



Discuss
LGBTQ+

with children!

a resource for talking to kids about LGBTQ+ topics
suitable for ages 6-11

Discuss LGBTQ+ with Children

Discuss LGBTQ+ with Children is designed as a way to engage children aged 6+ in conversations around relationships, marriage, gender, and sexuality. We were inspired to make these by the conversations that are happening in the Church of England at the moment through the Living in Love and Faith project, but feel free to leave out the prayers and/or the final session if you don't want to engage with this from a faith perspective.

There are four sessions based on children's books, which you can buy to read together, or engage with via the videos. Please do buy the books (and support small businesses) if you are able, but the videos are there for you if this isn't an option. All the links below can be accessed via the Linktree: www.linktr.ee/discusslgbtq

The questions in each session are graded, so we recommend working through them in order, and if you find that the children in your context are struggling, you can stop at that question and move onto the project.

You can also use the questions on the Discuss LGBTQ+ website/app/book to continue discussions, if appropriate, although please bear in mind that many of these questions were written for a slightly older audience, so discretion is advised.

Session 1: Based on "Love is Love" by Michael Genhart and Ken Min

Read the book "Love is Love" together, or watch the video of the book (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eq_UysaLo9k&t=93s)

1. Have you ever felt left out? How did it make you feel?
2. Has anyone ever said any hurtful words to you? How did you react?
3. What are some words that others use to be mean?
4. What does "gay" mean to you?
5. Do you know what LGBT stands for?
6. Do you know anyone who is LGBT?
7. How do you think they would feel if someone made fun of them?
8. If you saw or heard someone being hurt with words, would you help out? What might you do to help?
9. What would happen if you didn't do anything to help out?
10. How would you like to help show people that everyone is important, even though we're all different?

Project: Make your own kite out of paper and decorate it in your favourite colours and patterns. Compare your kite to other people's kites. What is the same? What is different?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for all the things that make us different. We are sorry if we've ever hurt other people with our words. Please help us to look out for those who get left out or hurt. Amen

Session 2: "King and King" by Linda de Hann and Stern Nijland

Read the book "King and King" together, or watch the video of the book (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lQrgWSMChuo>)

1. Why does the queen want her son to marry a princess?
2. Should he marry a princess to make his mum happy?
3. Is the queen happy when he gets married to a prince?
4. Why does she shed a tear?
5. Does the queen know her son is gay at the beginning?
6. Why doesn't he tell her straight away?
7. Is she ok about it when he does tell her?
8. Have you ever been to a wedding? What was it like?
9. Why do people get married?
10. How do you think people feel when they get married?

Project: Make a wedding invite for the two kings. Think about what pictures and words should go on there - should the invite look happy or sad? Think about who should be invited to the wedding.

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for weddings, marriages, and love. We are sorry if anyone feels unhappy because they can't get married. Please help all people who love each other to continue to spread love to everyone. Amen.

Session 3: "My Princess Boy" by Cheryl Kilodavis and Suzanne DeSimone, and "When Aidan Became a Brother" by Kyle Lukoff and Kaylani Juanita

Read "My Princess Boy" and "When Aidan Became a Brother" together, or watch the videos of the books (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0vMomKhY2Q> & <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vvPWsKSghHs>)

1. Who do you think understands you best?
2. Who upsets Princess Boy in the story?
3. Is Princess Boy hurting anyone by wearing a dress?
4. Who loves Princess Boy in the story?
5. What do Princess Boy and Aidan have in common?
6. What is different about Princess Boy and Aidan?
7. Why didn't Aidan like people asking questions about if the new baby was a boy or girl?
8. Do you think Aidan will be a good brother? Why/why not?
9. If you could change your name, what would you change it to?
10. Do you think that Princess Boy feels like a girl, or just wants to wear a dress?

Project: Make a poster with your name on it and lots of things that you love to wear, play with, and do. Show your pictures to someone else and get them to show you theirs. Do they help you to understand each other better?

Prayer: Dear God, thank you that you know us really well. We are sorry when we make mistakes about other people. Please help us to try to understand other people better. Amen.

Session 4: Based on "A Church for All" by Gayle E. Pitman and Laure
Fournier

Read the book "A Church for All" together, or watch the video of the book
(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGpnCq9-CNY&t=102s>)

1. Do you think churches are places where everyone is allowed to go?
2. Do you think churches are places where everyone feels welcome and happy?
3. Have you ever been asked to leave a church?
4. Does your church look like the one in the book? Why/why not?
5. Are there lots of different people in your church?
6. What would you write on a banner to go in your church, like the banners in the book?
7. Why do you think the church in the book has lots of rainbows on the walls?
8. Do you feel like you can be yourself when you go to church, or do you feel like you have to change something about yourself?
9. What things might stop you going to church?
10. How can churches show that they are a church for all?

Project: Make a big poster together of a church for all. Make sure that everyone in your group or family is included, and why not include your banner ideas too!

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for our churches where we can be together with other people who love you. We are sorry if our churches have ever made anyone feel left out. Please help us to make churches for all. Amen.

LGBTQ+ Definitions

Bisexual - someone who fancies two or more genders

Gay - a boy who fancies other boys (gay is sometimes used to mean anyone who fancies the same gender as them)

Gender - a category that people fall into such as male, female, and non-binary, which can influence things like how people behave and dress

Lesbian - a girl who fancies other girls

Non-binary - someone who doesn't identify as just a boy or just a girl, but maybe both, neither, or somewhere in between

Straight - someone who fancies people who are a different gender to them

Trans - someone who doesn't feel like the same gender as they were told they were from birth

More definitions on the Discuss LGBTQ+ website:

www.discusslgbtq.com

Links to External Support

Childline - www.childline.org.uk

NSPCC - www.nspcc.org.uk

Mermaids - www.mermaidsuk.org.uk

Young Minds - www.youngminds.org.uk

Inclusive Church - www.inclusive-church.org

Bibliography

- *Love is Love* by Michael Genhart PhD and Ken Min, 2018, Little Pickle Press
- *No Outsiders in Our Schools* by Andrew Moffat, 2017, Routledge
- *King and King* by Linda de Hann and Stern Nijland, 2003, Tricycle Press
- *My Princess Boy* by Cheryl Kilodavis and Suzanne DeSimone, 2010, Aladdin
- *When Aidan Became a Brother* by Kyle Lukoff and Kaylani Juanita, 2019, Lee & Low Books
- *A Church For All* by Gayle E. Pitman, 2018, Albert Whitman & Company

Other Books You Might Enjoy

- *This Day in June* by Gayle E. Pittman and Kristyna Litten
- *They She He Me: Free to Be* by Maya Christina Gonzalez and Matthew SG
- *Rainbow: A First Book of Pride* by Michael Genhart PhD and Anne Passchier
- *Jack (Not Jackie)* by Erica Silverman and Holly Hatam, 2018, Little Bee Books
- *Stonewall* by Rob Sanders and Jamey Christoph
- *A Family is a Family is a Family* by Sara O'Leary and Qin Leng
- *It Feels Good to Be Yourself: A Book about Gender Identity* by Theresa Thorn and Noah Grigni
- *And Tango Makes Three* by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell
- *Mommy, Mama and Me* by Lesléa Newman and Carol Thompson
- *Daddy, Papa and Me* by Lesléa Newman and Carol Thompson
- *Heather Has Two Mummies* by Lesléa Newman and Laura Cornell
- *Julián Is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love
- *Introducing Teddy* by Jessica Walton and Dougal MacPherson