

Book and Resource List - Early Childhood Sexuality Education

Consent

- [Will Ladybug Hug?](#) by Hilary Leung* - Ladybug is a great hugger. But do her friends want to hug? Find out in this sweet and simple book about consent. (Pre-1)
- [Miles is the Boss of His Body](#) by Samantha Kurtzman-Counter - 6 year old boy of color expresses boundaries around touch with his family and community. Practicing these skills in everyday situations is fundamental. (Pre-2)
- [Do You Have a Secret?](#) by Jennifer Moore-Mallinos - A diverse group of kids talk about good and bad secrets. (Pre-2)
- [C is for Consent](#) by Eleanor Morrison - A board book with a white male protagonist asserts his boundaries with a diverse group of family and friends, and models asking permission to hold the hand of his black female best friend. (Pre-1)
- [Personal Space Camp](#) by Julia Cook - Luis loves outer space, but doesn't quite get the idea of personal space. (K-2)
- [No Means No](#) by Jayneen Sanders - A very white cast, but features a girl, which is disturbingly rare in books about consent for kids. (K-2)
- [I said No! A kid to kid guide to keeping private parts private](#) by Zack and Kimberly King - This book talks sexual abuse in an approachable way, encouraging conversation between an adult reader and kid listener. A bit long and repetitive, also, yet another white male protagonist. (K-3)
- [An Exceptional Children's Guide to Touch](#) by Hunter Menasco - Quite white, and a little negative/fear-based, but there's so little for kids who experience intellectual and developmental disability...

Family

- [One Family](#) - by George Shannon - Practice counting and learn about diverse families. (Pre-1)
- [The Family Book](#) by Todd Parr* - all families are special whether they look alike or look different, have one mom or two, adopted or biological kids, are quiet or noisy, neat or messy. (Pre-1)
- [Visiting Day](#) by Jacqueline Woodson* - A young girl and her grandmother visit the girl's father in prison. (Pre-2)
- [Who's in My Family? All About Our Families](#) by Robie Harris - Nellie and her little brother Gus discuss all kinds of families - with and without kids, with many physical appearances, who eat different foods. (Pre-1)
- [I'm Adopted](#) by Shelley Rotner - Address situations that might lead to adoption, such as when parents are unable to care for a child due to youth, poverty, illness, or war. Prose and photographs show ethnically diverse families as well as same-sex parents, creating a sense of community, and emphasizing that many children are adopted. (Pre-2)
- [Two White Rabbits](#) by Jairo Buitrago* - A young child describes what it is like to be a migrant as she and her father travel north toward the U.S. border. (Pre-2)

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- [My New Mom and Me](#) by Renata Galindo* - A mother and her adopted child "learning how to be a family." The child is a golden dog. Its mother is an orange cat with brown stripes, highlighting how adoptive family members don't necessarily look alike. (Pre-2)
- [Zak's Safari](#) by Christy Tyner - Zak tells the story of how his two moms met, fell in love, and conceived him with the help of a sperm donor. Features a multiracial family. (K-3)
- [Mama Loves Me From Away](#) by Pat Brisson. When a white mother and daughter are separated by the mother's incarceration, they find a special way to keep their loving relationship alive. (K-3)
- [Shi-shi-etko](#) and [Shin-chi's Canoe](#) by Nicola Campbell* - Both tell heart-wrenching stories of Native kids sent to boarding schools to remove them from the influence of their culture and assimilate them to white dominant culture. Forwards in each book give historical context for the U.S., Canada, and Australia, including how Canadian government policies supported this practice until 1984. (K-6)

