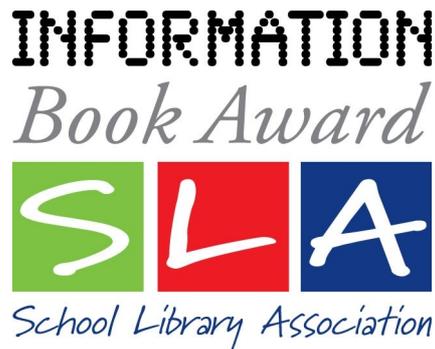


Embargoed till 12 noon on Thursday 12th May 2011



FIRST SHORTLIST FOR THE SLA INFORMATION BOOK AWARD ANNOUNCED

The School Library Association is delighted to announce the very first shortlist in this exciting new prize! This new prize will also include an exciting opportunity for schools to take part in the Children's Choice voting in September. The first award ceremony will take place in November 2011 and is sponsored by Hachette Children's Books and is supported by Peters Bookselling Services.

The Information Book Award will be an annual event and is a major development for information books, being designed to support school libraries and to reinforce the importance of non-fiction whilst highlighting the high standard of resources available. The judges have looked at a wide field of nominations and have produced a particularly strong and varied selection of titles for the shortlist, these are –

Under 7s

- Let's Ride a Bike by Ruth Walton. Franklin Watts ISBN 9780749688578
- My Very First Art Book by Rosie Dickins and Sarah Courtland illus Gus Gordon. Usborne ISBN 9781409522850
- The Great Big Book of Families by Mary Hoffman, illus Ros Asquith Frances Lincoln ISBN 9781845079994

7-12

- Animals at the Edge by Jonathan and Marilyn Baille Franklin Watts ISBN 9780749694814
- How the World Works by Christiane Dorion illus Beverley Young. Templar ISBN 9781848771895
- The Murderous Maths of Everything by Kjartan Poskitt illus Rob Davis. Scholastic ISBN 9781407103679

12-16

- How to Make a Universe with 92 Ingredients by Adrian Dingle Scholastic ISBN 9781407117911
- Stories about Gangs and Bullying by Michaela Miller Franklin watts ISBN 9781445100722
- The Life and Times of William Shakespeare by Kristen McDermott and Ari Berk Templar ISBN 9781840111583

Judges comments on the Shortlist

Under 7s

Let's Ride a Bike

An everyday subject for many families but given a superbly fresh and up to date treatment: very well paced and organised and very clearly informative through both the text and the illustrations.

My Very First Art Book

A bright, cheerful and extremely inviting book with a host of practical and achievable activities related to some carefully selected art examples: the binding allows any reference page needed to stay open too.

The Great Big Book of Families

An exceptionally well crafted and illustrated book which is great to share; such a variety of family situations is artfully covered so that most children will find a reflection of themselves here.

7 - 12

Animals at the Edge

Here is excellent and expansive coverage of a topically 'hot' subject which goes further than many in the manner of a careful balance of applied narrative, personalities and facts.

How the World Works

An absolute mass of information is to be found in this book set out in an entertaining form so the pages are always fascinating and perfect for both interested dipping and more applied reading.

The Murderous Maths of Everything

This book has a relentlessly enthusiastic style, which disguises loads of material in attractive presentation, and sweeps even the mathematically disinclined reader up into the intriguing fun and involvement.

12 - 16

How to Make a Universe

What amazingly comprehensive science coverage in a book that is totally delightful and constantly surprising; it has an appearance of wackiness but this is surrounding fundamental information.

Stories About Gangs and Bullying

The crucial fact for victims that you are not alone is the backbone of this book which has immense read-alone or discussion potential with worldwide case studies precisely and concisely presented.

The Life and Times of William Shakespeare

A most informative and very different treatment for a familiar topic; there are novelty aspects which generate interest in the detail ranging from trivia to examining historical perspectives.

Book Packs

The shortlisted titles are available as three individual packs - under 7s, 7-12 and 12-16 - from children's book specialists, Peters Bookselling Services.

In support of the awards, Peters will:

- Invoice the packs at 20% discount.

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- Fit plastic jackets, where applicable, free of charge.
- Deliver free of charge to mainland UK addresses.
- Also include a voucher for £50 of free books, redeemable during any visit to the Peters Showroom in Birmingham*
- Packs can be ordered at www.peters-books.co.uk/sla. To guarantee supply before the end of term, orders must be placed by 30th June.

*Free books are only available through a showroom visit and are limited to one voucher per school.

Posters will be made available to schools to advertise the shortlist and downloads will also be available for wider use.

In early September through to mid October schools will be invited to register with the voting website (url to be announced) and children can choose their own 'Children's Choice' favourites in each category, plus voting for an overall winner. Prizes will be awarded for the judges and Children's Choice winners in each category, as well as for the overall winner(s).

Notes to Editors

- The award is split into 3 separate categories; under 7s, 7-12 and 12-16.
- Publishers were called for submissions in early February 2011.
- The winners will be announced at an award ceremony in November 2011.
- The judging panel consists of experienced librarians, SLA board members and a member of Peters Bookselling Services.
- Peters Bookselling Services is supporting the award by supplying packs of the short listed titles as a good value offer to schools. Children will then be invited to vote for their favourite book in September and October 2011.
- Each section will have a winner, chosen by the panel, as well as a children's choice winner. There will also be an overall winner, awarded to the best information book across all categories.
- The award is administered by the SLA.

Sponsored by



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