

Information Book Award 2024

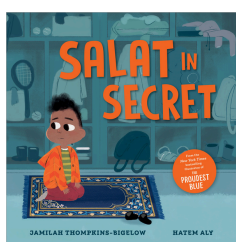
Judges' Comments on the Shortlist

Age 7 and Under



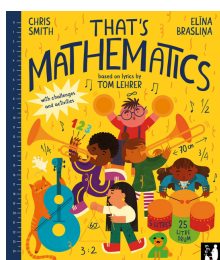
Darwin's Super-Pooping Worm Spectacular

This is a fascinating and informative tale, which stuns with empathetic and heartfelt illustrations. I really felt for Darwin on his journey, and it made me laugh too! Children will love reading about the magic of Darwin's worms – and their poo.



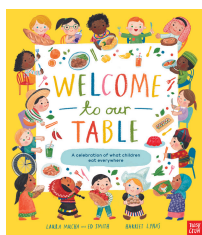
Salat in Secret

Salat in Secret is an essential addition to any primary school library seeking to build an inclusive collection where every pupil can feel seen. I highly recommend this big-hearted and emotional read with bold and memorable illustrations that bring the narrative vividly to life.



That's Mathematics

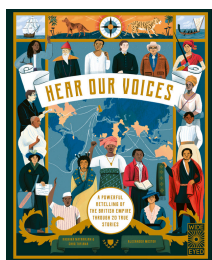
This is an exuberant and fascinating introduction to the fact that mathematics is all around us. It is based on lyrics by the songwriter Tom Lehrer, so we feel the rhythm of the words and the humour of some situations. Full of facts and suggestions for things to do.



Welcome to Our Table

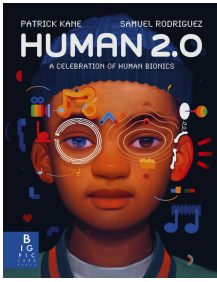
Broad in scope and truly welcoming in tone, the well organised bite-sized facts are both informative and fun. Great to spend hours poring over, and ideal to encourage an interest in food, and in different cultures.

Age 8 to 12



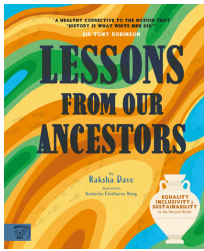
Hear Our Voices

Exceptionally well-chosen viewpoints that tell the tale of the British Empire's injustice and the opposing actions skilfully and movingly, without putting the burden of guilt or shame upon the modern reader. An ideal introduction to an underrepresented part of British history.



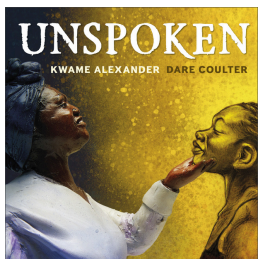
Human 2.0

This incredible book celebrates human bionics and the perception of disability through the magnificent and remarkable developments and achievements being made in medical engineering. I am confident pupils will be inspired to start their own journey into this field, becoming the next generation of scientists and inventors.



Lessons From Our Ancestors

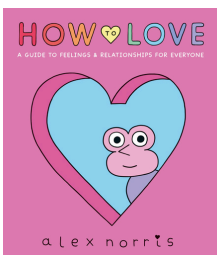
This is a vital addition to all school libraries, complimenting a broad teaching curriculum and will be thoroughly enjoyed by the whole school community. These forgotten histories need to be shared, and with superb illustrations and a striking cover, this is just the book for the job.



Unspoken

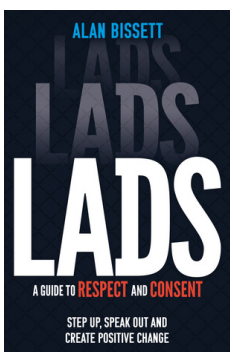
This incredible book brought me to tears. It was born from a fear of teaching the impact and trauma of enslavement, and the resulting book is both an imperative read and crucial addition to our collections. The mixed-media illustrations are astonishing, alongside heartbreaking history in verse form, about a story that must be told.

Age 13 to 16



How to Love: A Guide to Feelings and Relationships for Everyone

The irreverent style and simple art deceptively hide a very insightful and reassuring guide to developing healthy and equal relationships – with romantic partners, with friends, and with oneself. Charming, inclusive, and uplifting, it's one to come back to again and again.



Lads

Inspired by the writer's involvement in the Scottish Police film Don't Be That Guy, Lads would be a refreshing and essential addition to any teenager's bookshelf today. Motivated to ensure his sons don't become "that guy", Bissett establishes his credentials as an "average guy" who enjoys being male, before launching into the "heavy" stuff. Using himself as a case study, he highlights how well-intentioned behaviour seen through a #MeToo lens may actually be rather creepy.

Not just for boys or teenagers, this engaging book with a straight-talking aesthetic is also highly recommended for teachers and parents.



Story of Now

Story of Now will inspire our children to gain a better understanding of the world they live in; how it came to be; and how to look to the future to shape their own story. It is an essential read for pupils and teachers alike to better challenge and comprehend the on-going impact of the British Empire in the classroom and further afield. I could not put this down and it is at the top of my book recommendations list. You need this book.



Welcome to the Arts: Dance

Produced in association with Sadler's Wells and written by Sir Alastair Spalding, the artistic director and chief exec of the theatre since 2004, this captivating large format volume is a feast for the eyes and mind. A luxurious treat of a book that is packed with content and will not fail to dazzle its reader.