



## Inclusive Literature Lists

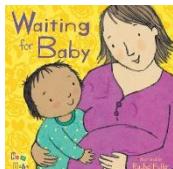
The Billings Public Library supports and values and celebrates diversity and inclusion.

We strive to curate a collection of resources that represents all demographics in our community's tapestry. We believe an inclusive and welcoming community is a stronger community.

This list of inclusive and diverse literature that the youth of our community can see themselves in as well as use as a conduit to build compassion for others is brought to you on behalf of collaboration between the Human Relations Commission of the City of Billings, the Billings Public Library, and a children's literature assistant professor from Montana State University Billings.

This list is not intended to be exhaustive. We welcome your feedback, suggestions, and any recommendations for this list. We will take these into consideration as we continue to develop these lists.

## December 2020: Families



### **Waiting for Baby**

By [Fuller, Rachel](#)

2009-05 - Child's Play International

9781846432750 [Check Our Catalog](#)

A new addition to the family is exciting, but the experience can also be worrying and confusing for siblings. Coping with the new situations and emotions that arise can be very challenging. This board books deals with the anticipation of waiting for the new baby. The simple conversational text and lively illustrations are carefully designed to encourage dialogue between reader and child. [...More](#)



### **I Love Us: A Book about Family (with Mirror and Fill-In Family Tree)**

By [Houghton Mifflin Harcourt](#)

Illustrator [Uribe, Luisa](#)

2020-03 - Houghton Mifflin

9780358193302 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A celebration of all types of families and the bond that holds each one together: Love This book includes a mirror so YOUR unique family will be reflected in the story. Work together to fill in the bonus family tree with the names of everyone you love.**

Families can be big, small, silly, adventurous, loud, or messy, but they all have *love* in common. *I Love Us* is [...More](#)



### **Love Makes a Family**

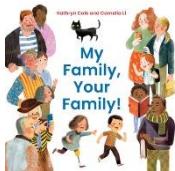
By [Beer, Sophie](#)

2018-12 - Dial Books

9780525554226 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**This fun, inclusive board book celebrates the one thing that makes every family a family . . . and that's LOVE.**

Love is baking a special cake. Love is lending a helping hand. Love is reading *one more* book. In this exuberant board book, many different families are shown in happy activity, from an early-morning wake-up to a kiss before bed. Whether a child has two moms, two [...More](#)



### **My Family, Your Family!**

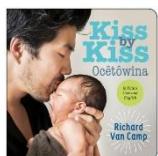
By [Cole, Kathryn](#)

Illustrator [Li, Cornelia](#)

2020-09 - Second Story Press

9781772601336 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This book includes a diverse array of characters and celebrates gay parents, single parents, blended families, and other family groups rarely seen in board books. [...More](#)



### **Kiss by Kiss / Ocetowina: A Counting Book for Families**

By [Van Camp, Richard](#)

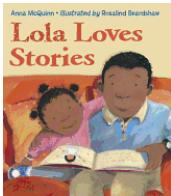
Translator [Collins, Mary Cardinal](#)

2018-09 - Orca Book Publishers

9781459816213 [Check Our Catalog](#) CRE

*One kiss, two kiss, three kiss, four* So many kisses and so many more. From bestselling author Richard Van Camp comes a delightful counting book that honors families and can be used to praise your little ones as they learn to count. Ten kisses from your sweet baby might not be enough to get you through this adorable book, so you'll just have to read it over and over

Orca Book [...More](#)



## Lola Loves Stories: (with Daddy!)

By [McQuinn, Anna](#)

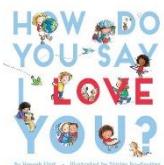
Illustrator [Rosalind Beardshaw](#)

2020-08 - Charlesbridge Publishing

9781623541804 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Bookworms big and small will be charmed by lovable Lola in this delightful sequel to LOLA AT THE LIBRARY that celebrates imagination and the love of reading.

Lola loves to go to the library with her daddy. Every night she reads a new story, and the next day, she acts it out. One day she's a fairy princess, the next day she goes on a trip to Lagos. She becomes a tiger, a farmer, a pilot. . . . [...More](#)



By Hannah Eliot

Illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez

## How Do You Say I Love You?

By [Eliot, Hannah](#)

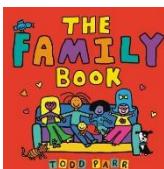
Illustrator [Ng-Benitez, Shirley](#)

2017-12 - Little Simon

1534400125 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Learn how to say "I love you" in ten different languages with this heartwarming board book.

