

## [Multicultural Diversity Children's Books - Letterbox Library](https://www.letterboxlibrary.com)

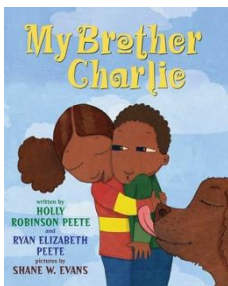
<https://www.letterboxlibrary.com>

Books for all ages in the Junior and Infant School

- Gender Equality
- Mental health
- Disability
- Mixed Race Representation
- Refuges and Migration
- Black History
- Making Friends
- Families
- LGBTQ+
- Fostering and Adoption
- Family Break Ups

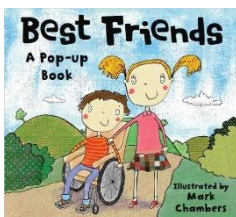
### General Inclusion

**'My Brother Charlie' by Holly Robinson Peete And Ryan Elizabeth Peete**



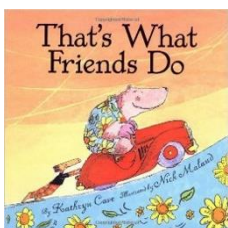
In collaboration with her daughter, Holly Robinson Peete wrote this book based on her 10-year-old son who has autism. Told from the perspective of his older sister, [\*My Brother Charlie\*](#) touches on how special Charlie is, and how many incredible things he can do.

**'Best Friends' by Sheri Safran**



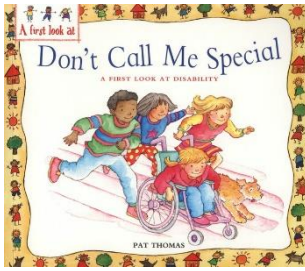
A boy in a wheel-chair and his best friend take great adventures together throughout this book, through the land of make-believe, and sometimes, just to the pool. [\*Best Friends\*](#) is a beautiful pop-up book for children that teaches them that a disability doesn't change who a person is.

**'That's What Friends Do' by Kathryn Cave**



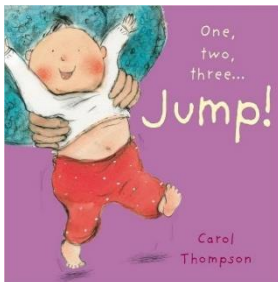
[\*That's What Friends Do\*](#) is a beautiful book that teaches children the joy of friendship, even when two friends look very different, and especially when friends need it most.

### 'Don't Call Me Special: A First Look at Disability' by Pat Thomas



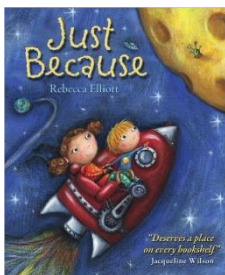
Exploring the questions and concerns children might have about physical disabilities, *Don't Call Me Special* makes things very simple and reassuring. Children learn about individual disabilities, and how people everywhere can live happy and full lives with their disabilities.

### 'One, Two, Three... Jump!' by Carol Thompson



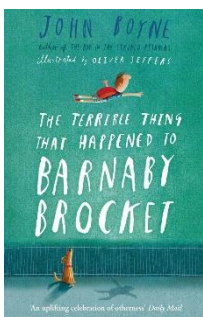
Geared at young children, *One, Two Three... Jump!* urges children to move and play, regardless of challenge. The illustrations in the book depict children of various ability taking part in the joy of movement.

### 'Just Because' by Rebecca Elliott



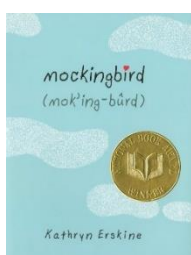
A younger brother depicts all the things he loves to do with his older sister, and as readers read on, they discover that his sister has special needs. Beautifully teaching children to accept anyone and everyone who may face a disability, *Just Because*.

### 'The Terrible Thing that Happened To Barnaby Brocket' by John Boyne



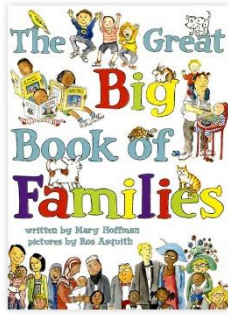
In *The Terrible Thing that Happened to Barnaby Brocket*, 8-year-old Barnaby was born to float. Literally. His parents want desperately for him to be normal, but Barnaby can't help that he's extraordinary. Finding himself on a journey of epic proportions, Barnaby finds himself on the way.

