

BOOKULUM



A Curriculum Library book list

Featuring: Ten picks for teaching gender equality, diversity, and LGBTQ culture



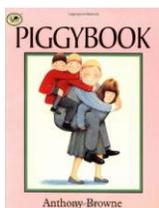
[Gender: in world perspective](#) by Raewyn Connell: Professor Connell briefly introduces how gender plays an important role in the contemporary world from social, cultural, psychological and other perspectives. It is an introductory book for those who are interested in teaching and researching gender issues. The bibliography provides more information about other related research.



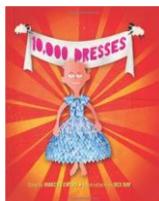
[Gender and sexual diversity in schools](#) by Elizabeth J. Meyer: This is a practical handbook with beautifully written words for teaching gender issues in the school context. The majority of the contents are based on the school environment. Teachers could refer to topics in this book for facilitating discussion and activities, and spreading basic knowledge about gender, sexuality, relationships, etc.



[The paper bag princess](#) by Robert N. Munsch; illustrations by Michael Martchenko: Imagine a princess without fancy dresses! Elizabeth tells us a princess is not only a beautiful vase; she shows us how her wisdom defeats the dragon so that she is able to save herself. The conversation between Elizabeth and the prince gives readers space to think about predominated gender roles.



[Piggybook](#) by Anthony Browne: Do you ever wonder about your mom's role in the family? Do you take her love for granted? Consisting of simple language and contrasting illustrations between the mom and three male family members, this book tells not only about the mother's love, but makes readers think about the social status of women. The story ends with a picture which breaks down the gender stereotype: mom fixes the car!



[10000 dresses](#) by Marcus Ewert; illustrations by Rex Ray. Stereotypically, boys wear pants and girls wear dresses; conversations often go like this among young students. This book gives a broader understanding about "who wears what" and encourages a discussion about how gender is socially constructed with readers. Teachers can pay attention to the meaningful illustrations as well.



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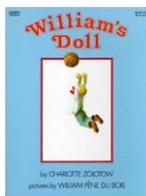
The Curriculum Library—UVic Libraries

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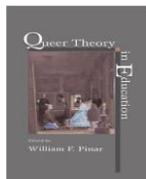
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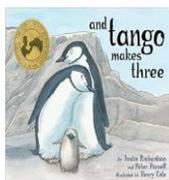
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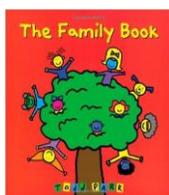
William's doll by Charlotte Zolotow ; pictures by William Pène Du Bois: Is a doll a girl-only toy? William tells us that as a boy, he wants a doll. But what do the other family members say? William’s grandmother buys him a doll, but this is not supported by any other male role model in the family. The story ends with the message that it is important to cultivate a boys’ ability to take care of people and love others. Teachers can raise questions about the deep gender stereotypes of toys and the dominant masculinity discourses.



Queer theory in education edited by William F. Pinar: This a profound and classic research book by a group of scholars which aims to introduce and interpret topics related to LGBTQ culture, community and curriculum. It challenges our conventional norms in this contemporary world.



And Tango makes three by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell; illustrated by Henry Cole: A featured LGBTQ culture book which reflects a real lifestyle of homosexual people. The romantic relationship between two male penguins is vivid; however, the emphasis is on how the couple nurtures the baby penguin. This is a well-written picture book which can be taught in the classroom.



The family book by Todd Parr: “Some families are alike, some families look like their pets.” “Some families have two moms.” This is a very simple picture book which conveys diversity and inclusiveness in a meaningful way to young readers. The language features a consistent sentence pattern which is very good for young learners to practice sentence-making.



Orca's song by Anne Cameron: Two different creatures fall in love with each other and perform a harmonic song in the ocean and sky. This book is a great choice for a variety of grades, especially for Grade 2+ students who are going to discover a profound understanding about the relationship between the Orca and Osprey.

A note about this list from Xinyan Fan

Gender is always a critical and tough topic to address. Perhaps, there is not an exact chapter in student’s textbooks in relation to gender; however, we teach it every day through our language and actions. Unconsciously, we miss many chances to open a conversation with our students to talk about, rethink and question our daily gender practice.

These ten books consist of research work and children’s literature and are excellent resources for student teachers, educators, researchers and those who are interested in teaching or researching the themes such as “gender diversity,” “gender equality,” “women’s rights” and “educating LGBTQ knowledge and culture” in our community.

You can e-mail me at xinyanfa@uvic.ca for more information, and to see more resources on LGBTQ, please visit the Curriculum Library [Guide for LGBTQ](#) children’s literature.



For more information, please contact:

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