

## **BookTrust Storytime Prize**

### **BookTrust invites entries from publishers for the BookTrust Storytime Prize: The Best Book for Sharing 2020**

#### **Submissions due 7 February 2020**

This prize celebrates and promotes the best books for sharing with young children. 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. **All books submitted must be first published in the UK between 1 March 2019 and 29 February 2020.**

A shortlist of six books will be announced in April at a special event which celebrates the joy of sharing stories. All shortlisted authors and illustrators will be invited to be part of the event.

Over the 2020 summer holidays, the six shortlisted books will be shared with children, carers and families by public librarians from each of the nine English regions (organised in partnership with the Youth Library Group), along with Wales and Northern Ireland, to find the best book for sharing.

The winning book will be announced at a ceremony in London in November 2020, with a prize of £5000 to the author and illustrator.

#### **We're looking for books that:**

- are for children from 0-5 years old
- have an engaging narrative and illustrations that tell a brilliant story 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 and cultural backgrounds and 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
- meet the health and safety standards of the UK and Europe and have the CE quality mark
- are safe and sturdy enough for purpose (particularly relating to board books)
- are the work of either a single or joint author and illustrator who can be attributed. (books by multiple authors and/or editors are not eligible.)

## **Timeline**

**13 January 2020:** Call out to publishers for submissions.

**7 February 2020:** Submissions close.

By **11 February 2020:** 1 copy of each title and submission will need to be sent to BookTrust.

Around **15 February:** publishers will be notified about longlisted titles. At that point, eight copies of each longlisted book will need to be sent to BookTrust's warehouse by 4 March.

Around 15 April: publishers will be informed about which titles are included in the shortlist. Publishers will be responsible for ensuring that the shortlisted authors and illustrators are available to take part in the shortlist celebration event.

**April:** Shortlist announced. Shortlist celebration event for parents and young children where the shortlisted books will be announced, and books read aloud by authors and illustrators.

**November 2020:** winner announcement ceremony (tbc).

## **How to submit**

All submissions must be with BookTrust by **Friday 7 February 2020**.

You can submit a maximum of five titles per imprint. Please fill out the submission form here (click the 'submissions are now open' button) <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/booktrust-storytime-prize/>.

Then send one copy of each submitted title to:  
BookTrust Storytime Prize, BookTrust, G8 Battersea Studios, 80 Silverthorne Road, London SW8 3HE by **Tuesday 11 February 2020**.

When sending the books to our office, you can provide proofs or printed PDFs, but when the shortlist is decided they must be published books.

All the shortlisted titles will be selected by an independent panel of experts made up primarily of public librarians from the Youth Library Group and will also include an illustrator and early years experts.

Please do not hesitate to contact [storytimeprize@booktrust.org.uk](mailto:storytimeprize@booktrust.org.uk) if you have any further questions in the meantime.