

PS 39 Diversity and Inclusion Book of the Month: June
Theme: LGBTQIA

Book Title: George
by Alex Gino

Grade Level: 4th / 5th

Discuss:

- What is the book about?
- What is George like as a person? Did she change throughout the book and if so, how?
- What do you think it was like for George knowing she is a girl but not being able to tell anyone? Did you ever have something you couldn't share with anyone?
- Why do you think it was so important to George that she play the role of Charlotte in Charlotte's Web?
- Who was an ally to George in this story and how did they act as an ally?
- Before reading the book, what did you know about being transgender and what did you learn?
- How do you think George felt as she played the part of Charlotte in the play?
- Why do you think some of the students in George's class teased and bullied her (specifically how Jeff and Rick treated George).
- How did you feel when you read about the fight between George and Jeff? Have you ever witnessed anything happen like this?
- There are many instances in the book where someone acts as an ally to George. For example, George's best friend Kelly works out a plan which enables George to play Charlotte as a way to help her mother see George as a girl. Ms. Maldonado, the school principal, says something supportive to George and George's Mom about who George is. Do you know the difference between being a bystander and an ally? Did you notice any other instances in the book where someone was an ally to George? Have you ever witnessed someone acting as an ally in your school or community?
 - A person can safely be an ally in a number of different ways including: supporting the person being targeted, telling a trusted adult, not participating in the bullying, etc.
- Why do you think it was so difficult for George to tell her Mom that she is a girl?
- How did you feel when the book ended?
- What do you think might happen next?
- Define:
 - Transgender is a term for people whose gender identity differs from how they were assigned at birth (e.g., assigned boy or girl).
 - Transition refers to the time period when a person begins living as the gender with which they identify rather than the gender they were assigned at birth.