



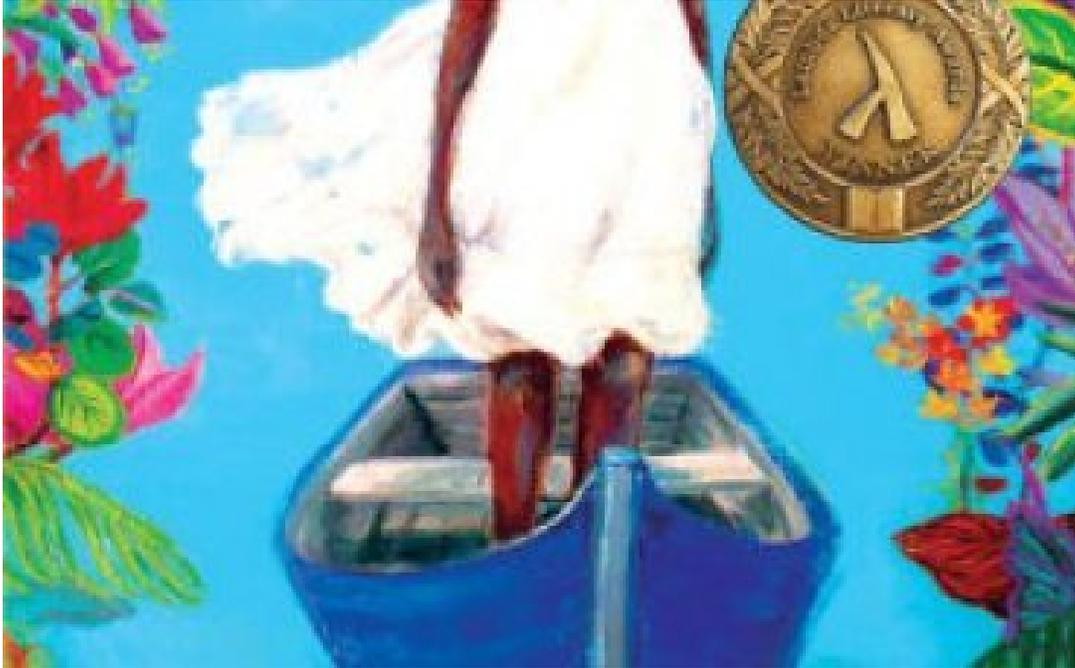
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Children's and Young Adult Literature

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Hurricane Child

Being born during a hurricane is unlucky, and twelve-year-old Caroline, who lives on Water Island in the U.S. Virgin Islands, has had her share of bad luck lately. But when a new student arrives, Caroline believes her luck is turning around.

