



## **11 CHILDREN'S BOOKS ABOUT DIVERSITY THAT CELEBRATE OUR DIFFERENCES**

The world is a diverse place. It's full of people living dramatically different lives, even within the same neighbourhood or classroom. In order to raise kids in this world, we need to teach them about people outside of their immediate family. That's where children's books about diversity come in! The Learning Curve staff have put together a list of recommended reading for children which cover diversity, inclusion and acceptance. Whether you're a parent trying to raise an activist kid, a teacher trying to create an inclusive classroom, or you're just trying to introduce a different worldview to your children, you'll find plenty of options on this list!



### **All Are Welcome**

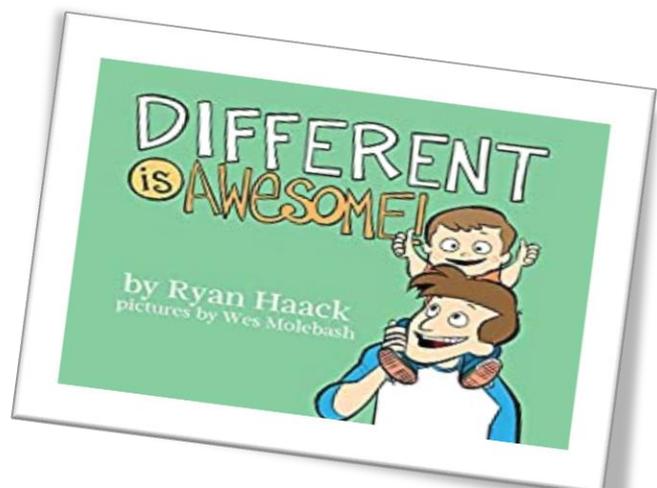
Follow a group of children through a day their school, where everyone is welcome. A school where children in patkas, hijabs, baseball caps and yarmulkes play side by side. A school where students grow and learn from each other's traditions. A school where diversity is a strength.

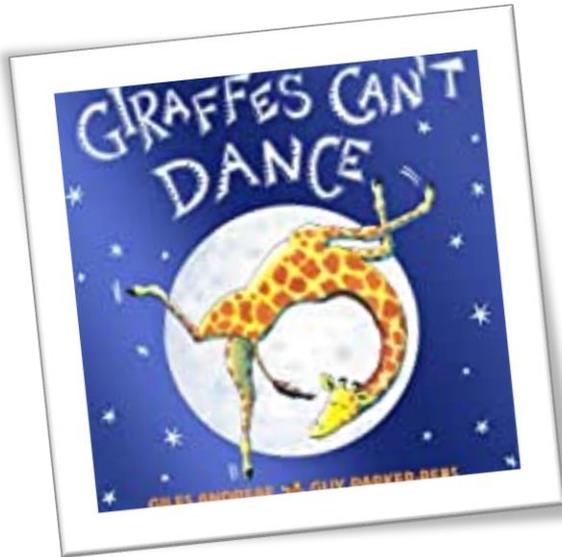
By Alexandra Penfold and Suzanne Kaufman

### **Different Is Awesome**

Different Is Awesome is the result of a successful Kickstarter campaign from Ryan Haack, who was born with one hand and set out to bring more inclusion to the children's book world.

By Ryan Haack





### Giraffes Can't Dance

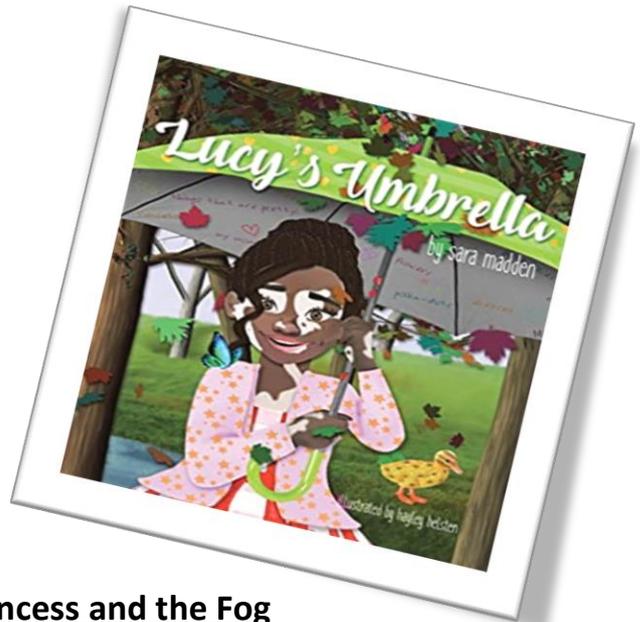
Gerald the giraffe faces other animals' relentless teasing about his lanky body when he tries to do the one thing he loves: dance. He soon learns, though, that his confidence and just the right music mean he can dance without a care in the world.

By Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees

### Lucy's Umbrella

Lucy has vitiligo. She finds beauty in the patterns on her skin. She also finds beauty in the patterns she notices out in nature. Follow Lucy as she goes on a walk through nature, admiring everything she sees.

