

Selecting SOGI-Inclusive Resources

The following is a series of considerations to guide selecting appropriate SOGI-inclusive resources for your school or classroom. While there are many places educators can go for recommended lesson plans, books, and other resources such as sogieducation.org, there may be a desire to go further, or customize for your students. Resources that are already being used today in schools can also become more SOGI-inclusive.

When using resources, educators know their communities and are best equipped to decide what will work best. It's not just about having "the right" resources, but also about how they are used.

Selecting New Resources

When selecting resources for your school or classroom, consider the following themes:

- 1. Age-appropriateness.** SOGI-inclusive education applies at all ages. Like with all course work, educators must consider what works for different age groups. It's also important to interrogate assumptions, as people may apply different standards to 2SLGBTQ+ stories compared to others.
- 2. Allyship.** Do resources include positive allies who support those who struggle?
- 3. Positive stories.** Are 2SLGBTQ+ people or characters celebrated and normalized, or are they always the target of bullying, abuse, and trauma?
- 4. Integration and normalizing SOGI.** Some resources can be explicit - for example, a lesson plan about human rights. Others can be integrated, for example a passing reference to a family with two moms.
- 5. Representation: Intersectionality and diverse identities.** Are a variety of 2SLGBTQ+ and other rainbow letter identities present? Do people or characters get to have rich and varied stories, including a variety of racial or cultural backgrounds and abilities?
- 6. Resource creation: who is telling the story.** Are 2SLGBTQ+ people writing and creating their own stories, or is it only being told from an ally's perspective?

Note that each resource won't be able to include all themes, all the time - for example, one picture book isn't going to include every diverse identity - but consider the school or classroom collection of resources and aim for balance.



Making Any Resource or Lesson Plan SOGI-Inclusive

When working towards SOGI-inclusive education, the impulse may be to only find new resources. There are many ways to make anything SOGI-inclusive, for example:

- **Interrogate the resources already being used.** Name assumptions about gender, family structure, or sexual orientation. Discuss examples of homophobia or transphobia. Questioning resources teaches students to be critical of what they are taking in. Ask students to go deeper and make connections to gender, family structure, or identities.
- **Change pronouns.** Use “he” for a student in a picture book with long hair. Use “they” for any character at all, particularly when you don’t know their gender.
- **Change word problems.** Instead of “Jack bought his mom five apples...” try “Khalil bought his boyfriend five apples...”
- **Learn more about the story.** There may be diverse SOGI representation already hidden in the resources that you are using.

Recommendations for Adults

Looking for parent resources? Check out the websites below for more:

- [Trans Care BC](#)
- [PFlag Canada](#)
- [SOGI 1 2 3 Parent Resources](#)

Additional Considerations

Looking to go deeper? Check out these links to learn more:

- [I Dream Library](#)
- [SOGI Book List](#)
- [Lost Boys Consulting](#)
- [The Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity](#)
- [Egale](#)
- [Gender Spectrum](#)

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Learn more at SOGIeducation.org

