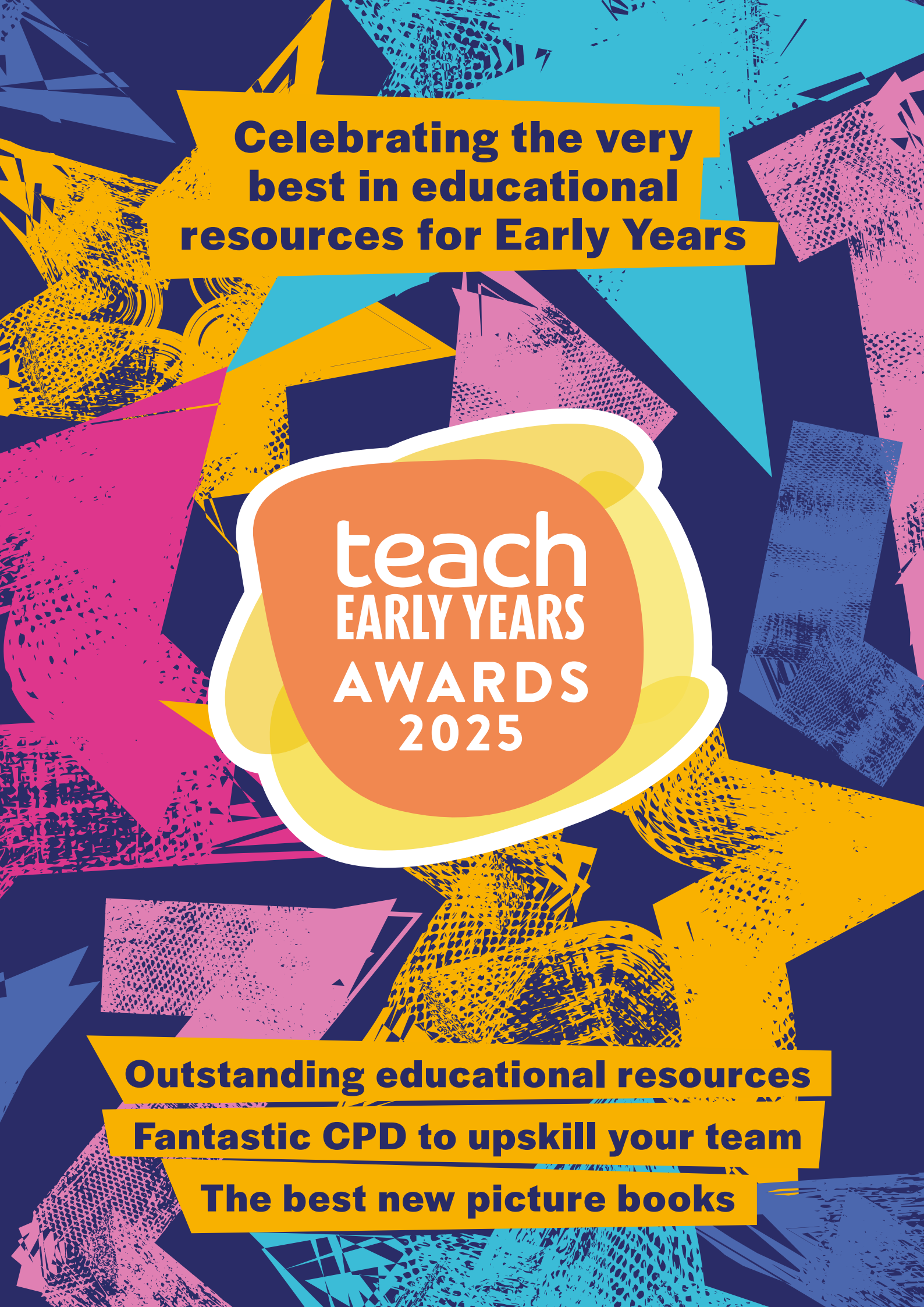




**Celebrating the very
best in educational
resources for Early Years**

**teach
EARLY YEARS
AWARDS
2025**

Outstanding educational resources

Fantastic CPD to upskill your team

The best new picture books

A 'Game Changer' for executive function and foundational knowledge.

teach
EARLY YEARS
AWARDS 2025
WINNER


Ready Steady
Write

teach
PRIMARY
AWARDS 2023
WINNER



SCAN ME

Request a **FREE**
discovery call with an
expert consultant.

bett Awards
2025

FINALIST



teach
PRIMARY
AWARDS 2023
WINNER

CESS
EDUCATION
AWARDS
FINALIST
2025


Literacy Counts

teach
EARLY YEARS
AWARDS 2025
WINNER



Welcome...

to the *Teach Early Years Awards 2025!*

We've done the hard work so you don't have to – hand-picking, testing and ranking resources that really **make a difference in settings.**

Expect a mix of the tried-and-true and the brand new.

