

Celebrate LGBTQ+ stories



Queer stories deserve to be celebrated all year round, but especially during June, which is LGBTQ+ Pride Month. This is a UK-wide celebration that honours the 1969 Stonewall riots, and works to promote the affirmation, dignity, equality and increased visibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer identities and communities. We've put together a list of some of our favourite children's books that celebrate LGBTQ+ identities, narratives and experiences. You can read more about LGBTQ+ Pride Month here. Click here to find these titles on Browns Books.



A Little Bit Different by Claire Alexander

The ploofers have been practicing something special. But when one little ploofer goes against the usual flow of things, the rest of them turn their backs on him. All it takes is for one person to recognise the beauty in being different, to spark a change in attitude from everyone.

Reading age: 4+

Interest age: 2-3



The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta

Michael waits in the stage wings, wearing a pink wig, pink fluffy coat and black heels. One more step will see him illuminated by a spotlight. He has been on a journey of bravery to get here, and he is almost ready to show himself to the world in bold colours ...Can he emerge as The Black Flamingo?

Reading age: 12+

Interest age: 12-15



Lose You To Find Me by Erik J. Brown

Tommy Dees is in the weeds and overwhelmed. He's been working at Sunset Estates Retirement Community, where he must train new-hire Gabriel, who Tommy crushed on during summer camp at age ten and then never saw again. Unfortunately, Gabe doesn't remember Tommy at all. Can Tommy keep it all together, or is it a recipe for disaster?

Reading age: 12+

Interest age: 12-15



Remixed: An inspiring story about our families by Arree Chung

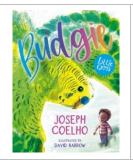
When colours of different kinds fall in love, they mix, creating families that come in every possible combination of colour, shape, and size. But sometimes, their feelings change and change in a family isn't always easy.

Reading age: 6+

Interest age: 4-7

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Budgie by Joesph Coelho

Mr Buxton is always having a go at Miles and his friends, for climbing the trees outside their tower block. Miles thinks he's just a grumpy old man but when he finds a lost little budgie, Miles also discovers that he and Mr Buxton, have more in common than he could ever have imagined.

Reading age: 5+

Interest age: 6-8

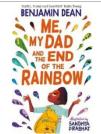


Gwen & Art Are Not In Love by Lex Croucher

Gwen and Arthur have been betrothed since birth. Unfortunately, the only thing they can agree on, is that they hate each other. They pretend to fall for each other, but how long can they keep up the ruse?

Reading age: 12+

Interest age: 12-15



Me, My Dad And The End Of The Rainbow by Benjamin Dean

Things aren't going great for Archie Albright. His dad's acting weird, his mum too. When Archie sees a colourful, crumpled flyer fall out of Dad's pocket, he may have found the answer.

Reading age: 9+

Interest age: 9-11



The Secret Sunshine Project by Benjamin Dean

When Bea's family visit London Pride together, they have the ultimate day out. But a year later, Dad has passed away, and Bea's big sister, Riley, is taking the news hard. So, The Secret Sunshine Project is formed – Bea's plan to bring Pride to the countryside and a smile back to Riley's face.

Reading age: 9+

Interest age: 9-12



Glitter Boy by Ian Eagleton

James' teacher, Mr Hamilton, is getting married to his boyfriend and it seems that James will be part of a surprise choir performance at the wedding. But James's father seems uncomfortable about the plan.

Reading age: 8+

Interest age: 9-11



Friday I'm In Love by Camryn Garrett

It's too late for Mahalia Harris' Sweet Sixteen, so what if she had a coming-out party? A celebration of queerness, on her own terms. Soon, Mahalia is doing all she can to prep for the coming out of her dreams.

Reading age: 12+

Interest age: 12-15

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Melissa by Alex Gino



When people look at George, they think they see a boy. But she knows she's a girl. When her teacher announces that their class play is going to be Charlotte's Web, George really, really, REALLY wants to play Charlotte. But the teacher says she can't even try out for the part...because she's a boy.

