



Read Aloud Guide

Title: *Love is Love*, by Michael Genhart, PhD, illustrated by Ken Min

Best for: TK-3rd

Summary: This book is about a young boy who is upset because he's being teased about having two dads. When he tells his friend, he finds out that his friend's parents (a mom and a dad) have a lot in common with his own dads. The boy realizes that gay families and straight families are all normal and more alike than he thought. What makes a family real is their love for each other.

Why we chose this book: We like that this book shows a very common reality for children - bullying or teasing for being different from others. We like that many different children and families are represented in the book, and that it offers a hopeful and empowering perspective for kids.

Notes: This book starts out being told from the perspective of one boy, but as the book continues, readers will notice that the "main character" is represented by a different child/different parents on each page.

Central themes: same-sex parents, LGBT, family, bullying, discrimination

Introducing the book: You can begin by showing the cover, reading the title and author, and then saying something like this:

"This book tells a story of a young boy who is worried that other kids are making fun of him because he has two dads. Throughout the book we meet a bunch of different kids, who who all have worries and fears that their family isn't the same as other families, but through the book they all realize that their family is just like other families in lots of ways."

"What do you think makes a family a family? It might be different for different people."

After Reading: Debrief with students

"What does it mean to be included? What does it mean to be excluded?"

"Does your family do anything that the families in the book do together?"

"The kids in the story are sad when they are teased or bullied about their families. If you saw or heard someone being teased or bullied, what could you do to help?"