What do they all have in common?

- ✓ They work.
- ✓ They save you time.
- ✓ They make teaching that little bit easier.

Of course, every setting is different – what works brilliantly in one might need tweaking in another. But we hope these winners give you a taste of what's possible, and plenty of inspiration to make your teaching even more rewarding.

HOW IT WORKED

1 ENTRIES OPENED

Companies submitted their best resources

2 SHORTLISTS CREATED

We grouped the standouts by category

3 EXPERT JUDGING

Educators put every entry through its paces

4 WINNERS CHOSEN

Winner & two highly commended per category

WHAT JUDGES ASSESSED

Judges carefully evaluated each resource against key criteria (below) to recognise outstanding quality, impact and innovation...

- **Suitability & adaptability**
- **Educational impact**
- **Originality & innovation**
- **Value for money**
- **Ease of use & accessibility**
- **Durability**
- **Environmental impact**

CATEGORIES & JUDGES

COMMS, LANGUAGE & LITERACY

Supporting kids' language, fine motor & reading skills



Dr June O'Sullivan MBE,
CEO at LEYF

CPD

Training & tools supporting staff growth & development



Daniel Saturley, Early Years
Advisory teacher

CREATIVE PLAY

Resources for role play, messy play, construction & art



Kayte Cooling-Smith, multi-
award-winning childminder

EARLY EXPLORATION

Resources for maths, science & discovering the world



Sue Cowley, teacher, writer
& presenter

HAPPY & HEALTHY

Boost physical development, PSED & children's wellbeing



Jamel C Campbell, educator,
consultant & author

PICTURE BOOKS

The best picture books to spark imagination & delight readers

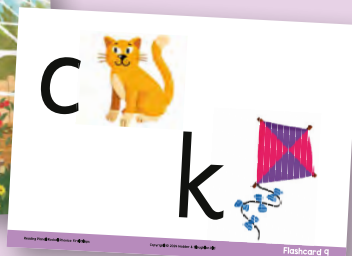


Emma Davis, early years
lecturer

Inspire a lifelong love of reading from a young age



**Rocket
Phonics**
First Steps



- ★ Create a firm foundation for literacy with a fun, introductory phonics programme based on Phases 1–2 of Letters and Sounds
- ★ Introduce letter sounds in the order of natural speech development
- ★ Expand vocabulary using flashcards and immersive Big Book stories
- ★ Build confidence through nursery rhymes, ditties, games and activities

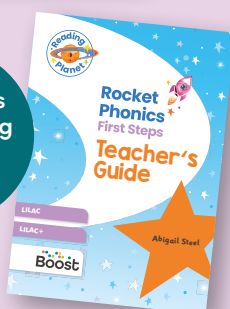
"We are loving it in our Nursery. We really like the way it is accessible to all children whatever their ability. Some children are learning their speech sounds through the scheme whilst others are reading and writing the graphemes."

Laura Foley, EYFS Teacher,
Woodlands Primary, Merseyside

Scan to learn more



CPD videos
and ongoing
teacher support



HIGHLY COMMENDED



Polylino

(ILT Education UK)

This is a multilingual digital picture book service that provides instant access to hundreds of books. Listen in over 60 languages. The books are selected for their literary and artistic quality, curriculum alignment and relevance for different age groups.

“Being able to access hundreds of books is amazing. We love the interactivity”



ESSENTIAL WRITING for Early Years

(HFL Education)

This resource links the developmental milestones needed to prepare and motivate children to experience the joy of writing. It offers a balance between child-led and adult-inspired activities to ensure children can build the skills to see themselves as communicators, mark-makers and, ultimately, writers.

“The reflection toolkit allowed us to assess our current practice and identify areas for improvement”



CATEGORY FINALISTS

ROCKET PHONICS FIRST STEPS
(Hachette Learning)

I AM A CLEVER WRITER IN RECEPTION
(I Am a Clever Writer Resources)

INITIAL CODE BY SOUNDS-WRITE IPAD APP
(Sounds-Write)

WINNER

Ready Steady Write EYFS

(Literacy Counts)

Ready Steady Write is an evidence-based primary writing scheme for EYFS-KS2. Built around high-quality, language-rich literature, it provides a structured and sequenced approach that develops confident, independent writers across all year groups. Writing units are carefully mapped to the National Curriculum to ensure consistent progression from early years through to Y6. It's designed to meet the needs of all learners – including EAL, SEND and the lowest 20% – through adaptive teaching and a clear writing journey.

