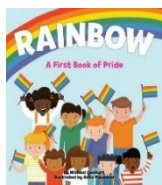
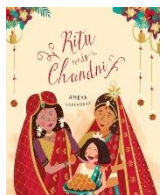


Grades K-5 LGBTQIA+ Reading List 2023
Akron-Summit County Public Library

Picture Books & Non-Fiction:



Genhart, Michael. **Rainbow: A First Book of Pride**, 2019. JE
Children from different kinds of families demonstrate the original meanings of the colors in the rainbow flag, and then come together at a Pride parade.

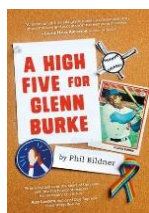


Narvankar, Ameya. **Ritu Weds Chandni**, 2020. JE
Ayesha is excited to attend her cousin Ritu's wedding. She can't wait to dance at the baraat ceremony! But not everyone is happy that Ritu is marrying her girlfriend Chandni. Some have even vowed to stop the celebrations. Will Ayesha be able to save her cousin's big day?

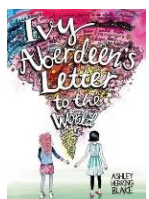


Sanders, Rob. **Two Grooms on a Cake: The Story of America's First Gay Wedding**, 2021.
JNF 306.766 Sa194t
Two wedding cake toppers tell the love story of the men they represent, Michael McConnell and Jake Baker, and their difficult journey to become the first married gay couple in the United States.

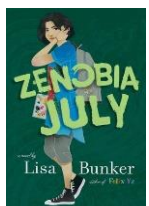
Fiction & Graphic Novels:



Bildner, Phil. **A High Five for Glenn Burke**, 2020. JFIC
After researching Glenn Burke, the first major league baseball player to come out as gay, sixth-grader Silas Wade slowly comes out to his best friend Zoey, then his coach, with unexpected consequences.



Blake, Ashley Herring. **Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World**, 2018. JFIC
Twelve-year-old Ivy Aberdeen's house is destroyed in a tornado, and in the aftermath of the storm, she begins to develop feelings for another girl at school.



Bunker, Lisa. **Zenobia July**, 2019. JFIC
Zenobia July is starting a new life. She used to live in Arizona with her father; now she's in Maine with her aunts. People used to tell her she was a boy; now she's able to live openly as the girl she always knew she was. When someone anonymously posts hateful memes on her school's website, Zenobia knows she's the one with the abilities to solve the mystery, all while wrestling with the challenges of a new school, a new family, and coming to grips with presenting her true gender for the first time.



Callender, Kacen. **King and the Dragonflies**, 2020. JFIC
In a small but turbulent Louisiana town, one boy's grief takes him beyond the bayous of his backyard, to learn that there is no right way to be yourself.



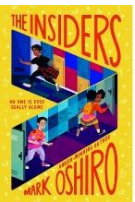
Gino, Alex. **Alice Austen Lived Here**, 2022. JFIC

Middle school student Sam is comfortable with their nonbinary identity, and their family has accepted it too, so when their history teacher assigns as a project coming up with a proposal for the new statue honoring a historical Staten Islander, they and their friend TJ decide to focus on Alice Austen, a lesbian photographer, whose house on Staten Island is a museum--but they have to overcome the presumption on the part of their teacher that only straight males are eligible.



Lukoff, Kyle. **Different Kinds of Fruit**, 2022. JFIC

When Annabelle learns that her father shares something big--and surprising--in common with her new nonbinary friend, she begins to see herself, and her family, in a whole new light.



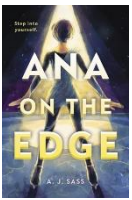
Oshiro, Mark. **The Insiders**, 2021. JFIC

Back home, being gay didn't mean feeling different. At Héctor's new school, he couldn't feel more alone. Most days, Héctor just wishes he could disappear. And he does. Right into the janitor's closet. But one day, when the door closes behind him, Héctor discovers he's stumbled into a room that shouldn't be possible. A room that connects him with two new friends from different corners of the country—and opens the door to a life-changing year full of magic, friendship, and adventure.



Pancholy, Maulik. **The Best at It**, 2019. JFIC

Twelve-year-old Rahul Kapoor, an Indian-American boy growing up in small-town Indiana, struggles to come to terms with his identity, including that he may be gay.



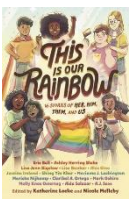
Sass, A. J. **Ana on the Edge**, 2020. JFIC

Twelve-year-old figure skater Ana strives to win her competitions while learning about gender identity--Ana's own and that of a new friend--and how to navigate the best path forward.



Smith, Niki. **The Deep and Dark Blue**, 2020. JGN

After a terrible political coup usurps their noble house, Hawke and Grayson flee to stay alive and assume new identities, Hanna and Grayce. Desperation and chance lead them to the Communion of Blue, an order of magical women who spin the threads of reality to their will. While Hawke wants to return to his old life, Grayce struggles to keep the threads of her new life from unraveling, and realizes she wants to stay in the one place that will allow her to finally live as a girl.



This is Our Rainbow: 16 Stories of Her, Him, Them, and Us, 2021. JFIC

This first LGBTQA+ anthology for middle-grade readers presents stories of queer fantasy, historical and contemporary stories for every letter of the acronym.