### 'Mockingbird' by Kathryn Erskine



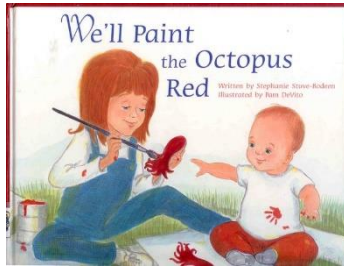
*Mockingbird*'s protagonist Caitlin has Asperger's. After a family tragedy, Caitlin feels lost. Without her brother, she no longer knows who to turn to, and how to cope. Discovering the word "closure," Caitlin begins a journey to look for it, and finds out much about herself along the way.

### 'The Great Big Book Of Families' by Mary Hoffman



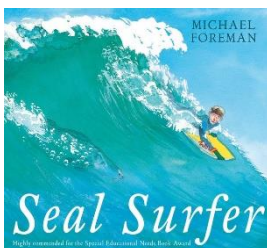
Focusing less on disability, and more on diversity, *The Great Big Book of Families* shows children that families come in all shapes and sizes, and that they are all worthy of love.

### 'We'll Paint The Octopus Red' by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen



When 6-year-old Emma's baby brother is born with Down Syndrome, she wonders what his limitations will be. Her father quickly tells her that as long as they are patient, and help him when he needs it, that he won't have any limitations at all. Answering many questions children might have about Down Syndrome, [We'll Paint The Octopus Red](#) is a sweet account of how everyone requires love and patience, no matter who they are.

### 'Seal Surfer' by Michael Foreman



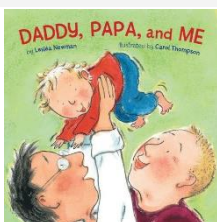
In [Seal Surfer](#) a boy and his grandfather watch a baby seal being born one afternoon, and it creates a special bond between them. The boy is a talented surfer, so talented that readers may not even notice the adapted surfboard he uses. When he finds himself in trouble, his seal friend comes to the rescue, bringing lessons of friendship and happiness with him.

## LGBTQ+



### **My Two Moms and Me** by Michael Joosten, illustrated by Izak Zenou

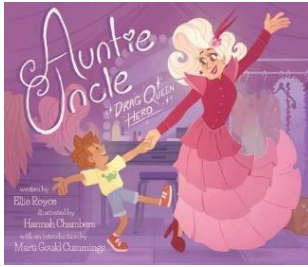
This sweet board book features a diverse array of families with lesbian mothers going about their daily routines, including playdates, pool-dates, and bedtime reading. Published in 2019 with artwork by an acclaimed fashion illustrator, it's a welcome follow-up to *Heather Has Two Mommies*. Don't miss *My Two Dads and Me* by the same creators!  
(Ages 0 – 3)



### **Daddy, Papa, and Me** by Leslea Newman, illustrated by Carol Thompson

Like the above author-illustrator duo, Leslea Newman and Carol Thompson add their unique touch to the rainbow-family compendium with *Daddy, Papa, and Me* and *Mommy, Mama, and Me*. Rhythmic text and charming illustrations make these board books a must-have for all families.

(Ages 0 – 3)



**Auntie Uncle** by Ellie Royce

This moving picture book is narrated by a young boy who adores his auntie uncle, who goes to work as Uncle Leo and performs drag as Auntie Lotta. When Auntie Lotta saves the day during a Pride parade and isn't sure how to present while accepting a medal from the mayor, the narrator helps his auntie uncle find a look that honours both sides of their beloved self.

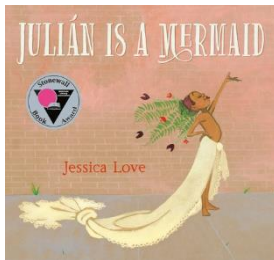
(Ages 3 – 7)



**The Adventures of Honey & Leon** by Alan Cumming, illustrated by Grant Shaffer

Theatre and film star Alan Cumming and his husband Grant Shaffer were inspired to chronicle the adventures of their rescue dogs during their dads' travels. It turns out, Honey and Leon tail their dads and rescue them at every turn. Their adventures continue in the Scotland-based sequel, *Honey & Leon Take the High Road*.

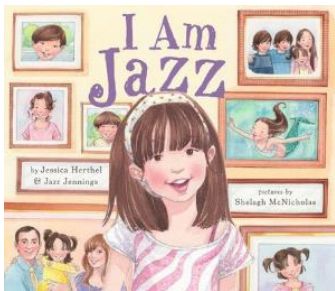
(Ages 3 – 7)



**Julián Is a Mermaid** by Jessica Love

This gorgeous Stonewall Award-winning picture book stars Julián, a child coming to understand their gender nonconformity after a joyful encounter with three women dressed as shimmering mermaids. Julián fantasizes about dressing up like a mermaid too, and wonders what his Abuela will make of it in this celebration of self-love and individuality.