"I love you" may sound different around the world, but the meaning is the same. From China, to France, to Russia, to Brazil, and beyond, this charming board book features "I love you" in ten different languages. Tapping into the emotions that parents feel for their children, the rhyming text is [...More](#)



## The Family Book

By [Parr, Todd](#)

2019-04 - LB Kids

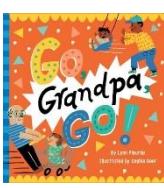
9780316442541 [Check Our Catalog](#)

This beloved classic celebrating all kinds of families is a perfect entry into the world of Todd Parr, and is now available as a board book

*Some families have two moms or two dads. Some families have one parent instead of two.*

*Some families live in a house by themselves. Some families share a house with other families.*

*All families can help each other be [...More](#)*



## Go, Grandpa, Go!

By [Plourde, Lynn](#)

Illustrator [Beer, Sophie](#)

2020-03 - Little Simon

9781534452244 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Perfect for all the grandpas who steer the stroller, splash in puddles, and love their grandchildren dearly, this charming board book celebrates the special relationship between grandfathers and their grandkids.

*Zig Zag*

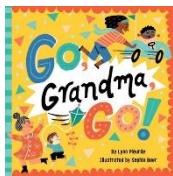
*Zip Zoom*

*Go, Grandpa, go*

*Puddle stomp*

*Muddy romp*

*Go, Grandpa, go* [...More](#)



**Go, Grandma, Go**

By [Plourde, Lynn](#)

Illustrator [Beer, Sophie](#)

2020-03 - Little Simon

9781534452220 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Perfect for the grandmas who slide the slides, swing the swings, and love their grandchildren dearly, this charming board book celebrates the special relationship between grandmothers and their grandkids.

*Beep Bop*

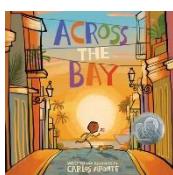
*Don't stop*

*Go, Grandma, go*

*Climb high*

*Touch the sky*

*Go, Grandma, go* [...More](#)



**Across the Bay**

By [Aponte, Carlos](#)

Illustrator [Aponte, Carlos](#)

2019-09 - Penguin Workshop

9781524786625 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Awards:**

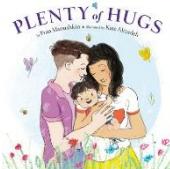
Pura Belpre Award (2020)

**RECIPIENT OF THE PURA BELPRE ILLUSTRATOR HONOR**

**Author-illustrator Carlos Aponte takes readers on a journey to the heart of Puerto Rico in this enchanting picture book set in Old San Juan.**

A lively and honest story about filling voids and exploring what defines a family--as well as a love letter to a childhood home.--*Horn Book*

Carlitos lives in a happy home with [...More](#)



## **Plenty of Hugs**

By [Manushkin, Fran](#)

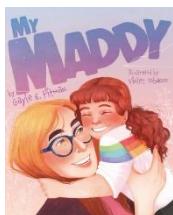
Illustrator [Alizadeh, Kate](#)

2020-04 - Dial Books

9780525554011 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Two mommies spend a sunny day with their toddler in this cozy, rhyming picture book that is a loving celebration of family.**

This cheerful book follows a family from morning to night in lively rhyme that rolls off the tongue. *There's a buzz for each bug, and a breeze for each tree, and plenty of hugs for you and me.* The toddler and mommies take a morning bike ride to a farm [...More](#)



## **My Maddy**

By [Pitman, Gayle E.](#)

Illustrator [Tobacco, Violet](#)

2020-05 - Magination Press

9781433830440 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Most mommies are girls. Most daddies are boys. But lots of parents are neither a boy nor a girl. Like my Maddy.**

My Maddy has hazel eyes which are not brown or green. And my Maddy likes sporks because they are not quite a spoon or a fork.

Some of the best things in the world are not one thing or the other. They are something in between and entirely their own.