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Reading age: 10+

Interest age: 10+

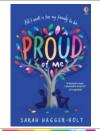
Prince & Knight

Prince & Knight by Daniel Haack and Steve Lewis

Once upon a time, there lived a charming prince whose parents set wish was to find him a suitable bride. But it soon became clear, that none of the princesses were right for him. Then, the Prince meets a brave knight. Could this be the Prince's one true love?

Reading age: 7+

Interest age: 4-8

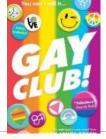


Proud of Me by Sarah Hagger-Holt

Becky and Josh are almost-twins, with two mums and the same anonymous donor dad. Becky and Josh both want their parents to be proud of them...but right now, they're struggling to even accept themselves.

Reading age: 9+

Interest age: 9-13

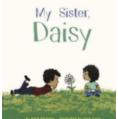


Gay Club! by Simon James Green

Barney's a shoo-in for his school's LGBTQ+ Society President, but when the vote opens, the whole school pays attention. How low will the candidates go to win? Buckle up for shade, scandals and sleazy shenanigans.

Reading age: 13+

Interest age: 12-15

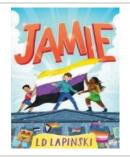


My Sister, Daisy by Adria Karlsson

Daisy's older brother is thrilled, when he gets a baby brother. They are best buddies, who do everything together. But then, his younger brother realises she is a girl and wants to be called Daisy.

Reading age: 5+

Interest age: 5-7



Jamie by L.D. Lapinski

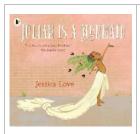
When Jamie Rambeau, a happy, 11-year-old, non-binary kid, finds out that their school will be separated into one school for boys and another for girls; they realise no one has thought about where they are going to go, so they take matters into their own hands.

Reading age: 10+

Interest age: 10-12

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Julian Is A Mermaid by Jessica Love

While riding the subway with his Nana, Julian notices three women, spectacularly dressed up. When Julian gets home, all he can think about is dressing up like those ladies and making his own fabulous, mermaid costume.

Reading age: 4+

Interest age: 6+

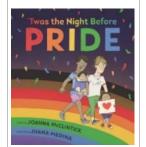


Julian At The Wedding by Jessica Love

Julian and his nana are attending a wedding. When the wedding duties are fulfilled, Julian and his cousin, Marisol take off to roam the venue. After all, it wouldn't be a wedding without fun, laughter and a little magical mischief.

Reading age: 5+

Interest age: 3-8

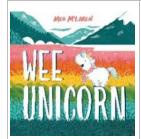


'Twas the Night Before Pride by Joanna McClintick

On the night before Pride, families everywhere are preparing to partake. As one family packs snacks and makes signs, an older sibling shares the importance of the parade, with the newest member of the family. The best thing about Pride is getting to be yourself.

Reading age: 4+

Interest age: 4-8

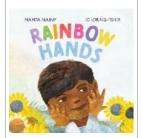


Wee Unicorn by Meg McLaren

Far away in the north, lives a little unicorn. Wee Unicorn is small and loud...but she's not magic (and everyone knows unicorns are supposed to be magic!). How can Wee Unicorn fit in, when she feels so different?

Reading age: 3+

Interest age: 3-5

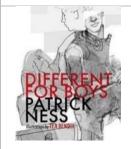


Rainbow Hands by Mamta Nainy

As the long, Indian summer days stretch ahead of him, a young boy looks forward to his favourite time – painting-your-nails-time. His Papa frowns and says, "What have you done to your nails?" But the little boy knows that painting his nails, makes his hands look beautiful.

Reading age: 3+

Interest age: 2-8



Different For Boys by Patrick Ness

Ant Stevenson has many questions, like, when did he stop being a virgin? Are there degrees of virginity? And, is it different for boys? Especially for boys who like boys?