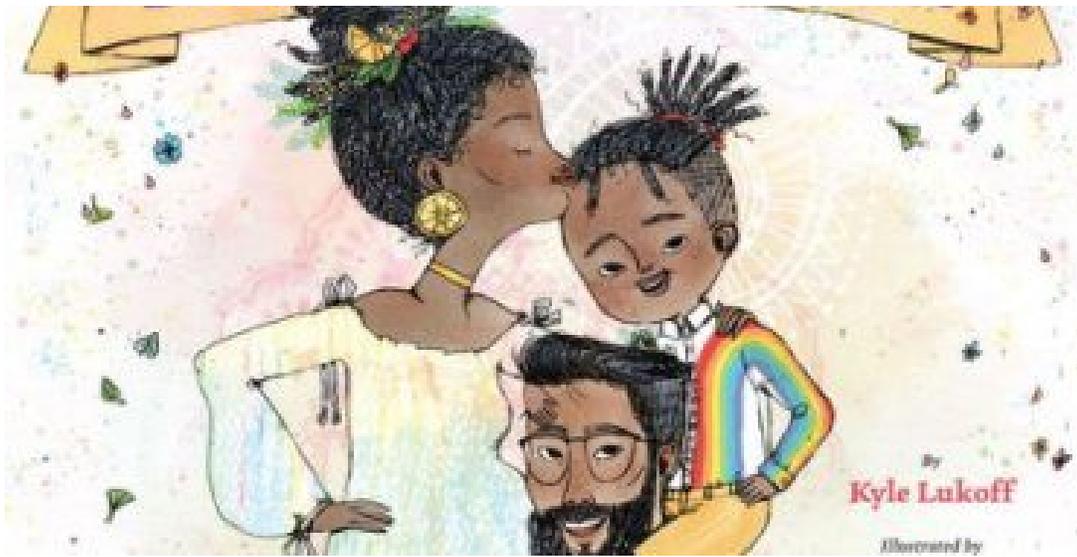


CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

When Aidan Became a Brother

When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl. After he realized he was a 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 Mom and Dad announced 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.