Randall Ehrbar, [...More](#)



## **Saturday**

By [Mora, Oge](#)

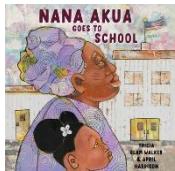
2019-10 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316431279 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this warm and tender story by the Caldecott Honor-winning creator of *Thank You, Omu*, join a mother and daughter on an up-and-down journey that reminds them of what's best about Saturdays: precious time together.**

*Today would be special. Today would be splendid. It was Saturday But sometimes, the best plans don't work out exactly the way you expect....*

In this [...More](#)



## **Nana Akua Goes to School**

By [Walker, Patricia Elam](#)

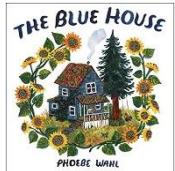
Illustrator [Harrison, April](#)

2020-06 - Schwartz & Wade Books

9780525581130 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In this moving story that celebrates cultural diversity, a shy girl brings her West African grandmother--whose face bears traditional tribal markings--to meet her classmates. This is a perfect read for back to school--no matter what that looks like**

It is Grandparents Day at Zura's elementary school, and the students are excited to introduce their grandparents and share what [...More](#)



## **The Blue House**

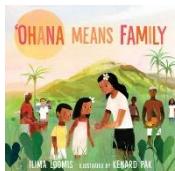
By [Wahl, Phoebe](#)

2020-08 - Alfred A. Knopf Books for Young Readers

9781984893369 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**In the tradition of Virginia Lee Burton's *The Little House* comes a heartfelt story about a father and son learning to accept the new while honoring and celebrating the old.**

For as long as he can remember, Leo has lived in the blue house with his dad, but lately the neighborhood is changing. People are leaving, houses are being knocked down, and shiny new [...More](#)



## **Ohana Means Family**

By [Loomis, Ilima](#)

Illustrator [Pak, Kenard](#)

2020-02 - Neal Porter Books

9780823443260 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Join the family, or ohana, as they farm taro for poi to prepare for a traditional luau celebration with a poetic text in the style of *The House That Jack Built*.**

This is the land that's never been sold, where work the hands, so wise and old, that reach through the water, clear and cold, into the mud to pick the taro to make the poi for our ohana's luau. [...More](#)



## Here and There

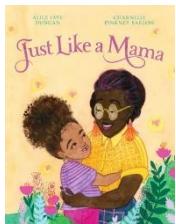
By [Smith, Tamara Ellis](#)

Illustrator [Daviddi, Evelyn](#)

2019-03 - Barefoot Books

9781782857426 [Check Our Catalog](#)

[...More](#)



## Just Like a Mama

By [Duncan, Alice Faye](#)

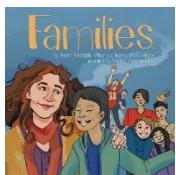
Illustrator [Barlow, Charnelle Pinkney](#)

2020-01 - Denene Millner Books/Simon & Schuster Books f

9781534461833 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Celebrate the heart connection between adopted children and the forever families who welcome them with kindness, care, and unconditional love in this powerful picture book from the author of *Honey Baby Sugar Child*.**

Carol Olivia Clementine lives with Mama Rose. Mama Rose is everything--tender and sweet. She is also as stern and demanding as any good parent should be. In the midst [...More](#)



## Families

By [McCluskey, Kerry](#)

Author [Unaapik Mike, Jesse](#)

Illustrator [Lishchenko, Lenny](#)

2017-11 - Inhabit Media

9781772271614 [Check Our Catalog](#)

Talittuq is excited to start his first day of grade two. He is looking forward to the new school year, but as he meets his friends again for the first time after summer vacation, he notices that a lot of his friends' families are very different from his own. Some have one mom and one dad, and some have only a mom. Some kids live with their grandparents. Some live with two dads or two moms. As [...More](#)



## The Places We Sleep

By [DuBois, Caroline](#)

2020-08 - Holiday House

9780823444212 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A family divided, a country going to war, and a girl desperate to feel at home converge in this stunning novel in verse.**

**Selected for Summer/Fall 2020 Kids Indies Introduce List AND Fall 2020 Kids Indie Next List**

It's early September 2001, and twelve-year-old Abbey is the new kid at school. Again.

*I worry about people speaking to me / and worry just the [...More](#)*



## Primer

By [Muro, Jennifer](#)

Author [Krajewski, Thomas](#)

Illustrator [Lusky, Gretel](#)

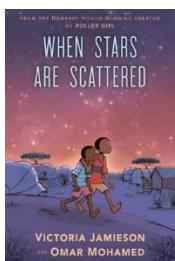
2020-06 - DC Comics

9781401296575 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Artistry and super-heroics collide in this new superhero story**

Thirteen-year-old Ashley Rayburn is an upbeat girl with a decidedly downbeat past. With a father in prison, Ashley has bounced from foster home to foster home and represents a real challenge to the social workers who try to help her--not because she's inherently bad, but because trouble always seems to find her.

