

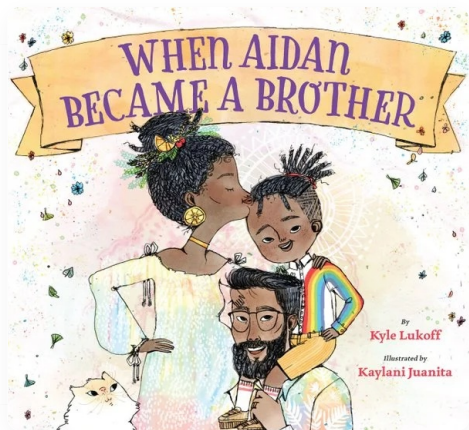
K-2 Booklist

All the books on this list are included in the 2026-2027 School Year Rainbow Library collection. With each title is a full-text review, along with the awards the title has won. We encourage you to use this information when making book recommendations to students or when discussing these titles with families or other school staff.



Rainbow Library books are selected based on reviews from major journals, such as School Library Journal, Kirkus, and Booklist Reviews, and feedback from hundreds of educators and school librarians who previously received Rainbow Library sets. The grade range for each title follows School Library Journal (or, if unavailable, another reputable journal). Nearly all these titles have won awards or been featured on reputable lists, such as the American Library Association (ALA) Rainbow Book List.

To purchase LGBTQ+ affirming titles for grades K-12, please visit **bookshop.org/shop/RainbowLibrary**. A portion of proceeds goes back to supporting this program.



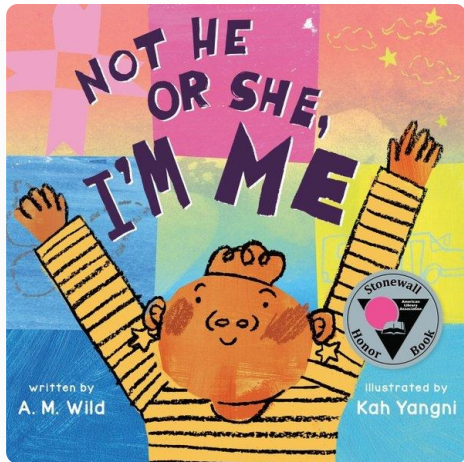
PICTURE BOOK

When Aidan Becomes A Brother

Kyle Lukoff (Author), Kaylani Juanita (Illustrated by)

Stonewall Book Award Winner - ALA

This sweet and groundbreaking picture book, winner of the 2020 Stonewall Book Award, celebrates the changes in a transgender boy's life, from his initial coming-out to becoming a big brother. When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl. His parents gave him a pretty name, his room looked like a girl's room, and he wore clothes that other girls liked wearing. After he realized he was a trans boy, Aidan and his parents fixed the parts of life that didn't fit anymore, and he settled happily into his new life. Then Mom and Dad announce that 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—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 mistakes can be fixed with honesty and communication, and that he already knows the most important thing about being a big brother: how to love with his whole self. When Aidan Became a Brother is a heartwarming book that will resonate with transgender children, reassure any child concerned about becoming an older sibling, and celebrate the many transitions a family can experience.



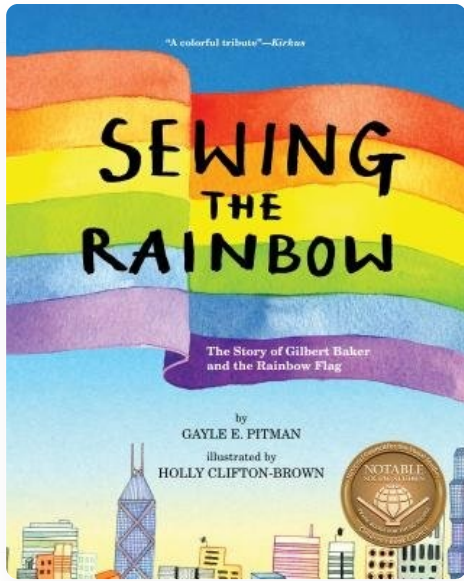
PICTURE BOOK

Not He or She, I'm Me

A. M. Wild (Author), Kah Yangni (Illustrated by)

Stonewall Book Award Honor Book

In this joyous picture book about a day in the life of a non-binary child, a child gets ready for a wonderful day. They gleefully get dressed, hug their parents, go to school, and play with friends. All the while, unapologetically reminding themselves that they are and can only be themselves. The non-binary experience is brightly illustrated as we follow our main character through their typical day. The story's bouncy and fun refrain reminds all readers of gender neutral pronouns and affirms the identities of non-binary children—encouraging readers to practice empathy for themselves and others.



