

Top resources for LGBTQ+ parenting

5 MONTHS AGO by JO THOMAS



For Pride Month, we're taking a look at some go-to resources for LGBTQ+ parents – from books and blogs to organizations and apps.

Books for LGBTQ+ parents

Whether you're planning a family, welcoming a baby or parenting older kids, there are a range of books available that focus specifically on the experiences of LGBTQ+ parents. Including a varying mix of practical info, personal accounts and answers to questions you or your loved ones might have, they're a good reference point for support on your parenting journey.

Pride and Joy: A Guide for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Parents by Sarah Hager-Holt and Rachel Hager-Holt

Full of stories, advice and real-life experiences from LGBTQ+ parents and their children. Reviews call it "very accessible, relatable and interesting," "the gayby boom as it really is for parents and children," and "a recommended read for parents, carers and professionals".

Love Makes a Family edited by Peggy Gillespie

Although this book is now 20 years old, it still crops up in many must-read LGBTQ+ book lists. Featuring photographs, interviews and essays focused on LGBTQ+ families, the book showcases diverse experiences and family structures.

Confessions of the Other Mother: Non-Biological Lesbian Moms Tell All by Harlyn Aizley

This candid, humorous and moving compilation of first-person stories came about when author Harlyn Aizley and her partner became new parents and struggled to find books about families like theirs.

Gay Dads: A Celebration of Fatherhood by David Strah, Susanna Margolis and Kris Timken

Profiles and black-and-white portraits of 24 families with gay dads from across America, charting their journeys into parenthood and the ups and downs of raising children.

Families Like Mine: Children of Gay Parents Tell It Like It Is by Abigail Garner

Share your precious memories with your family, privately

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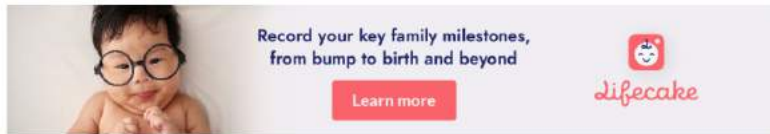
CHRISTMAS, HOW TO, PHOTOGRAPHY

Don't lose your child's most important milestones, create your Lifecake and save them all

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Lifecake

Author and activist Abigail Garner wrote this book to answer the question – what is it really like to grow up with gay parents? The result is a blend of journalism, memoir and interviews with more than fifty grown-up children of LGBTQ+ parents.



Books to share with your kids

Finding LGBTQ+ representation in kids' books is certainly nowhere near as easy as it should be. But publishers are starting to get the message and release more inclusive books so that all types of families can see themselves reflected on the page.

***Mommy, Mama and Me / Daddy, Papa and Me* by Lesléa Newman and Carol Thompson**

One of the original picture books featuring same-sex parents, this story is available in two versions – two mommies or two daddies. Lovely child-friendly illustrations and rhyming text take the readers through a day in the life of a loving family.

***Wrestle!* by Charlotte Mars, Maya Newell and Gus Skattebol-James**

From the folks behind award-winning documentary *Gayby Baby*, this is a funny picture book about a wrestling-obsessed kid growing up in a family with two mums.

***And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson, Peter Parnell and Henry Cole**

Based on the true story of two boy penguins at New York's Central Park Zoo who started building a nest together, this is a charming tale with a subtle message about same-sex couples and adoption.

***Baby's First Words* by Christiane Engel**

Type *Baby's First Words* into Amazon and you'll get hundreds of search results. This version from Barefoot Books is similar to the others – featuring a baby going about her day learning new words – it just happens to feature two daddies.

***Under the Love Umbrella* by Davina Bell and Allison Colpoys**

Described by one reviewer as "a giant hug in picture-book form," this is a technicolor story with a diverse cast of parents and carers proving to the four child characters that, no matter what happens, they will be protected and loved.

