

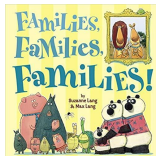

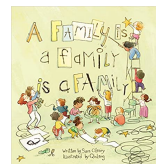
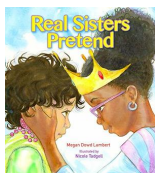


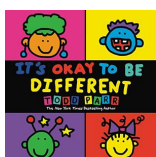
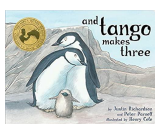



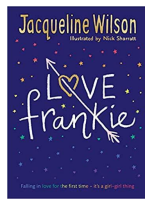


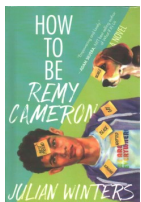





Darien Pride Month 2022 - Suggested Book List

Elementary School Reading Level

Cover	Book Title / Author	Summary	Cover	Book Title / Author	Summary
	<u>Be Amazing</u> , by Desmond Naples and Dylan Glynn	Desmond Naples walks you through the history of the LGBTQ community, all while encouraging you to embrace your own uniqueness and ignore the haters.		<u>The List of Things That Will Not Change</u> , by Rebecca Stead	After her parents' divorce, Bea's life became different in many ways. When Dad tells Bea that he and his boyfriend, Jesse, are getting married, Bea is thrilled. As the wedding day approaches, Bea will learn that making a new family brings questions, surprises, and joy.
	<u>Families, Families, Families!</u> by Suzanne Lang *Teachers' Pick	"Moms, dads, sisters, brothers — and even Great Aunt Sue — appear in dozens of combinations, demonstrating all kinds of nontraditional families! Silly animals are cleverly depicted in framed portraits, and offer a warm celebration of family love."		<u>Prince & Knight</u> , by Daniel Haack *Goodreads Choice	"In this modern fairy tale, a noble prince and a brave knight come together to defeat a terrible monster and in the process find true love in a most unexpected place."
	<u>A Family Is a Family Is a Family</u> , by Sara O'Leary Illustrated by Qin Leng	"This book is about the broad range of families that exist in the world. Very inclusive and a short read with great illustrations to engage little ones in discussions about their different kinds of families."		<u>Real Sisters Pretend</u> , by Megan Dowd Lambert and Nicole Tadgell	"This adoption story explores the definition of what it means to be sisters within a family that is headed by two mommies."
	<u>Heather Has Two Mommies</u> , by Leslea Newman	"Although this book first appeared over 25 years ago, this newly revised version is more age appropriate and still resonates today. A classic."		<u>Stella Brings the Family</u> , by Miriam Schiffer	"At school, everyone is excited about the upcoming Mother's Day celebration except for Stella. She is not sure what she will do since she has two dads and no moms."
	<u>It's Okay to Be Different</u> , by Todd Parr *Teachers' Pick	<i>"It's okay to need some help. It's okay to be a different color. It's okay to talk about your feelings."</i>		<u>And Tango Makes Three</u> , by Justin Richardson *Teachers' Pick	At the penguin house at the Central Park Zoo, two penguins named Roy and Silo were a little bit different from the others. With the help of a kindly zookeeper, Roy and Silo got the chance to welcome a baby penguin of their very own.