PICTURE BOOK

Sewing the Rainbow: A Story about Gilbert Baker

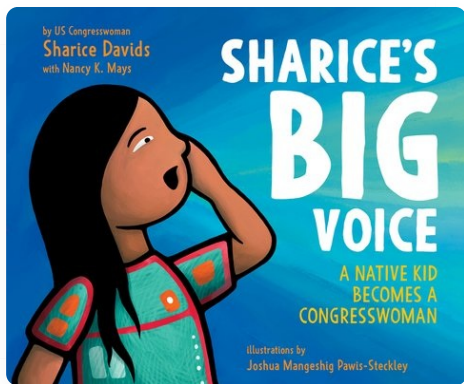
Gayle E Pitman (Author), Holly Clifton-Brown (Illustrated by)

5th-6th Grade Finalist - Children's Choice Book Awards

ALA GLBT Round Table Rainbow Book List

National Parenting Product Award Winner (NAPPA)

Gilbert Baker always knew he wanted a life full of color and sparkle. In his small, gray, flat Kansas hometown, he helped his grandma sew and created his own art whenever he could. It wasn't easy; life tried over and over again to make Gilbert conform. But his sparkle always shone through. He dreamed of someday going somewhere as vibrant and colorful as he was. Set against the backdrop of San Francisco during the gay rights movement of the 1970s, Gilbert's story unfolds just like the flag he created: in a riot of color, joy, and pride. Today the flag is everywhere, even in the small town where Gilbert grew up! Includes a Reader Note that provides more in-depth discussion of the beginnings of the gay rights movement and a more detailed look into Gilbert Baker's place in our shared history.



**PICTURE BOOK •
BIOGRAPHY**

Sharice's Big Voice: A Native Kid Becomes a Congresswoman

Sharice Davids (Author), Nancy K. Mays (Author), Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley (Illustrated by)

Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year 2022

Here Wee Read's 2021 Ultimate List of Diverse Children's Books

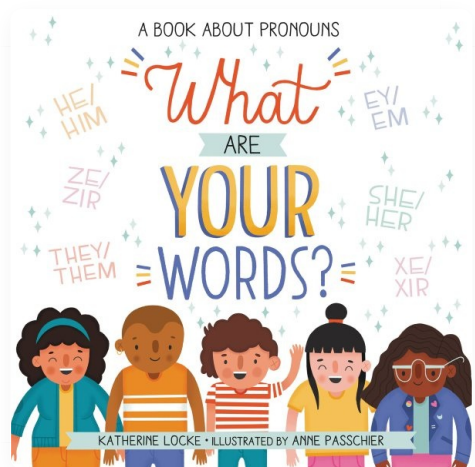
2022 ALSC Notable Children's Books

2022 Booklist - Rise: A Feminist Book Project

2022 Reading the West Award Nominee

CCBC Choices 2022

This acclaimed picture book autobiography tells the triumphant story of Sharice Davids, one of the first Native American women elected to Congress, and the first LGBTQ congressperson to represent Kansas. When Sharice Davids was young, she never thought she'd be in Congress. And she never thought she'd be one of the first Native American women in Congress. During her campaign, she heard from a lot of doubters. They said she couldn't win because of how she looked, who she loved, and where she came from. But everyone's path looks different and everyone's path has obstacles. And this is the remarkable story of Sharice Davids' path to Congress.

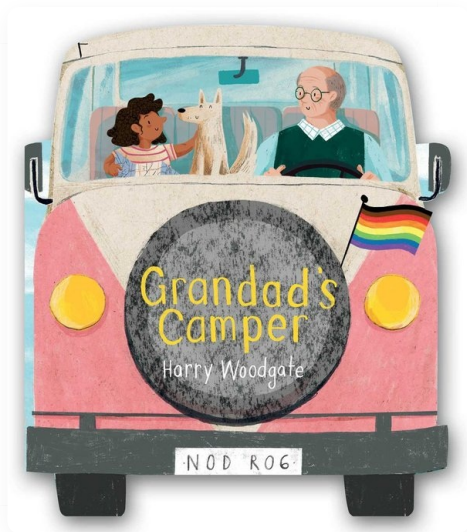


PICTURE BOOK

What Are Your Words? A Book About Pronouns

Katherine Locke (Author), Anne Passchier (Illustrated by)

Follow Ari through their neighborhood as they try to find their words in this sweet, accessible introduction to gender-inclusive pronouns that is perfect for readers of all ages. Whenever Ari's Uncle Lior comes to visit, they ask Ari one question: "What are your words?" Some days Ari uses she/her. Other days Ari uses he/him. But on the day of the neighborhood's big summer bash, Ari doesn't know what words to use. On the way to the party, Ari and Lior meet lots of neighbors and learn the words each of them use to describe themselves, including pronouns like she/her, he/him, they/them, ey/em, and ze/zir. As Ari tries on different pronouns, they discover that it's okay to not know your words right away—sometimes you have to wait for your words to find you. Filled with bright, graphic illustrations, this simple and poignant story about finding yourself is the perfect introduction to gender-inclusive pronouns for readers of all ages.



