

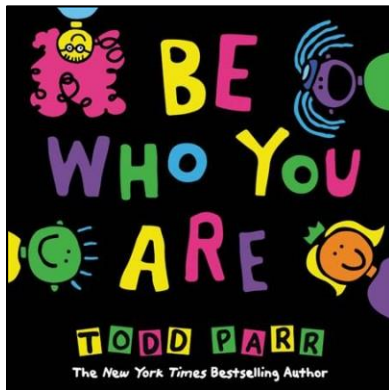
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CHILDREN'S BOOKSLIST

Rainbow Reads

Books for Toddlers & Pre-K

These titles feature a rainbow of culturally diverse LGBTQIA+ characters! Reading and sharing these books can help kids understand their feelings and express themselves, and reminds them that, however they choose to identify, they deserve respect.



Be Who You Are

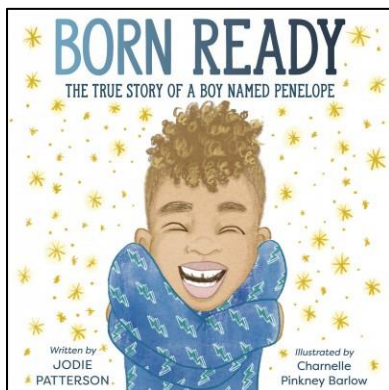
by Todd Parr

Picture Book (2016)

P Parr

This book encourages kids to be proud of what makes them unique, where they come from, and how they express themselves and see the world.

Suggested for ages 3-7



Born Ready: The True Story of a Boy Named Penelope

by Jodie Patterson;

illustrated by Charnelle Pinkney Barlow

Picture Book (2021)

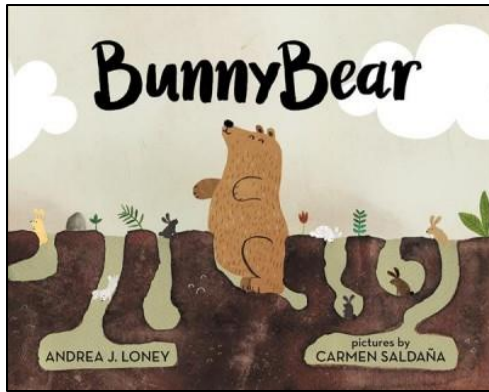
P* Patterson

Just before his fifth birthday, Penelope lets his mother know he is a boy and, with her support and his ninja

powers, faces the rest of his family and his classmates.

Suggested for ages 4-8





Bunnybear

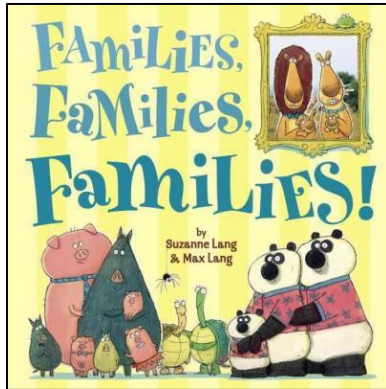
by Andrea J. Loney;
illustrated by Carmen Saldada

Picture Book (2017)
P Loney

Although Bunnybear was born a bear, he feels more like a bunny. He loves to bounce through the forest, wiggle his nose, and munch on strawberries.

The other bears don't understand him, and neither do the bunnies. Will Bunnybear ever find a friend who likes him just the way he is?

Suggested for ages 4-8



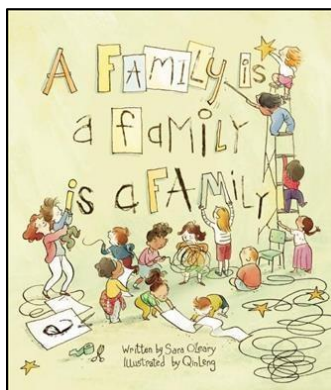
Families, Families, Families!

by Suzanne Lang & Max Lang

Picture Book (2015)
P Lang

A host of silly animals in dozens of combinations demonstrate all kinds of nontraditional families! Cleverly depicted as framed portraits, these goofy creatures offer a warm celebration of family love.

Suggested for ages 3-7



A Family is a Family is a Family

by Sara O'Leary; illustrated by Qin Leng

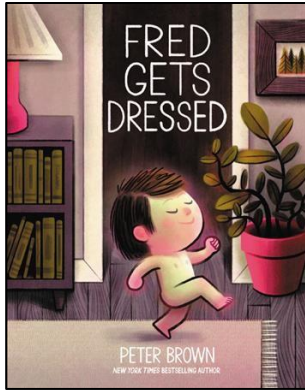
Picture Book (2016)
P O'Leary

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.