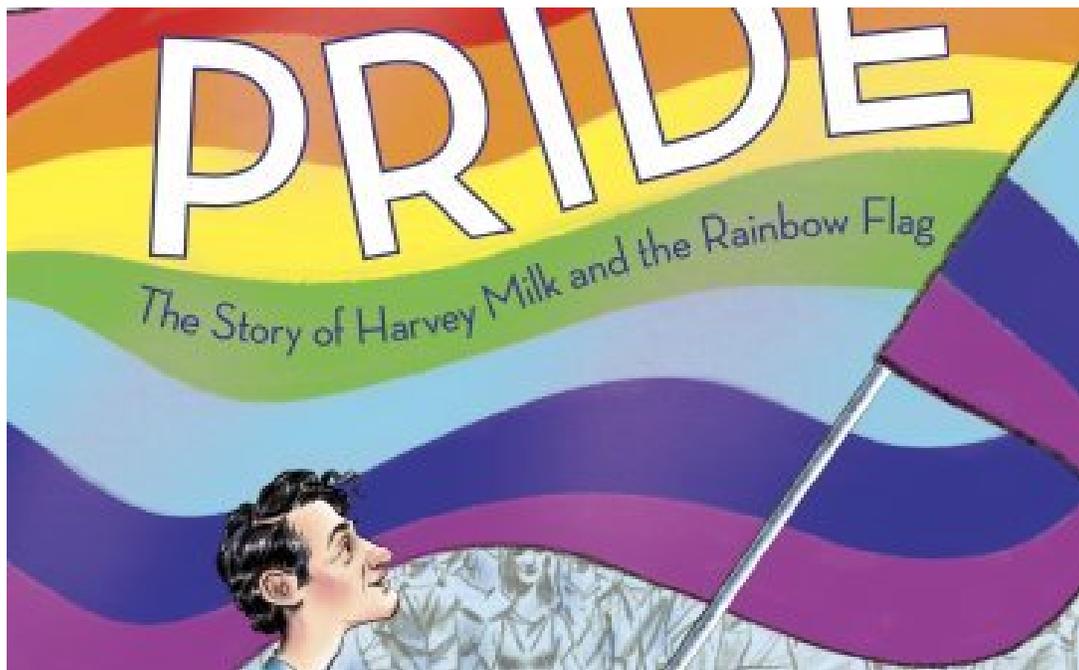




CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag

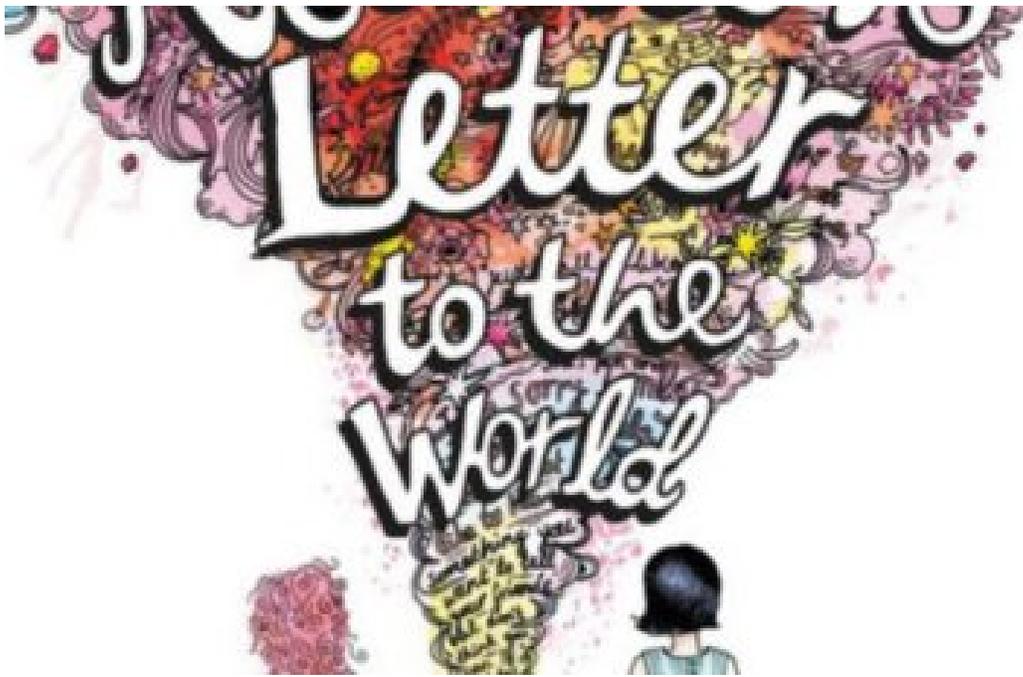
Learn about the life of the Gay Pride Flag, from its beginnings with social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker to its spanning of the globe and its role in today's world.



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World

When a tornado rips through town, Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed and her family displaced. Ivy feels invisible and ignored in the aftermath of the storm—and what's worse, her notebook filled with secret drawings of girls holding hands has gone missing.



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

The Best Man

The book recounts Archer Magill's span from first grade to sixth, navigating family ties, school, bullying, homophobia, death and marriage. Educator and Parent/Family Discussion Guides are available.



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

George

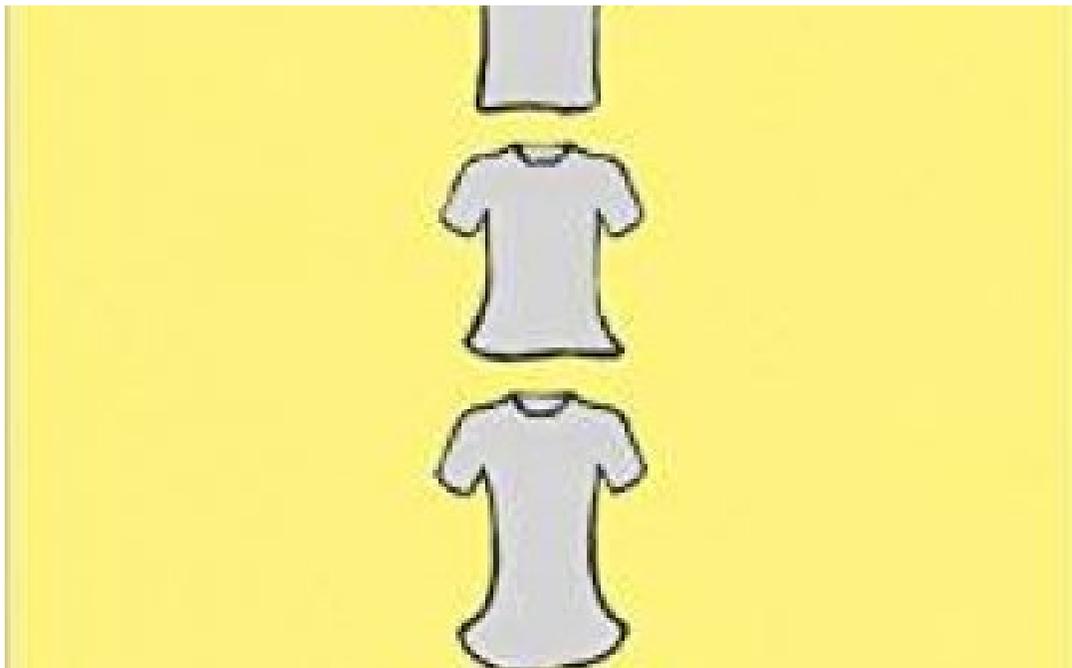
When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's not a boy. She knows she's a girl.



