

BookTrust Storytime Prize

BookTrust invites entries from publishers for the BookTrust Storytime 2022

Submissions due 17 December 2021

BookTrust Storytime celebrates and promotes the best books for sharing with young children aged 0-5. We are looking for books which have wide appeal to parents and carers across our diverse nation, and for stories which can be read and enjoyed over and over again.

Publishers are invited to enter up to five books per imprint (unless otherwise agreed). **All books submitted must be first published in the UK between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022.**

The shortlisted books will be announced in **Spring 2022**.

During autumn 2022, the shortlisted books will be shared with children, carers and families by public librarians, with a particular focus on disadvantaged families. In 2021 we invited every library in England to take part and receive a pack of the shortlisted books plus access to digital resources and we worked closely with 310 libraries to receive multiple copies of the shortlisted books, receive physical resources and be encouraged to run Storytime sessions on the shortlisted books and take part in the BookTrust Storytime Prize winner vote. You can find more information here <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/programmes-and-campaigns/booktrust-storytime/practitioners/> on how we are supporting families with children aged 0-5 to engage with their local public library and develop an ongoing reading habit.

The winning book will be announced in December 2022/January 2023 and will receive a prize of £5,000.

We're looking for books that:

- are for children from 0-5 years old – we would particularly like to see books for babies and 2–3-year-olds as well as for the upper end
- as appropriate, have an engaging narrative and illustrations which can be enjoyed again and again
- involve babies and children in the reading experience
- reflect a baby/child's experience and stimulate their imagination
- reflect a diversity of racial, cultural and social backgrounds
- reflect a diversity of abilities

- have themes that are accessible and inclusive
- are well produced and printed
- have a simple, accessible text along with clear legible fonts with good contrast
- are safe and sturdy enough for purpose (particularly relating to board books)

Timeline

16 November 2021: Call out to publishers for submissions.

17 December 2021: Submissions close.

By 10 January 2022: 2 copies of each submitted title will need to be sent to BookTrust.

By 17 January 2022: publishers will be notified about longlisted titles. At that point, **ten** copies of each longlisted book will need to be sent to BookTrust's warehouse by **31 January**.

By end of February: publishers will be informed about which titles are included in the shortlist. As we are expanding the scope of the prize quite significantly this year, we will purchase around **5,000-8,000 copies** of the shortlisted titles, and some 'big book' editions where possible, to be used in hundreds of libraries around the country.

Spring 2022: shortlist announced.

1 August 2022: copies of shortlisted books delivered to BookTrust warehouse

December 2022/January 2023: winner announcement.

January-March 2023: opportunity for libraries to engage families to celebrate the winning book

(Dates are subject to change but any change in dates will be communicated in good time)

How to submit

All submissions must be made by **Friday 17 December 2021**.

You may submit up to five eligible titles per imprint (unless otherwise advised). Please fill out the submission form here: <https://secure.booktrust.org.uk/storytime-prize/>

We will require **one copy** of each book submitted to be sent to: *BookTrust Storytime Prize, BookTrust, G8 Battersea Studios, 80 Silverthorne Road, London SW8 3HE* by **10 January 2022**

Please could you also provide a PDF of each of the submitted books.

All the shortlisted titles will be selected by an independent panel of experts made up primarily of public librarians from our library partners and will also include parents and careers, an author and/or illustrator and early years experts.

Please do not hesitate to contact storytimeprize@booktrust.org.uk if you have any further questions in the meantime.