Also available as a Hoopla Ebook.

Suggested for ages 4-8





Fred Gets Dressed

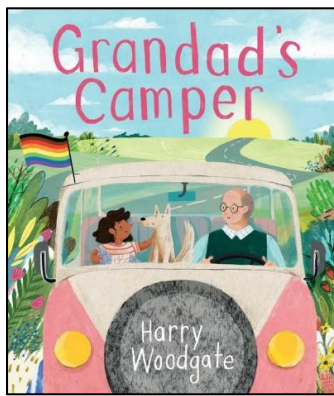
by Peter Brown

Picture Book (2021)

P Brown

Fred loves to be naked. He runs around his bedroom, naked and wild. He runs across the hall, runs into his parents' room, and runs into their closet – where he is finally inspired to get dressed. What will Fred wear?

Suggested for ages 3-6



Grandad's Camper

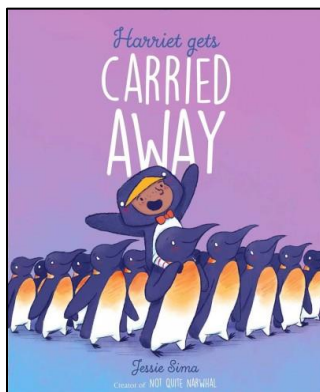
by Harry Woodgate

Picture Book (2021)

P Woodgate

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 died, Grandad hasn't felt 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.

Suggested for ages 3-7



Harriet Gets Carried Away

by Jessie Sima

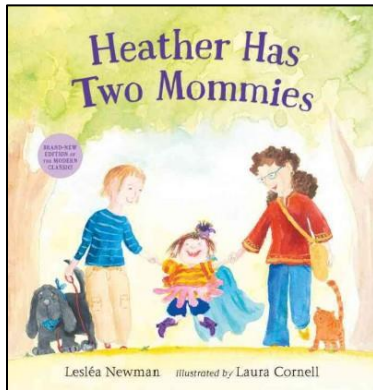
Picture Book (2018)

P Sima

While shopping with her two dads for party hats for her birthday party, Harriet, who is wearing her special penguin errand-running costume, finds something unexpected – real penguins! Harriet gets *carried away* with the flock. She may look like a penguin, but she's not so sure she belongs in the arctic. Can Harriet manage to find her way back to her dads (and the party hats!) in time for her special day?

Suggested for ages 4-8





Heather Has Two Mommies

by Lesléa Newman; illustrated by Laura Cornell

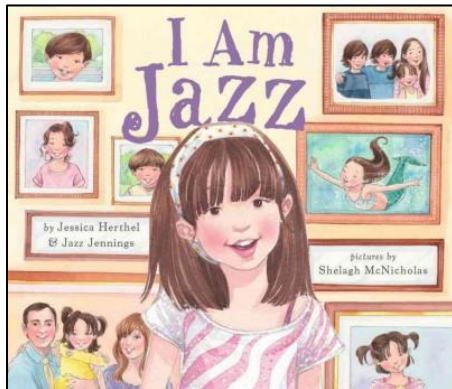
Picture Book (2015)

P Newman

Heather's favorite number is two. She has two arms, two legs, and two pets. And she also has two mommies. When Heather goes to school for the first time, someone asks her about her daddy, but Heather doesn't have a daddy. Then

something interesting happens. When Heather and her classmates all draw pictures of their families, not one drawing is the same. It doesn't matter who makes up a family, the teacher says, because "the most important thing about a family is that all the people in it love one another."

Suggested for ages 4-8



I am Jazz!

by Jessica Herthel & Jazz Jennings;
illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas

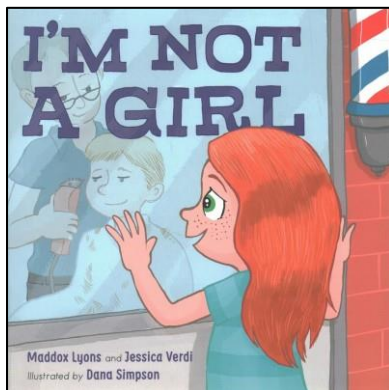
Nonfiction Picture Book (2014)

J306.76 Herthel

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.