Useful online resources

Navigating your way through all the parenting advice available online is a task most new parents struggle to find the energy for. Here are some great starting points for LGBTQ+ parents in search of helpful blogs, sites and organizations.

Mombian

The mommy of all LGBTQ+ parenting blogs was founded in 2005 and provides practical tips, politics round-ups, general resources and fun stuff for lesbian moms and other LGBTQ+ parents.

Family is About Love

These two Toronto dads went viral in 2015 when they shared their birth photo and story as they welcomed their son Milo into the world. Now they blog about their family's own personal journey and a ton of topics relevant to LGBTQ+ parents.

The Next Family

Describing itself as "a diverse community where modern families meet," this is a huge site with contributors from across the LGBTQ+ spectrum. Includes practical resources, first-person experiences, news updates and a neat Spotlight Series where you can click on a map to see stories shared by LGBTQ+ families from across the US.

Proud Parenting

The place to get up to date with all the latest LGBTQ+ news, events, activism and legislation. There's also a Families section where proud parents share family photos and a Teenview page where Chloe, a teen child of gay parents, shares her take.

Family Equality Council

Representing over 3 million US LGBTQ+ families, the Family Equality Council has a mission to "advance legal and lived equality for LGBTQ+ families through building community, changing hearts and minds, and driving policy change." Their resources include practical info on every topic you can think of, there's a support group search tool and they even have a live chat option.

Great apps for parents

No matter what your family looks like, several universal truths of parenting apply: you will find yourself desperately Googling 'am I a bad parent?' at 2am, you will bribe your child with video games to be quiet and sit still for two precious minutes and you will be blamed for not washing the right sports/drama/activity kit. Here are some apps that could help.

The Wonder Weeks

The early years of parenting are like turning up to start a new job and realizing you don't know what the job is, you have zero relevant qualifications and they keep changing the job description and responsibilities every three days. The Wonder Weeks app offers you a bit of a clue about what your baby is likely to be doing and when so you can be reassured that everything they're going through is completely normal.

Lifecake

Now, we might be biased but we think Lifecake is an essential app for all families who don't like the idea of posting pics of their little ones on social media, but still want to share the joy with loved ones. Only the people you've invited can upload and comment on pics, so you can stay close with your whole family while keeping your photos private and secure.

Artkive

Unless you're thinking of taking up residence in a wing of MoMA, chances are you won't have room in your home to display every piece of art your little one creates over the years. Artkive professionally photographs your kid's art, uploads it to your online gallery and can create gorgeous coffee table books to show off their artwork too.

Azoozee

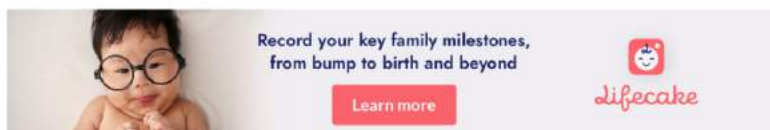
This app aimed at 5-10 year olds could become your best friend on long car journeys or anywhere you want a hassle-free way to keep your kids entertained. Backed by the UK's leading children's charity, it's a smart, safe way for kids to watch videos and TV, play games, create, learn and interact with each other all through one app.

Cozi Family Organizer

School runs, meal planning, grocery lists, after-school clubs – sometimes running a household can feel like the to-do list is never-ending. Cozi lets you effectively download your brain with a synced family calendar, linked lists and reminders, and a neat family journal for remembering milestone moments.


If you have enjoyed this post you might also like [Modern British Families](#).

We know all the problems parents have to tackle when it comes to taking and privately sharing photos of their children with family and friends. That's why we built Lifecake – our [baby photo app](#). Check us out, we think you'll like it.



Record your key family milestones, from bump to birth and beyond

[Learn more](#)





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JO THOMAS IS A MUM, WRITER AND EDITOR FROM SOUTH WALES, UK. USUALLY TO BE FOUND READING, WRITING OR RUNNING AROUND AFTER HER HEADSTRONG TODDLER.

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