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## Demographics

# What do middle schoolers think?

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# Should the elementary school make more of an effort to be inclusive of LGBTQ+ students?



#### Rate your LGBTQ+ education on a scale of 1-5



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#### **Do kids think our school is doing enough to educate us on LGBTQ+?**

Do you remember learning about LGBTQ+ issues in elementary school? 93 responses



The vast majority of students say that LGBTQ+ issues were never discussed in school.

The majority of students say that they

did not get any knowledge on LGBTQ+

issues from school.

If you have prior knowledge about LGBTQ+ issues, how much of it did you get from school? 95 responses



 All of the information I know came from school
Some of the information I know came from school
This topic was not discussed in school

- I have knowledge about LGBTQ+ but I learned none of it from school
- I have knowledge about LGBTQ+ iss..
- I have knowledge about LGBTQ+ But..
- I do not take health





The majority of students rated the education on LGBTQ+ a 1 on a scale from 1 to 5. Yikes.

#### **Do you have prior knowledge about LGBTQ+? If so** Pink = Some of where did you learn it

the knowledge I have came from school Tan = The topic was not discussed in school Yellow = I have knowledge of LGBTO+ but none of it came from school Blue = Other Purple = All of the information I have came from school





### **CONTENT PLAN**

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#### Don't create a gendered space

- Don't separate kids by gender
- ➤ Use gender-neutral language to refer to students
- ➤ Use terms that expand the gender binary
- > Make sure to use correct terminology
- Introduce children to the idea of non-cisgender people, and people whose
- gender identites do not allign to their bodies.

#### **Positive Role Models**

- Read inclusive books and watch inclusive movies
- > Have positive representations of gender nonconforming people
- > Avoid gendered imagery

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#### **Pronouns**

> Find a good time for students to tell you their prefered pronouns

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Encourage children to tell you their gender by themselves as well as with their parents

#### Remember

- A more supportive and safe environment allows students to actually open up and share their feelings and identity with others, and that should be encouraged
- It is inevitable that some of the students will be around will come out at some point
- > There is nothing to be keeping your child away from, as the information
- shared in classrooms is age appropriate and positive
  - It is better for your child to be growing up being aware of the world that they will step into

#### Things we would like to add to the curriculum

- Include LGBTQ+ stereotypes in lessons on bullying
- > Have a lesson where LGBTQ+ is explained in an age-appropriate way, preferably in 3rd/4th/5th grade
- Have a writing prompt where students write about a character who identifies as nonbinary, or study LGBTQ+ history, and generally include some more inclusive lessons
- > Read inclusive books! See below for recommendations.

#### Inclusive Movies, Books, Articles

- > My Shadow is Pink (has a transgender main character)
- > How to Be a Real Man (countering gender stereotypes)
- > PRIDE: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag (LGBTQ+ history)
- And Tango Makes Three (LGBTQ+ families)
- The different dragon (LGBTQ+ families)

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#### Good Age Appropriate Books









#### Sources

Welcoming schools .org The gender communication plan A unique path for every student Creating gender inclusive schools The Gender Spectrum Mass .edu Talking to young children Gender identity expression Easy steps for a gender inclusive classes Education resources Our Survey

https://www.tfaforms.com/4770529 https://www.genderspectrum.org/articles/communicating -a-change-in-status https://www.genderspectrum.org/articles/creating-gende r-inclusive-schools-film https://genderspectrum.org/articles/cgis-introduction https://genderspectrum.org/articles/using-the-gsp

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