Suggested for ages 4-9



I'm Not a Girl

by Maddox Lyons & Jessica Verdi;
illustrated by Dana Simpson

Picture Book (2020)

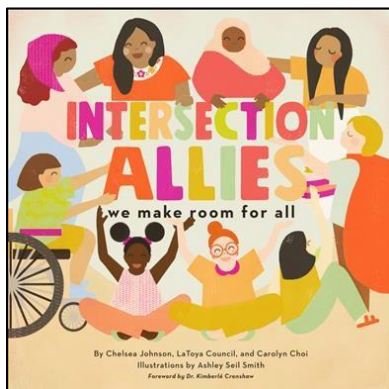
P Lyons

Nobody seems to understand that Hannah is not a girl. His parents ask why he won't wear all the clothes 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.

Suggested for ages 4-8





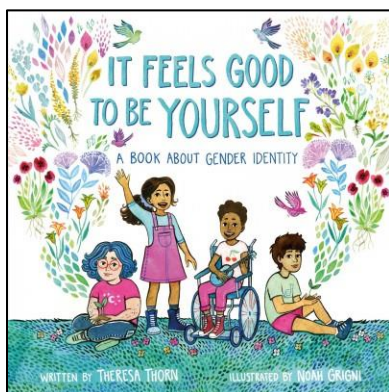
Intersection Allies: We Make Room for All

by Chelsea Johnson, LaToya Council & Carolyn Choi;
illustrated by Ashley Seil Smith

Picture Book (2019)
P Johnson

Nine interconnected characters proudly describe themselves and their backgrounds, involving topics that range from a physical disability to language brokering, offering an opportunity to take pride in a personal story *and* connect to collective struggle for justice.

Suggested for ages 4-10



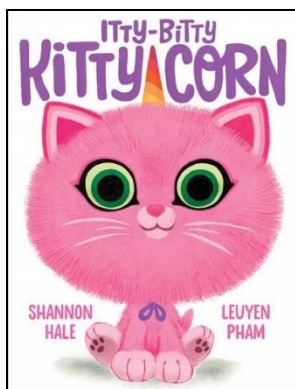
It Feels Good to Be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity

by Theresa Thorn; illustrated by Noah Grigni

Nonfiction Picture Book (2019)
J305.3 Thorn

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.

Suggested for ages 4-9



Itty-Bitty Kitty-Corn

by Shannon Hale & LeUyen Pham

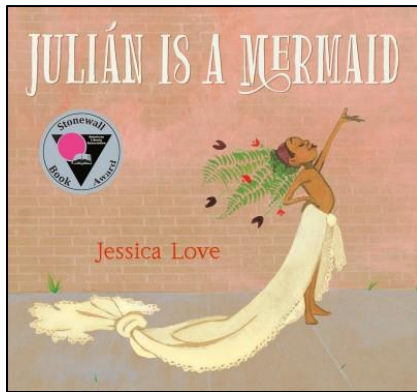
Picture Book (2021)
P Hale

Kitty thinks she might be a unicorn. She feels so perfectly unicorn-y! “Neigh!” says Kitty. But when Unicorn clop clop clops over, sweeping his magnificent tail and neighing a mighty neigh, Kitty feels no bigger than a ball of lint. Can this unlikely pair embrace who they are, and truly see one another?

Also available as a Hoopla Ebook.

Suggested for ages 4-8





Julián Is a Mermaid

by Jessica Love

Picture Book (2018)

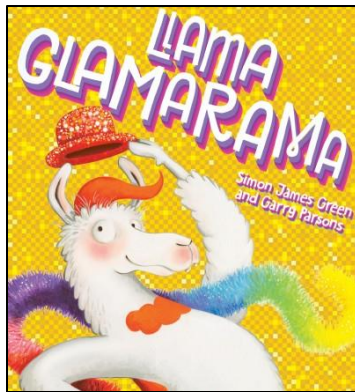
P Love

While riding the subway 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 periwinkle 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?