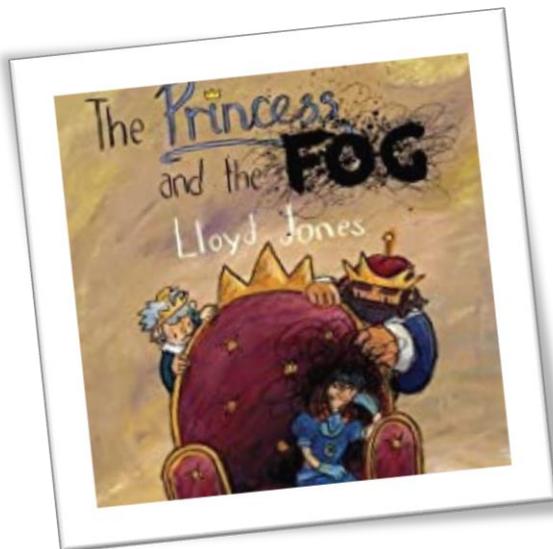
By Sarah Madden



### The Princess and the Fog

*The Princess and the Fog* puts a spin on the usual fairy tale by introducing children to the topic of depression and offering hope to anyone affected by it.

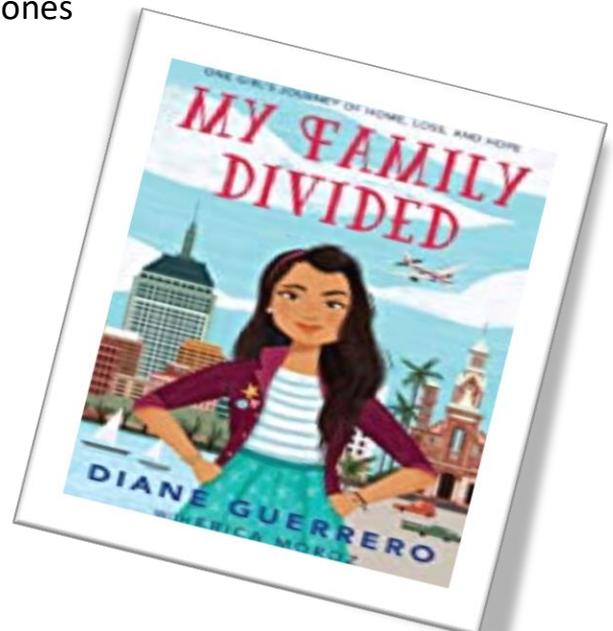
By Lloyd Jones

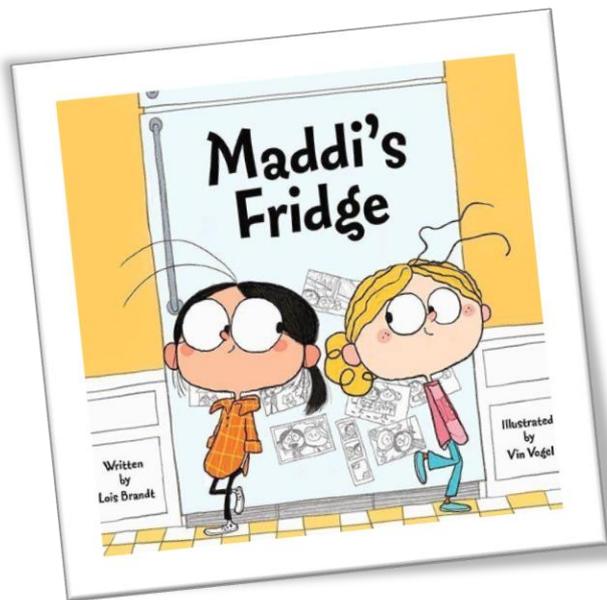


### My Family Divided

A story for older readers (which was adapted from her 2016 memoir) that explains how Guerrero's parents, who were undocumented immigrants, were detained and deported while she was at school.

By Diane Guerrero





### Maddi's Fridge

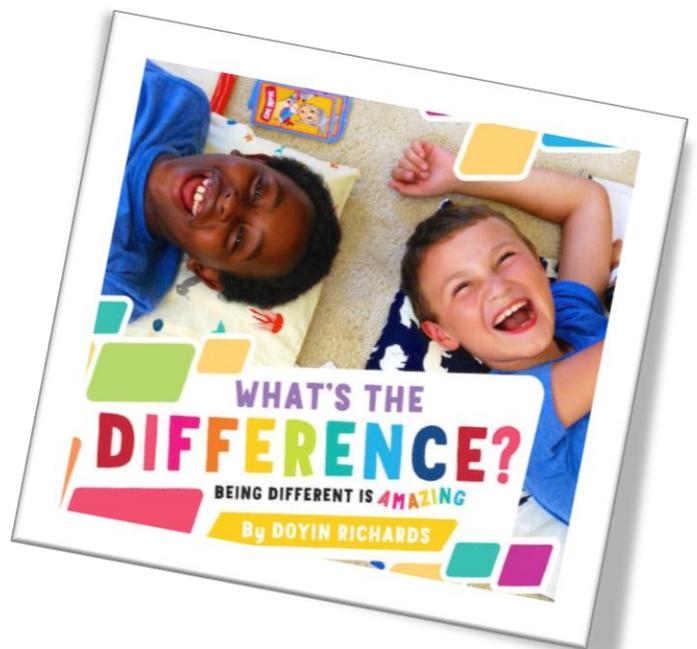
Although economic differences can be a bit more hidden than others, *Maddi's Fridge* doesn't shy away from the topic of poverty. In the book, Sofia, who has a fridge at home full of food, learns that her friend Maddi has a fridge that's empty and struggles with whether she should tell her parents.