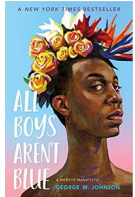



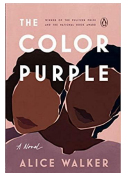

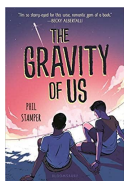




Darien Pride Month 2022 - Suggested Book List

Middle School Reading Level

Cover	Book Title / Author	Summary	Cover	Book Title / Author	Summary
	<u>The Best at It</u> , by Maulik Pancholy	A hilarious and heartfelt middle grade debut about a gay Indian American boy coming into his own.		<u>Love Frankie</u> , by Jacqueline Wilson and Nick Sharratt	GROWING UP. FALLING IN LOVE. COMING OUT. Frankie is nearly fourteen and teenage life certainly comes with its ups and downs. Her mum is seriously ill with MS and Frankie can feel herself growing up quickly, no thanks to Sally and her gang of bullies at school.
	<u>George</u> by Alex Gino *Teachers' Pick	"George, a fourth-grader who knows she is a girl, despite appearances, begins to tell her secret. (There is a campaign to retitle the book to <u>Melissa's Story</u> to reflect the fact that George is really Melissa.)"		<u>Meet Cute Diary</u> , by Emery Lee	A transgender boy in love with the idea of falling in love charts a course for the ultimate relationship to save his viral blog from a troll attack. A heart-swelling debut.
	<u>How to Be Remy Cameron</u> by Julian Winters	"Everyone on campus knows Remy Cameron. He's the out-and-proud, super-likable guy who friends, faculty, and fellow students alike admire for his cheerful confidence... Remy embarks on an emotional journey toward reconciling the outward labels people attach to him with the real Remy Cameron within."		<u>My Mixed-Up Berry Blue Summer</u> , by Jennifer Gennari	The summer of 2000 should be an idyllic one for June, spending it alongside Vermont's Lake Champlain, but her mother has decided to wed her partner, Eva, under the state's newly enacted civil-union law.
	<u>Hurricane Child</u> , by Kacen Callender *Teachers' Pick	"Born during a storm, Caroline Murphy, a 12-year-old black girl, is convinced that she has been cursed with bad luck... Embedding her appealing protagonist in a fully realized Caribbean setting, Callender has readers rooting for Caroline the whole way."		<u>One True Way</u> , by Shannon Hitchcock	A heartening story of two girls who discover their friendship is something more. But how, among their backward town, will Sam and Allie face what they know is true about themselves?
	<u>The Lottery's Plus One</u> , by Emma Donoghue and Caroline Hadilaksono	"This story is about the true meaning of acceptance and belonging. For all the Lottery's' apparent eccentricity, the novel delves into universal themes of family relationships that will resonate with readers from all backgrounds."		<u>Spin with Me</u> , by Ami Polonsky	Essie relocates to North Carolina with her dad for a semester as part of his job as a professor. She says a temporary goodbye to her old friends but soon meets nonbinary Ollie and develops a crush on them. A charming, feel-good LGBTQ+ story.

Darien Pride Month 2022 - Suggested Book List

High School/Young Adult Reading Level

Cover	Book Title / Author	Summary	Cover	Book Title / Author	Summary
	<u>All Boys Aren't Blue</u> , by George M. Johnson *Teachers' Pick	"Centers the experiences, desires, and agency of a queer Black boy navigating his evolving selfhood and the challenges of society's conditional love for his truthful existence. A critical, captivating, merciful mirror for growing up Black and queer today."		<u>Openly Straight</u> , by Bill Konigsberg	"On the outside, Rafe seems fine, but on the inside, he's looking for change, which comes with the opportunity to reinvent himself at the prestigious Natick Academy. There for his junior year, Rafe cloaks his gayness in order to be just like one of the other guys."
	<u>The Black Flamingo</u> , by Dean Atta *Teachers' Pick	"The pain, rage, and resilience of a boy growing to manhood while feeling like an outsider in his own life. Michael, a British boy of Greek Cypriot and Jamaican descent, feels caught between worlds...."		<u>If it Makes You Happy</u> , by Claire Kann	"A coming-of-age novel about a young girl learning to embrace her cultural and sexual identity... Winnie must conquer her fears, defy expectations, and be the best Winnie she knows she can be."
	<u>The Color Purple</u> , by Alice Walker *Teachers' Pick	"This story depicts the lives of African American women in early 20th century rural Georgia. Separated as girls, sisters Celie and Nettie sustain their loyalty to hope in each other across time, distance and silence."		<u>Moonstruck Vol. 1</u> by Grace Ellis	A story about young love, magic, with diverse mythical creatures.
	<u>The Gravity of Us</u> , by Phil Stamper *Editors' Pick	"High school student Cal, an aspiring journalist, has his dream internship with BuzzFeed tantalizingly within reach... When Cal meets Leon, he begins to hope that this unexpected journey might be a new beginning."		<u>Tell Me How You Really Feel</u> , by Aminah Mae Safi	"Rachel Recht and Sana Khan are either mortal enemies or star-crossed lovers... While Sana and Rachel's sexual orientation is an important part of the story, it is just one part, allowing Safi to create layered, nuanced characters who keep readers enthralled."
	<u>Heartstopper: Volume One</u> , by Alice Oseman	"Heartstopper is about love, friendship, loyalty and mental illness... Small stories of Nick and Charlie's lives that together make up something larger, which speaks to all of us."		<u>You Should See Me in a Crown</u> , by Leah Johnson *Teachers' Pick	"After being snubbed by her best friend, Jordan, in favor of his new football friends on the first day of high school, Liz Lighty felt acute shame about being herself and all the things that made her different."
	<u>I Wish You All the Best</u> , by Mason Deaver	"The novel centers on conflicts within a North Carolina family that drive the narrative after Ben comes out to their parents and is kicked out of the house."			

Darien Pride Month 2022 - Suggested Book List

Books curated from:

- [*Lambda Literary*](#)
- [*Hope in a Box*](#)
- [*Celebrate Pride With These 21 LGBTQIA+ Books*](#) - from Scholastic