Also available as a Hoopla E-Video.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Llama Glamarama

by Simon James Green; illustrated by Garry Parsons

Picture Book (2021)

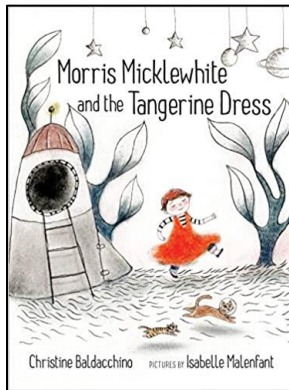
P Green

Larry lives a slow and quiet life at the barn with all the other llamas. But at night when everyone has gone to bed, Larry loves to dress up in bright costumes and DANCE! But he worries that the other llamas won't approve of his raucous

ways. Then one day, he stumbles upon the Llama Glamarama, a carnival full of music, laughter, and yes – dancing! Will this vibrant celebration give Larry the pride he needs to bring his dance back home?

Suggested for ages 3-6





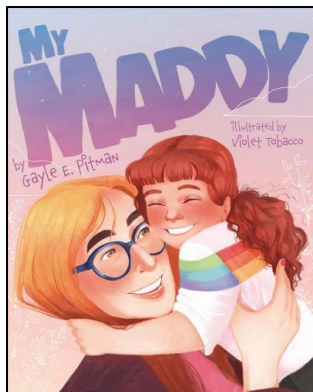
Morris Micklewhite and the Tangerine Dress

by Christine Baldacchino; illustrated by Isabelle Malenfant

Picture Book (2014)
P Baldacchino

Morris is a little boy who loves using his imagination. But most of all, Morris loves wearing the tangerine dress in his classroom's dress-up center. But his classmates don't understand, and begin to tease him and ostracize him. One day Morris stays home from school with a tummy ache. He stays in bed reading about elephants, and then dreams about a space adventure with his cat, Moo. Inspired by his dream, Morris paints a fantastic picture, and everything begins to change when he takes it to school.

Suggested for ages 4-8



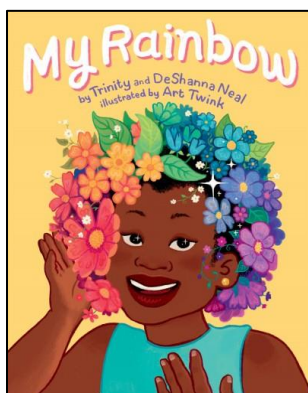
My Maddy

by Gayle E. Pitman; illustrated by Violet Tobacco

Picture Book (2020)
P Pitman

Most mommies are girls. Most daddies are boys. But lots of parents are neither a boy nor a girl. Like my Maddy. My Maddy has hazel eyes which are not brown or green. And my Maddy likes sporks because they are not quite a spoon or a fork. Some of the best things in the world are not one thing or the other. They are something in between and entirely their own.

Suggested for ages 4-8



My Rainbow

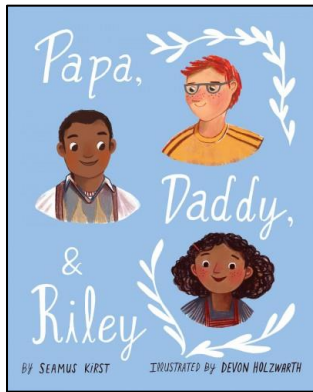
by Trinity & DeShanna Neal; illustrated by Art Twink

Picture Book (2020)
P Neal

Trinity is a beautiful rainbow. She loves soft things, color, and coding, and she embraces all parts of her identity as a Black transgender girl on the autism spectrum. But on a quiet, sunny day during playtime, Trinity realizes that she wants long hair like her dolls. She needs it to express who she truly is. So her family takes a trip to the beauty store, but none of the wigs is the perfect fit. Determined, Mom leaves with bundles of hair in hand, ready to create a wig as colorful and vibrant as her daughter is.

Suggested for ages 4-8





Papa, Daddy, and Riley

by Seamus Kirst; illustrated by Devon Holzwarth

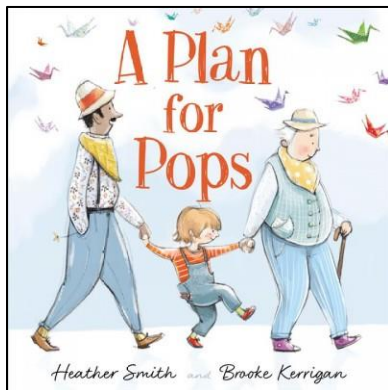
Picture Book (2020)

P Kirst

Riley is Papa's princess and Daddy's dragon. She loves her two fathers! When Riley's classmate asks her which dad is her real one, Riley is scared and confused. She doesn't want to have to pick one or the other. This heartwarming story shows that all

families are made of love, and that there are many ways to be part of one.