Things [...More](#)



## When Stars Are Scattered

By [Jamieson, Victoria](#)

Author [Mohamed, Omar](#)

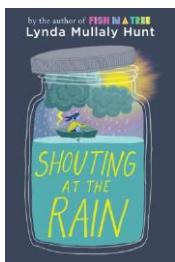
Illustrator [Jamieson, Victoria](#)

2020-04 - Dial Books

9780525553915 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Heartbreak and hope exist together in this remarkable graphic novel about growing up in a refugee camp, as told by a Somali refugee to the Newbery Honor-winning creator of *Roller Girl*.**

Omar and his younger brother, Hassan, have spent most of their lives in Dadaab, a refugee camp in Kenya. Life is hard there: never enough food, achingly dull, and without access to the medical care [...More](#)



## Shouting at the Rain

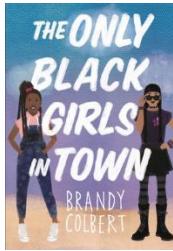
By [Hunt, Lynda Mullaly](#)

2019-05 - Nancy Paulsen Books

9780399175152 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**From the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Fish in a Tree* comes a compelling story about perspective and learning to love the family you have.**

Delsie loves tracking the weather--lately, though, it seems the squalls are in her own life. She's always lived with her kindhearted Grammy, but now she's looking at their life with new eyes and wishing she could have a [...More](#)



## The Only Black Girls in Town

By [Colbert, Brandy](#)

2020-03 - Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

9780316456388 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**Award-winning YA author Brandy Colbert's debut middle-grade novel about the only two Black girls in town who discover a collection of hidden journals revealing shocking secrets of the past.**

Beach-loving surfer Alberta has been the only Black girl in town for years. Alberta's best friend, Laramie, is the closest thing she has to a sister, but there are some things even Laramie can't [...More](#)



## Fighting Words

By [Bradley, Kimberly Brubaker](#)

2020-08 - Dial Books

9781984815682 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A candid and fierce middle grade novel about sisterhood and sexual abuse, by Newbery Honor winner and #1 *New York Times* best seller Kimberly Brubaker Bradley, author of *The War that Saved My Life***

**Kirkus Prize Finalist**

**Boston Globe Best Book of the Year**

**Horn Book Fanfare Best Book of the Year**

[...More](#)



## Brother's Keeper

By [Lee, Julie](#)

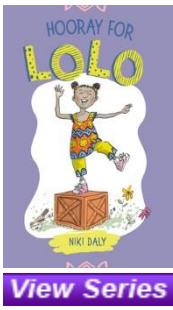
2020-07 - Holiday House

9780823444946 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**With war looming on the horizon and winter setting in, can two children escape North Korea on their own?**

North Korea. December, 1950.

Twelve-year-old Sora and her family live under an iron set of rules: No travel without a permit. No criticism of the government. No absences from Communist meetings. Wear red. Hang pictures of the Great Leader. Don't trust your neighbors. Don't speak [...More](#)



[View Series](#)

## Hooray for Lolo

By [Daly, Niki](#)

2020-05 - Catalyst Press

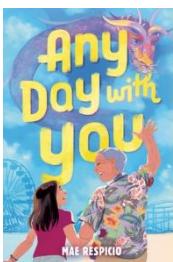
9781946395382 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**2nd book in Lolo series**

**A Junior Library Guild Gold Standard Selection**

*Part of Niki Daly's Lolo series*

Hooray Hurrah Hurray for Lolo, the energetic, curious, and fun-loving girl at the center of Niki Daly's series of books for beginning readers. She's thoughtful, funny, and always ready for anything. Whether it's helping to babysit baby Bongi or learning all about the library, she's sure to [...More](#)



## Any Day with You

By [Respicio, Mae](#)

2020-05 - Wendy Lamb Books

9780525707578 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**A warm, tender story about a creative girl who hopes that by winning a filmmaking contest, she'll convince her great-grandfather not to move back home to the Philippines. For fans of Erin Entrada Kelly and Kelly Yang.**

Kaia and her family live near the beach in California, where the fun of moviemaking is all around them. Kaia loves playing with makeup and creating special effects, [...More](#)



## The List of Things That Will Not Change

By [Stead, Rebecca](#)

2020-04 - Wendy Lamb Books

9781101938096 [Check Our Catalog](#)

**EIGHT STARRED REVIEWS The reassuring book kids and families need right now.**

**An absolute original . . . a story that kids will love. --R. J. Palacio, bestselling author of *Wonder***

**At a time when everything is changing for Bea and her family, the important things will always stay the same. A soon-to-be classic by the Newbery Award-winning author of *When You Reach Me*. [...More](#)**