



## PICTURE BOOKS FOR STUDENTS INCLUSIVE OF GAY FAMILY MEMBERS AND CHARACTERS

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***All Families Are Special***, Norma Simon, Albert Whitman & Co., 2003 (2 – 3).

This book enhances Norma Simon’s classic *All Kinds of Families*. This book provides contemporary examples, including two-mom, blended and international families. It goes beyond other books in portraying different kinds of families and shows what can be hard in a family, as well as what is good.

***And Tango Makes Three***, Justin Richardson & Peter Parnell, Simon & Schuster Children’s Publishing, 2005 (Pre-K – 1).

Tells the story of two famous dads — penguins Roy and Silo from New York’s Central Park Zoo. After the penguins put a rock in their nest and try to hatch it, the zookeeper gives them a real egg that needs care. The two take turns sitting on it until it hatches, and Tango is born.

***Antonio’s Card / La Tarjeta de Antonio***, Rigoberto Gonzales & Cecilia Concepcion Alvarez (Illustrator), Children’s Book Press, 2005 (Bilingual) (2 – 3).

As Mother’s Day approaches, Antonio must choose whether — or how — to express his connection and love for his mother and her partner, Leslie. But he’s not sure what to do when his classmates make fun of Leslie, an artist, who towers over everyone and wears paint-splattered overalls.

***Best, Best Colors / Los Mejores Colores***, Eric Hoffman, Celeste Henriquez (Illustrator) & Eida De La Vega (Translator), Redleaf Press, 1999 (Pre-K – 2).

Nate loves all of the wonderful colors he sees in his everyday life. When his Mamma Jean and Mamma Laura ask him his favorite color, he wonders, “How can I choose just one?” Later, Nate learns he likes all the colors best when they’re together and that he can have more than one favorite color and more than one best friend.

***Buster’s Sugartime***, Marc Brown, Little, Brown & Co., 2006 (K – 2).

An easy-reader companion book to the PBS Postcards From Buster episode that takes Buster to visit a family headed by two moms in Vermont where, he learns how maple sugar is made.

***The Different Dragon***, Jennifer Bryan, Two Lives Publishing, 2006 (Pre-K – 2).

This bedtime story about bedtime stories shows how the wonderful curiosity and care of a little boy, with some help from his willing moms, can lead to magical and unexpected places.

***Donovan’s Big Day***, Lesléa Newman, Tricycle Press, 2011 (Pre-K – 2).

Captures the excitement of a young boy as he and his extended family prepare for the boy’s two moms’ wedding. A picture book about love, family, and marriage.

***The Duke Who Outlawed Jelly Beans and Other Stories***, Johnny Valentine & Lynette Schmidt (Illustrator), Alyson Books, 2004 (K – 3).

A Duke proclaimed: “I had exactly one mother and one father, and I turned out so well, I think all children should have exactly one mother and one father. Any that don’t ... why, we’ll throw ’em in the dungeon.” But the kids found a way to stop him. A collection of five fairy tales.

***Emma and Meesha My Boy: A Two Mom Story***, Kaitlyn Taylor Considine, Twomombooks.com, 2005 (Pre-K – K).

A story of little girl with two moms learning how to be nice to her cat. Follow along as Emma gets in trouble trying to play with Meesha Kitty and cheer as she learns to treat him with care.

***Everywhere Babies***, Susan Meyers & Marla Frazee (Illustrator), Harcourt, 2001 (Pre-K).

Every day, everywhere, babies are born. They're kissed and dressed and rocked and fed — and completely adored by all of the kinds of families who love them.

***Families***, Susan Kuklin, Hyperion, 2006 (4 – 5).

Combining interviews and engaging color photos, this book shows the diversity of families in America. Includes mixed-race, immigrant, two-dad, two-mom and single-parent families and families for whom religion is a focal point. The interviews focus on the children's feelings about being part of their family.

***Families***, Ann Morris, HarperCollins, 2000 (Pre-K – 1).

Some children live with their mothers and fathers. Others have stepparents or live with just one parent. Still others live with grandparents or foster parents who chose them specially. But all children around the world are part of families – caring for one another.