Gender

- [Julián is a Mermaid](#) by Jessica Love - This book about a boy who fantasizes about being a mermaid features full-figured Afro-Latinx characters that many find beautiful and affirming, though some have questioned a white author-illustrator's depictions of black bodies. (Pre-2)
- [Sparkle Boy](#) by Leslea Newman* - A White/Latinx boy wants what his sister has - sparkly, glittery things. Mom, Dad, and Abuela (Grandma) show support. Sister is doubtful at first but in the end stands up for her brother. (Pre-2)
- [I Love My Purse](#) by Belle Demont - A black boy encourages his dad and kids at school who question a boy with a purse to be true to themselves - everyone wins!
- [Beautiful](#) by Stacy McAnulty - this book shows a diverse group of girls being strong, graceful, creative, and challenging beauty expectations. (Pre-2)
- [Teddy's Favorite Toy](#) by Christian Trimmer* - Brown boy with white mom charmingly illustrate breaking free of gender stereotypes about toys. It stood out to me that Teddy's favorite toy was a *white* doll. An opportunity for dialog with kids: What if Teddy had a doll who looked like him - brown skin and curly hair? It could make him feel good about who he is. (Pre-2)
- [Jack Not Jackie](#) by Erica Silverman - Susan adjusts to the reality that the little sister she hoped for is actually her little brother. White family. There are relatively few books about transgender boys, so I recommend this one. (Pre-2)
- [One of a Kind, Like Me/Unico Como Yo](#) by Laurin Mayreno* - Danny wants to be a princess in the school parade, and his family is behind him 100%. A sweet bilingual story about kids who resist gender stereotypes.
- [From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea](#) by Kai Cheng Thom* - A magical non-gender binary child brings transformation and change to the world around them with the support of their mother's enduring love. (K-2)
- [Who Are You: A Kid's Guide to Gender Identity](#) by Brook Pessin-Whedbe - Ethnically diverse book that explains the difference between assigned sex and gender identity in a very accessible and engaging way. (Pre-2)

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- [They, She, He, Me](#) by Maya* & Matthew Gonzales - This book has beautiful pictures and is a great way to talk about pronouns and diversity of gender expression. Reading the note to adults at the back can give ideas for conversations, because the only text is the pronouns. (Pre-2)
- [I'm A Girl!](#) by Ismail, Yasmeen - A rough and tumble little girl loves being herself, although she is often mistaken for a boy. (K-1)
- [George](#) by Alex Gino* - George knows she's a girl, but everyone else sees her as a boy. When her class play (Charlotte's Web) comes up, George sees it as an opportunity to let everyone know who she really is. Will her plan work? (Gr. 3-6)
- [The Pants Project](#) by Clarke, Cat - Eleven-year-old Liv fights to change the middle school dress code requiring girls to wear a skirt and, along the way, finds the courage to tell his moms he is really a boy. (Gr. 3-6)
- [The Witch Boy](#) by Molly Ostertag. In thirteen-year-old Aster's family, all the girls are raised to be witches, while boys grow up to be shapeshifters. Anyone who dares cross those lines is exiled. Unfortunately for Aster, he still hasn't shifted... and he's still fascinated by witchery, no matter how forbidden it might be (Gr. 4-7)
- [Transphobia - Deal With It and be a Gender Defender](#) by J Wallace Skelton* - Information, quizzes, comics and true-to-life scenarios to help kids better understand gender identity and determine what they can do to identify and counter transphobia in their schools, homes and communities. (Gr. 5-10)
- [Symptoms of Being Human](#) by Jeff Garvin - Fiction about a white genderfluid high schooler. Talks about dating and sexual abuse, so may not be appropriate for all. (Gr. 5-12)

Being who you are

- [The Purim Superhero](#) by Elisabeth Kushner - Nate wants to dress as an alien for the Jewish holiday of Purim but his friend wants him to be a superhero like the other boys. Nate seeks guidance from his two dads, who advise that being yourself makes you stronger. (Pre-2)
- [Genesis Begins Again](#) by Alicia D. Williams* - A series of evictions makes 13 year old Genesis "the new girl" over and over. She struggles to accept her skin color and her place in her complicated family but eventually realizes black is indeed beautiful. (Gr. 5-8)
- [Sunny Holiday](#) by Coleen Paratore. Spunky third-grader Sunny Holiday tries to make the best out of every situation, even though her father is in prison. Highlights the value of what's inside, rather than what someone wears or where they live. One scene affirms the diversity of body types. (Gr. 3-4)

LGBTQ+

- [This Day in June](#) by Gayle Pitman* - This book conveys the fun and exuberant feelings of a Pride Parade for LGBTQ+ people and families. Racially diverse, with loving representation of queer and trans subcultures from the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to Dykes on Bikes. (Pre-2)