By Lois Brandt

### What's The Difference?

Doyin Richards, a father of two who's known as "Daddy Doin' Work" online, breaks down race relations for kids in his book *What's the Difference? Being Different Is Amazing*. His message motivates little ones to be aware of and appreciate the differences among people.

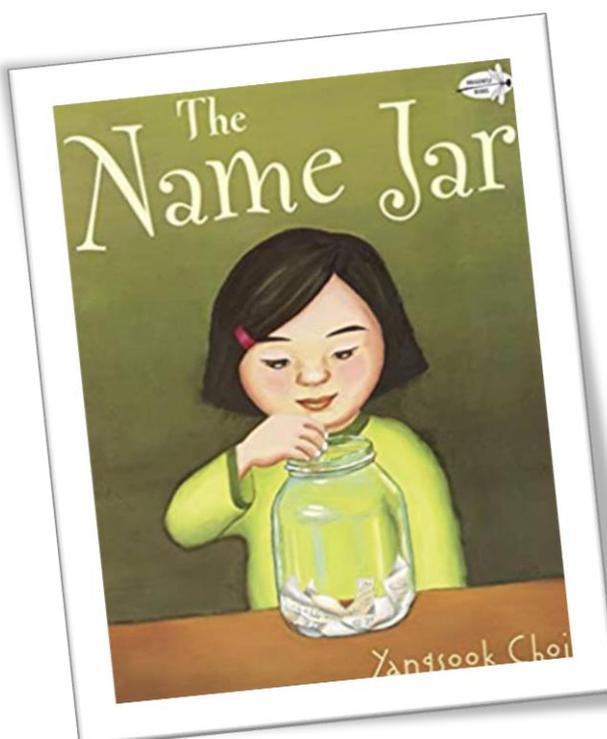
By Doyin Richards



### The Name Jar

New from Korea, Unhei wants the kids in school to like her, but fears they won't be able to pronounce her name. Instead of introducing herself on the first day, she tells the class that she'll choose a new name by the following week. But one of her classmates discovers her real name. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own name and helps everyone pronounce it—*Yoon-Hey*.

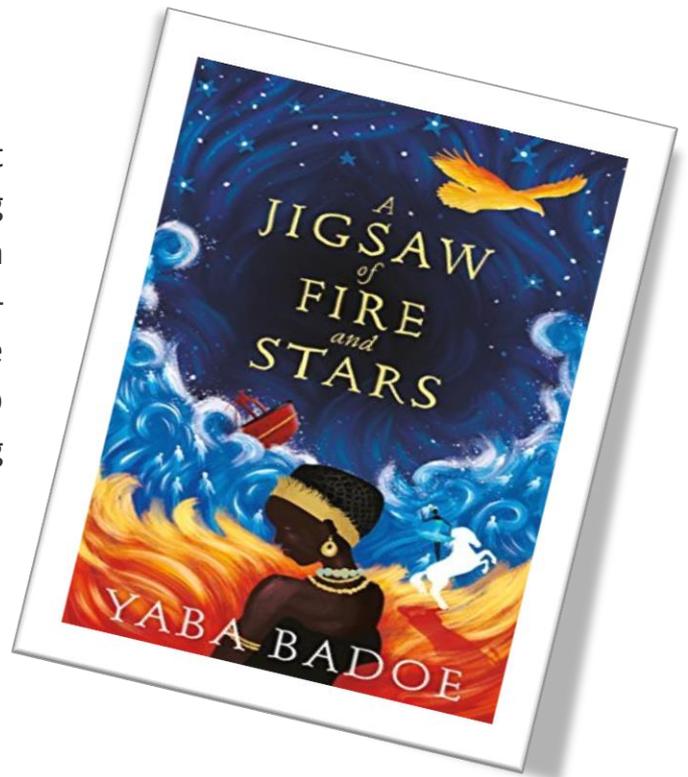
By Yangsook Choi



### A Jigsaw of Fire and Stars

For older readers – a powerful story that goes from the horrors of people-trafficking to the magic of African folklore. Sante was a baby when she was washed ashore in a sea-chest laden with treasure. It seems she is the sole survivor of the tragic sinking of a ship carrying migrants and refugees. Unflinching in its dark revelations about life.

By Yaba Badoe



### Under the Great Plum Tree

An unlikely friendship between Miss Bandari and Mr Magarmach forms when the pair meet under the great plum tree in India. Miss Bandari loves hearing Mr Magarmach's stories. One day their friendship tested but with courage, trust and forgiveness they discover that living happily together tastes just as sweet as Miss Bandari's golden plums.

By Sufiya Ahmed