Reading age: 14+

Interest age: 14+

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The Last Firefox by Lee Newbury

Between bullies at school and changes at home, Charlie Challinor finds life a bit scary. And when he's made guardian of a furry firefox cub called Cadno, things get a whole lot scarier. Charlie's going to need to find the bravery, to protect his flammable friend and save the last firefox...

Reading age: 8+

Interest age: 8-11



Heartstopper by Alice Oseman

Charlie and Nick are at the same school, but they've never met ... until one day, when they're made to sit together. Soon Charlie is falling hard for Nick, even though he doesn't think he has a chance. But love works in surprising ways, and Nick is more interested in Charlie, than either of them realised.

Reading age: 10+

Interest age: 12-17

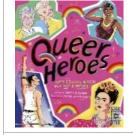


The Spectacular Suit by Kat Patrick

It's almost Frankie's birthday and everything is ready, except for something to wear. What Frankie longs for, is a suit. A spectacular suit! Can Frankie find the outfit of her dreams?

Reading age: 6+

Interest age: 4-8



Queer Heroes by Arabelle Sicardi and Sarah Tanat-Jones

This beautiful, bold book celebrates the achievements of LGBTQ+ people through history and from around the world. With dynamic full-colour portraits, of a diverse selection of 53 inspirational role models.

Reading age: 10+

Interest age: 10-15

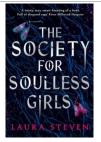


The List of Things That Will Not Change by Rebecca Stead

When Bea's dad and his partner, Jesse, decide to marry, it looks as if Bea's finally going to have a sister. Bea knows, she and Sonia will be perfect sisters. But then Bea makes discoveries, leading her to a disastrous choice.

Reading age: 8+

Interest age: 8+



The Society For Soulless Girls by Laura Steven

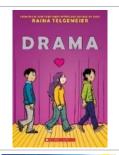
Ten years ago, four students lost their lives in the infamous North Tower murders, forcing Carvell College to close its doors. Now Carvell is reopening, and fearless student Lottie, is determined to find out what really happened.

Reading age: 12+

Interest age: 12-17

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Drama by Raina Telgemeier

Callie loves theatre. And while she would totally try out for her middle school's production, she's a terrible singer. Instead, she's the set designer, and is determined to create a Broadway worthy set.

Reading age: 10+

Interest age: 10-14

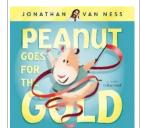


Out of the Blue by Robert Tregoning

ONLY BLUE ALLOWED, by Blue Government demand. Anything that isn't blue is banned. In a very blue house on a very blue street, sits a little boy who feels as blue as the world around him. For this little boy has a BIG secret: he loves the colour yellow.

Reading age: 3+

Interest age: 4-5

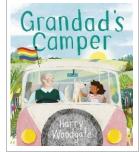


Peanut Goes For The Gold by Jonathan Van Ness

Peanut Goes for The Gold, is a charming, funny and heartfelt picture book, that follows the adventures of Peanut, a gender non-binary guinea pig, who does everything with their own, personal flare.

Reading age: 5+

Interest age: 4-8

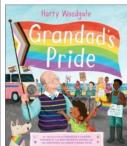


Grandad's Camper by Harry Woodgate

A long time ago, Grandad and Gramps travelled the world together in a camper van, now Gramps isn't around anymore, Grandad doesn't feel much like having adventures. As she listens to his wonderful stories, Grandad's granddaughter, has an idea to cheer him up...

Reading age: 6+

Interest age: 4-8



Grandad's Pride by Harry Woodgate

Milly can't wait to spend a summer at Grandad's cottage by the sea and is even more excited, when she discovers Grandad and Gramps' Pride flag in the attic. Now Milly has an idea to get the local community together and bring Pride to Grandad.

Reading age: 6+

Interest age: 4-8

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