Suggested for ages 4-8



A Plan for Pops

by Heather Smith & Brooke Kerrigan

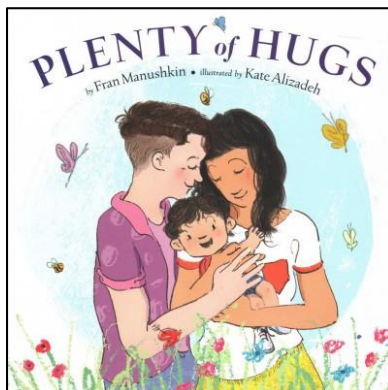
Picture Book (2019)

P Smith

Lou spends every Saturday with Grandad and Pops. They walk to the library hand in hand, like a chain of paper dolls. Grandad reads books about science and design, Pops listens to rock and roll, and Lou bounces from lap to lap.

But everything changes one Saturday. Pops has a fall. That night there is terrible news: Pops will need to use a wheelchair, not just for now, but for always. Unable to cope with his new circumstances, he becomes withdrawn and shuts himself in his room. Hearing Grandad trying to cheer up Pops inspires Lou to make a plan. Using skills learned from Grandad, and with a little help from their neighbors, Lou comes up with a plan for Pops.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Plenty of Hugs

by Fran Manushkin; illustrated by Kate Alizadeh

Picture Book (2020)

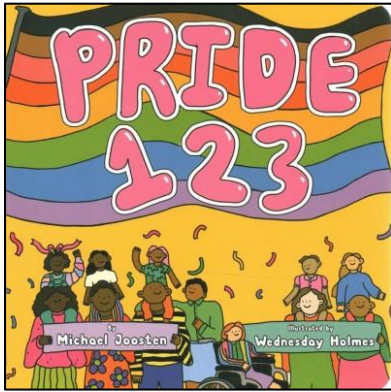
P Manushkin

This cheerful book follows a family from morning to night in lively rhyme that rolls off the tongue. The toddler and mommies take a morning bike ride to a farm stand, they visit a zoo in the afternoon, and in the evening there's the

bath and storybook routine before the child is tucked cozily into bed.

Suggested for ages 2-5





Pride 1 2 3

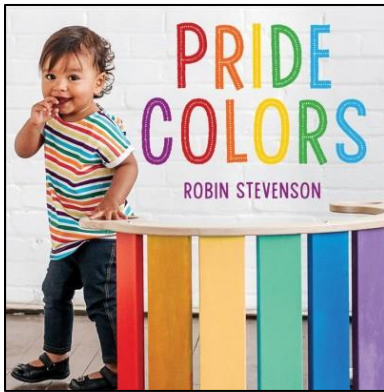
by Michael Joosten; illustrated by Wednesday Holmes

Board Book (2020)
Toddler Joosten

Teach your little ones about the Pride Parade with this colorful, energetic counting book! Featuring a diverse cast of characters and families, this board book highlights and celebrates the LGBTQIA+ community, love, and standing

up for who you are while counting to ten.

Suggested for ages 1-4



Pride Colors

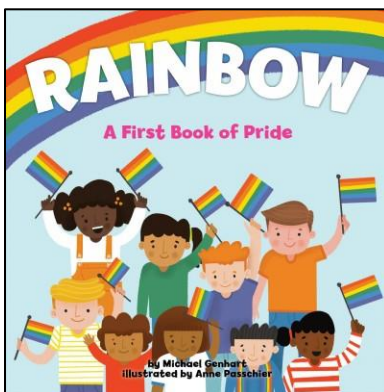
by Robin Stevenson

Board Book (2019)
Toddler Stevenson

Through gentle rhymes and colorful photographs of babies and toddlers, *Pride Colors* is a celebration of the deep unconditional love of a parent or caregiver for a young child, and an introduction to the PRIDE flag and the

meaning behind each color.

Suggested for ages 1-4



Rainbow: A First Book of Pride

by Michael Genhart; illustrated by Anne Passchier

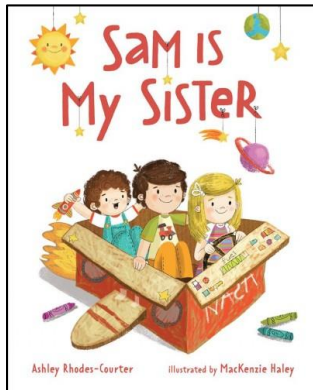
Picture Book (2019)
P Genhart

With bright colors and joyful families, this book celebrates LGBTQ+ pride and reveals the colorful meaning behind each rainbow stripe. *Rainbow: A First Book of Pride* is a sweet ode to rainbow families, and an affirming display of

the love between parents and children.