Relationships

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- [You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P.](#) by Alex Gino* - Jilly is a white, hearing kid, whose baby sister is born Deaf. Jilly navigates racism and ableism, seeking advice from her black Deaf friend Derek. (Gr. 1-6)
- [Trouble Talk](#) by Trudy Ludwig - Maya gets help from a school counselor when a new friend upsets her by spreading rumors, saying hurtful things, and sharing information that is not hers to share. (Gr. 2-4)
- [Growing Friendships: A Kid's Guide to Making and Keeping Friends](#) by Eileen Kennedy-Moore - Discusses five essential skills: reaching out to make friends, stepping back to keep friends, blending in to join friends, speaking up to share with friends, and letting go to accept friends. (Gr. 2-6)
- [Princess, Princess Ever After](#) by Katie O'Neil - A fairy tale with a twist! Two very different princesses share an adventure of love, friendship, gender roles, identity, heroism, and staying true to oneself. (Gr. 2-6)
- [Hurricane Child](#) by Kheryn Callender* - Born in the Virgin Islands during a hurricane, which is considered bad luck, twelve-year-old Caroline falls in love with another girl - and together they set out to find Caroline's missing mother. (Grades 4-8)

Reproduction

- [What Makes a Baby](#) by Cory Silverberg - Diverse and inclusive comic style - almost the only book I've seen about bodies and reproduction that is gender inclusive and not heteronormative. (Pre-Gr 2)
- [Contemplating your Bellybutton](#) by Jun Nanao* - Sweet and body-affirming story about why we have bellybuttons. Japanese family - rare in kids books here. But, mom+dad=baby=heteronormative. (Pre-Gr2)
- [What's Inside Your Tummy, Mommy?](#) By Abby Cocovini - Life-size illustrations of a white mom and kid show fetal growth from the first month until birth. (Pre-1)
- [Tell me about Sex, Grandma](#) by Anastasia Higginbotham - Features a kid and grandma of color, and a very affirming tone. (Gr. 2-5)
- [Sex is a Funny Word](#) by Cory Silverberg - Diverse and inclusive comic style, includes children and families of all makeups, orientations, and gender identities. Useful resource for starting conversations about bodies, gender, and sexuality. (Gr. 3-5)
- [It's Not the Stork! A Book About Girls, Boys, Babies, Bodies, Families, and Friends](#) by Robie Harris - this trio of books by Robie Harris is engaging, multi-cultural, and matter-of-fact. Ten (or even 5?) years ago they may have been the gold standard for these topics. Now trans and non-binary young people are bravely speaking up and making it clear that books like this *really* need to be updated so that they are not based staunchly in a binary gender system of male and female. (K-3)
- [It's So Amazing! A Book About Eggs, Sperm, Birth, Babies, and Families](#) by Robie Harris - See *It's Not the Stork* above. You may encounter these books, but I wouldn't seek them out unless you can do some major gender inclusion adaptations on-the-fly. Since talking about gender in an inclusive way is new for many adults, using a less binary book like *What Makes a Baby* can help build those skills. (Gr. 3-5)
- [It's Perfectly Normal! Changing Bodies, Growing Up, Sex, and Sexual Health](#) by Robie Harris - See *It's Not the Stork* above. (Gr. 5-8)

Video Resources

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- [Living Room Protests](#) - Zuri Chin and her mom discuss everything from body autonomy to when friends make you sad to #BlackGirlPride (Pre-2)
- [Queer Kid Stuff](#) - LGBTQ+ educational webseries for children hosted by a tie-wearing queer lady, Lindsay, and her non-binary best-stuffed friend, Teddy. Gender Studies 101 meets Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood! (Pre-2)
- [Pop'N Olly Stories](#) - Short stories for kids which focus on themes of diversity, equality and respect. Also lots of fun! (K-3)
- [Amaze.org](#) and [Amaze Jr.](#) - Cartoon videos for kids and parents on topics from puberty to healthy relationships. (K-8)

For Adults

- [Sex Ed is a Vehicle for Racial Justice](#) from the Sexuality Education and Information Council of the US. Mariotta Gary Smith and Nakisha Floyd, two women of color sexuality educators, discuss how we can transform sexuality education.
- [Accepting My Transgender Son](#) - Nicole Ellis interviews Joe Gharthey about how being a biracial kid in the U.S. and in Ghana helped him learn to accept his transgender son, Penel.
- [Gender Spectrum](#) - A comprehensive collection of research, resources, and stories to help any parent, family member, or guardian learn more about gender diversity.
- [Sexual Development and Behavior in Children](#) - a parent-friendly .pdf on typical sexual development to download/print.
- [Planned Parenthood of New York City](#) has resources for parents including by topic and by age and suggestions for answering questions

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