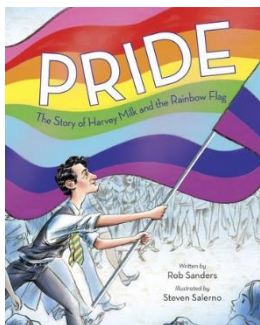
(Ages 4 – 8) Top of Form



**I Am Jazz** by Jessica Herthel and Jazz Jennings, illustrated by Shelagh McNicholas

With clarity and insight, Jazz Jennings shares her story of realizing at a very young age that, though she was being raised as a boy, she was truly a girl. An essential read for children and families of all experiences, *I Am Jazz* has an empowering message of celebrating what makes us unique and respecting everyone's differences.

(Ages 4 – 8)

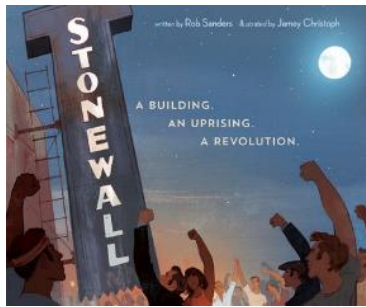


**Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag** by Rob Sanders, illustrated by Steven Salerno

Young readers can now learn the momentous and inspiring story of the Gay Pride Flag, created in 1978 by social activist Harvey Milk and designer Gilbert Baker. More than a history, *Pride* vibrantly illuminates the reach and timelessness of the rainbow flag, a global symbol of equality and inclusion.

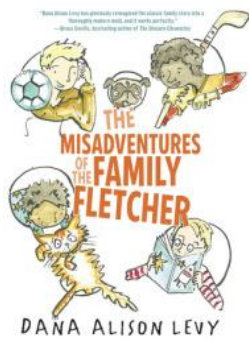
(Ages 5 – 8)





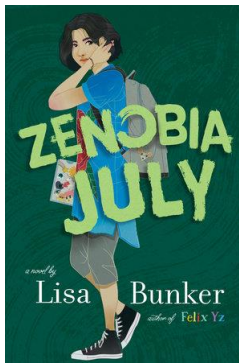
**Stonewall: A Building, an Uprising, a Revolution** by Rob Sanders, illustrated by Jamey Christoph

*Pride* author Rob Sanders adds another title to the LGBTQ+ historical canon with *Stonewall*, the moving story of the 1969 police raid and ensuing protests that played a crucial role in the gay civil rights movement. Narrated by the Stonewall Inn itself, this accessible and empowering book is an essential piece of pride history.  
(Ages 5 – 8)



**The Misadventures of the Family Fletcher** by Dana Alison Levy

The Fletchers are no different from any modern American family — four brothers, various pets (some possibly imaginary), soccer, plays, and pesky neighbours. The fact that the fathers are gay and a few of the brothers are adopted? That's just background, showing readers without telling them that there as many definitions of family as there are families.  
(Ages 8 – 10)



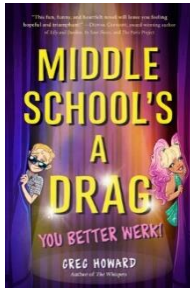
**Zenobia July** by Lisa Bunker

Zenobia July is a hacking and coding prodigy who's attending a new school as a girl for the first time. Though she's recently lost her family of origin, she creates a chosen family in the LGBTQ+ community. Bunker's also the author of *Felix Yz*, an imaginative story with several characters who are queer and gender fluid.  
(Ages 10+)



**The Whispers** by Greg Howard

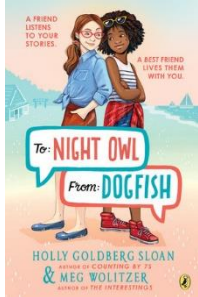
A fantastical coming-of-age story about loss, friendship, and identity, *The Whispers* centres around 11-year-old Riley, who believes in wish-granting fairies known as the whispers. Riley embarks on a journey with his friend Gary to find the whispers and ask for his mom to return, and maybe also for his crush Dylan to like him back.  
(Ages 10+)



***Middle School's a Drag, You Better Werk!*** by Greg Howard

Another excellent middle grade novel from the author of *The Whispers*, this one follows entrepreneurial 12-year-old Mikey Pruitt as he starts his own talent agency and represents clients in the lead up to the big talent show. Among his roster is eighth-grader Julian Vasquez — drag queen name Coco Caliente — who helps Mikey see that he, too, can be openly gay at school.

(Ages 10+)



***To Night Owl From Dogfish*** by Holly Goldberg Sloan and Meg Wolitzer

This epistolary novel co-written by two powerhouse authors captures the budding friendship between bookish Avery Bloom and fearless Bett Devlin, whose dads fall in love and send them to sleepaway camp to get to know each other. Witty and heart-warming, *To Night Owl From Dogfish* subtly portrays two modern families on their way to becoming one.

(Ages 10+)