BOARD BOOK

Grandad's Camper

Harry Woodgate (Author)

A Stonewall Honor Book

Children's Illustrated Book of the Year - British Book Awards

Best Illustrated Book - Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2022

Best Picture Books of 2021 - School Library Journal

Future Classic Picture Books of 2021 - Bookstagang's Best of 2021

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, granddad 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. This beautiful board book, shaped like Grandad's Camper itself, honors love and reminds us not only to remember those we have lost, but to celebrate them.



PICTURE BOOK

Love Around the World

Fleur Pierets (Author), Fatinha Ramos (Illustrated by)

2020 Rainbow Book List Selection

Fleur and Julian are two women very much in love. When they decide to get married, however, they discover that in most countries, a man cannot marry a man and a woman cannot marry a woman. In fact, out of 195 countries in the world, they can only marry in 26 of them. Fleur and Julian want to make other people aware of that. They think that love is love—not only between a man and a woman! So Fleur goes down on one knee and asks the love of her life, “Would you like to marry me in all 26 countries?” Julian answers, “Yes!” Thus begins an incredible trip around the world for our two heroes, Fleur and Julian, who travel to each nation that celebrates marriage equality. In *Love Around the World*, Fleur and Julian get married in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Finland, France, Iceland, Ireland, Mexico, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and the United States, where they learn about the customs and traditions of each place and make special memories that will last forever.

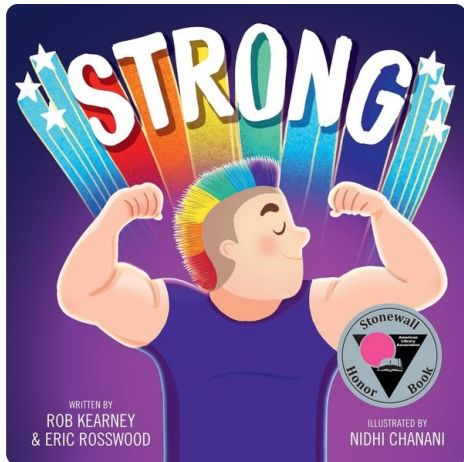


**PICTURE BOOK •
NONFICTION**

Play Proud: Fiercely Fabulous Queer Athletes

**Rob Sanders (Author), Izzy Evans
(Illustrated by)**

Tall and short. Straight and queer. Sports has got a new frontier. A rhyming romp through professional and amateur sports, *Play Proud* highlights sixty historic and modern queer athletes, from Billie Jean King to Megan Rapinoe, Johnny Weir to Carl Nassib. Readers will be on a first-name basis with each of them as they race through the wide world of sports, discovering role models who play hard, play fair, and play proud. The triumphs of these athletes—both on and off the field, court, rink, ring, and pitch—serve as powerful inspiration for everyone who seeks to live their life authentically. Back matter provides key stats on the athlete lineup, as well as a glossary and author's note about how sports can become accepting of everyone.



**PICTURE BOOK •
BIOGRAPHY**

Strong

**Rob Kearney (Author), Eric Rosswood
(Author), Nidhi Chanani (Illustrated by)**

A Stonewall Honor Book

A fresh, charming picture book that shows there are lots of ways to be STRONG. Rob dreams of becoming a champion strongman. He wants to flip huge tires, lug boulders, and haul trucks—and someday be the strongest man in the world! But he feels like he can't fit in with his bright leggings, unicorn T-shirts, and rainbow-dyed hair. Will Rob find a way to step into his true self and be a champion? With bold illustrations and an engaging, informative text, Strong introduces readers to Rob Kearney and his journey from an athletic kid trying to find his place to the world's first openly gay professional strongman.



PICTURE BOOK

The Perfect Match

Chris Becker (Author), Dan Taylor (Illustrated by)

An adorable, action-packed spin on Cinderella featuring lots of soccer and a prince with two royal dads. Jack begs his dad to tell him his favorite bedtime story, the one about Leo and the royal soccer match. It includes two mean stepbrothers, a fairy squad father, and magical race car ride to the big game. The match is amazing, and Leo scores the winning goal, with an assist from Prince Ollie! But after his uniform starts to change back to his regular clothes, Leo rushes off, leaving his cleat behind. The prince searches high and low for the boy the cleat belongs to, and when he finds him, it's the perfect match! Leo and Prince Ollie live happily ever after. And one day . . . they have a little boy named Jack who loves soccer as much as they do!