Suggested for ages 2-5





Sam is My Sister

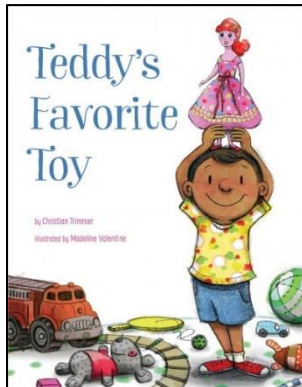
by Ashley Rhodes-Courter; illustrated by MacKenzie Haley

Picture Book (2021)

P Rhodes-Courter

Evan loves being big brother to Sam and Finn. They do everything together—go fishing, climb trees, and play astronauts. But lately, Evan notices that he and Sam don't look like brothers anymore. Sam wants to have long hair, and even asks to wear a dress on the first day of school. As time goes by, Evan comes to understand why Sam wants to look like a girl—because Sam is a girl. Sam is transgender. And just like always, Sam loves to dream with Evan and Finn about going to the moon together.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Teddy's Favorite Toy

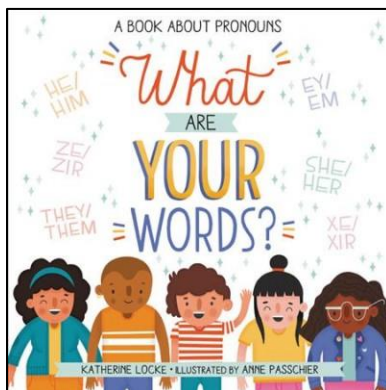
by Christian Trimmer; illustrated by Madeline Valentine

Picture Book (2018)

P Trimmer

Teddy's favorite toy has the best manners, and the sickest fighting skills, and a fierce sense of style. But when his toy goes missing, there's only one woman fierce enough to save the day. Can Teddy's mom reunite Teddy with his favorite toy?

Suggested for ages 4-8



What Are Your Words? : A Book About Pronouns

by Katherine Locke; illustrated by Anne Passchier

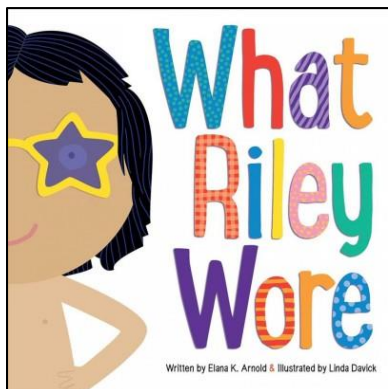
Picture Book (2021)

P Locke

Ari knows a lot of words for neighbors, including the pronouns each prefers, and with help from Uncle Lior, who always asks "What are your words," figures out which pronouns – and other words – fit best today.

Suggested for ages 4-9





What Riley Wore

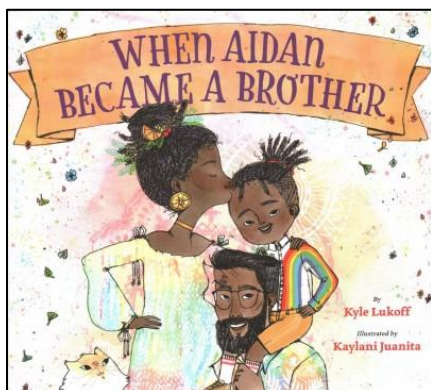
by Elana K. Arnold; illustrated by Linda Davick

Picture Book (2019)
P Arnold

Space pajamas are great for Universe Day at school. A ball gown is just right for a fancy dinner. And a superhero cape is great when Riley needs to feel brave. What will Riley feel like wearing *next*? This charming picture book

follows Riley through a busy week with family and friends and explores and supports creative and emotional self-expression.

Suggested for ages 4-8



When Aidan Became a Brother

by Kyle Lukoff; illustrated by Kaylani Juanita

Picture Book (2019)
P Lukoff

When Mom and Dad announce that they're going to have another baby, Aidan, a transgender boy, 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 he already knows the most important thing about being a big brother: how to love with his whole self.

Also available as an OverDrive Ebook.

Suggested for ages 4-8



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