***The Family Book***, Todd Parr, Little, Brown Young Readers, 2004 (Pre-K – K).

All kinds of families are celebrated in a funny, silly and reassuring way. Includes adoptive families, stepfamilies, single-parent families, two-mom and two-dad families and families with a mom and a dad.

***Flying Free***, Jennifer C. Gregg & Janna Richards (Illustrator), BookSurge LCC, 2005 (Pre-K – 1).

Violet captures a firefly and plans to use it as a nightlight. Her mommies go along with the idea, but the firefly refuses to live in a glass jar. After several attempts, the firefly devises the ultimate escape plan.

***Hello, Sailor***, Ingrid Godon & Andre Sollie, MacMillan Children's Books, 2004 (Pre-K – 1).

Matt lives in a lighthouse. He watches the sea every day for ships and for his friend, Sailor. Rose and Felix say Sailor is never coming back, but Matt won't give up hope. Surely Sailor will come back for Matt's birthday?

***Hoops with Swoopes: Picture Book***, Susan Kuklin, Sheryl Swoopes, Jump at the Sun, 2001 (Pre-K – K).

The 2000 WNBA champion and MVP takes center court in this simple, vigorous introduction to basketball with soaring photographs of Swoopes and bright, bold typography.

***In Our Mothers' House***, Patricia Polacco, , Philomel, 2009 (2 – 5).

Marmee, Meema, and the kids are just like any other family on the block. In their house, they cook, laugh, and dance together. But some families don't accept them, saying they are different. But Marmee and Meema's house is full of love. They teach their children that different doesn't mean wrong. Good, if issues have come up in class.

***Mom & Mum Are Getting Married***, Ken Setterington & Alice Priestly, Second Story Press, 2004 (Pre-K – 2).

Rosie comes home from school one day to find out that her moms are getting married. Rosie has so many questions. Will she get to be a flower girl or carry the rings? Will there be food and a fabulous wedding cake? At a small, simple ceremony, family, friends and fun come together for a celebration of love in a changing world.

***Monday is One Day***, Arthur Levine, Scholastic Press, 2011 (Pre-K - K).

A love note from a working parent to a child, counting the days of the week -- each one a special opportunity to spend time together. “The hardest part of going to work is being apart from you....” Each day of the week features a different family including a two dad family.

***A Tale of Two Daddies***, Vanita Oelschlager, Vanita Books, 2010 (Pre-K – 1).

A young girl answers a friend's questions about what it is like to have two fathers. The boy asks straightforward questions: “Which dad would build your home in a tree? And which dad helps when you skin your knee?” The story ends simply, “Who is your dad when you're sad and need some love?” Both, of course.

***Uncle Bobby's Wedding***, Sarah S. Brannen, Putnam Juvenile, 2008 (K – 2).

Looks at the fears that a young girl has of losing her favorite uncle when he plans to get married. Everyone in the family is happy, but her. She finally sees that she is not losing an uncle but gaining another uncle.

***We All Sing with the Same Voice***, J. Phillip Miller, Sheppard M. Greene & Paul Meisel (Illustrator), HarperTrophy, 2005 (Pre-K – 1).

In a classic Sesame Street song children differentiated by race, nationality, gender or geography join hands and sing: “We all sing with the same voice...” The lyrics and illustrations can open up discussion of families (e.g. “I’ve got one daddy/I’ve got two”).

***The White Swan Express: A Story About Adoption***, Jean Davies Okimoto, Clarion Books, 2002 (1 – 3).

Across North America people in four different homes prepare for a special trip to China, while four baby girls in China await their new adoptive parents. Shows the adoption process step by step and the anxiety, suspense and delight of becoming a family. Includes a single-mom family and a two-mom family.

***Who's in a Family?*** Robert Skutch, Tricycle Press, 1997 (Pre-K – K).

A picture book showing multicultural, contemporary family units, including those with single parents, two moms or two dads, mixed-race couples, grandparents and divorced parents.