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Gracefully Grayson

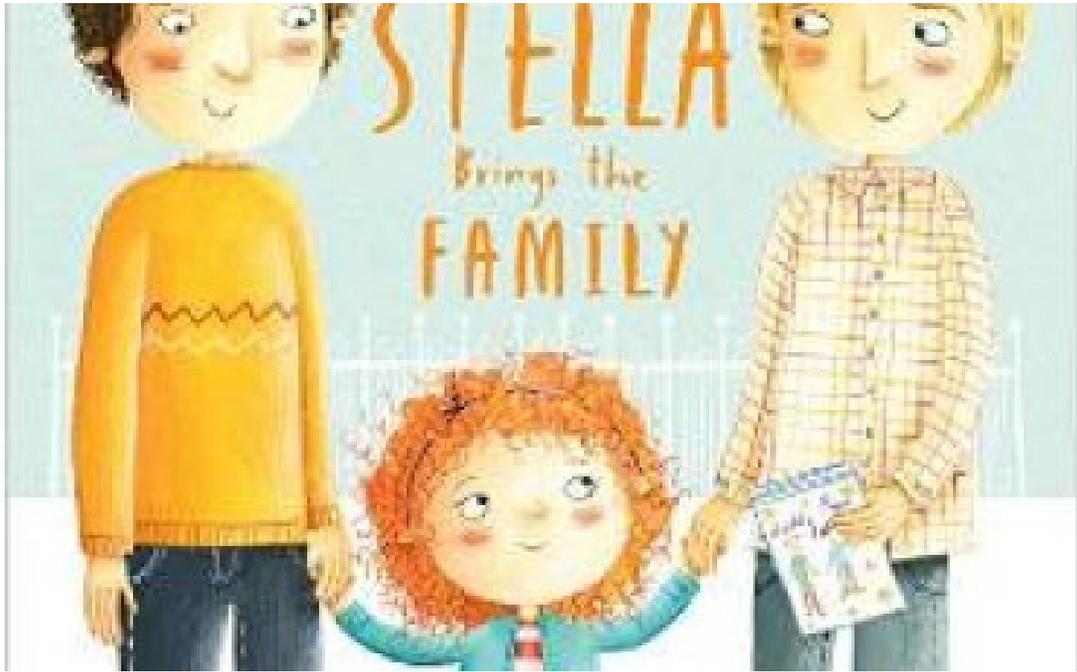
Grayson Sender has been holding onto a secret for what seems like forever: "he" is a girl on the inside.



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Stella Brings The Family

Stella's class is having a Mother's Day celebration, but what's a girl with two Daddies to do?



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

Jacob's New Dress

This heartwarming story speaks to the unique challenges faced by boys who don't identify with traditional gender roles and promises to spark discussions of gender, identity and self-confidence.



Blogs

How Do We Support and Protect Transgender Youth?

Last week, the Trump administration rescinded guidance from a “Dear Colleague” letter that the Obama administration sent to school districts in 2016. The letter, from the Justice and Education Departments, made it clear that they were interpreting Title IX nondiscrimination laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, to include transgender students.

The Most Basic of Rights: Transgender Students Are Entitled to Respect and Dignity

It is the most basic need any student has during the school day: using the restroom safely and comfortably when you need to. It is the first sign of independence bef...

The Time Is Now: Bringing LGBTQ Topics into the Classroom

Over the past few years, our country has made enormous strides on marriage equality and as of June 26, 2015, marriage equality is the law of the land in all 50 states.

We Are Family: Making Classrooms Inclusive for All Families

In *Stella Brings the Family*, a recently published children’s book, a young girl’s teacher announces that the children can bring a special guest to school in celebrat...





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BLOG

Why Pride?

“Stonewall was just the flip side of the black revolt when Rosa Parks took a stand. Finally, the kids down there took a stand. But it was peaceful. I mean, they said it was a...