“We loved this! There are clear plans and guides for lessons, with step-by-step stages for sequencing”

Dr June O'Sullivan MBE



WINNER

The Right Start to Phonics – A Guide to Supporting Excellence in Early Phonics

(The Right Start Early Years Consultancy)

This book is full of playful, active and fun ideas to help young children develop the auditory skills they need to access the phonic code. It will show you how to support children in gaining the skills they need to listen with accuracy and differentiate between, manipulate and understand the sounds they hear. Drawing on the latest research, it explains how to embed early phonics across your provision in a way that fits into your daily routine. Author Rose Blair has experience as an early years teacher, Specialist Leader in Education and an early years adviser.

**CATEGORY
FINALISTS**

**IMPACT
EARLY YEARS
PLATFORM**
(Impact Early
Years)

**PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
MEMBERSHIP**
(The National
College)

HIGHLY COMMENDED

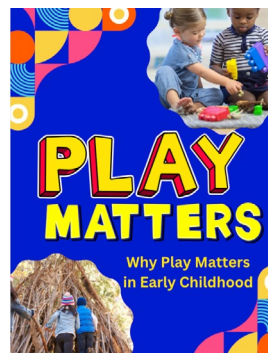


Left-Handed Children – A Guide for Teachers and Parents

(Left n Write Ltd)

This interactive training course will help you assess and support left-handed children, improving their skills and self-esteem.

“It provides practical strategies that can make a real difference to children’s confidence and learning”



Play Matters

(Early Years Reviews)

This free resource will help you embed a rich, play-based curriculum that respects the voice of the child and values the role of the adult in co-playing, co-regulating and co-discovering. Its visual layout, reflective prompts and clear guidance make it both practical and inspiring.

“The reflective questions and case studies make it excellent for CPD and strategic conversations”

“Its affordability, accessibility and adaptability across settings make it highly impactful”

Daniel Saturley

HIGHLY COMMENDED



The PlayTRAY

(Inspire My Play)

With a deep tray, shallow tray (that doubles as a lid) and removable compartments, this tray is easy to clean, move and store. Keep your sensory set-ups safe to use again or use it as an organiser for resources.

“We found multiple ways to use it, meaning we had endless opportunities to support creative play”



Birds – Sensory Play Stones

(Yellow Door)

The tactile, realistic detailing on these eight birds will inspire curiosity and conversation while providing lots of wonderful sensory feedback. They're easy to stand, making them versatile for imaginary play as children's vocabulary and storytelling skills take flight.

“The children immediately noticed them and the conversation while playing with them was incredibly rich”



CATEGORY FINALISTS

**TICKIT
DISCOVERY
GLOW MINI
TUFF TABLE**
(Commotion Ltd)

**WOODEN
LACING LEAVES**
(Educational Advantage)

**GIANT
POLYDRON
DINOSAUR**
(Polydron)

WINNER

Boromi Play Library

(Boromi)

This innovative school and nursery-based resource is designed to build an infrastructure of play support around a family right from birth through to primary school. Each termly Play Library provides a curated collection of play bags, free for families to borrow, take home and explore together. Every bag is expertly curated to support early communication and language through play, including high-quality resources, a linked book and accessible family guidance. The programme is evidence-based and designed and run by early years play experts.

“This is more than just a resource – it's the key to a universe of creative play for children and their families”

Kayte Cooling-Smith

on the
button

SAFEGUARDING SHOULDN'T BE A SCRAMBLE.

**This is the system
built to make it simple.**

Created by early years professionals, it gives teams a simple, secure way to log concerns in real time, alert the right people instantly, and join the dots across safeguarding, staff worries and parent complaints. The result? Less stress, stronger safeguarding, and faster, better-evidenced decisions that protect children and support teams.

Why settings choose...

on the
button

- **Faster, clearer action:**
Natural logging when information feels uncomfortable, instant alerts and one-click timelines for earlier interventions.
- **Confident complaint handling:** Joined-up logs for fair, transparent EYFS complaint management.
- **Security and value:**
Enterprise-grade protection, simple pricing, and a refund guarantee.
- **Well-being at the centre:**
Worry-sharing and whistleblowing lift staff confidence and support children's needs.
- **Safer recruitment and training:**
Live tracker and matrix with reminders to stay compliant.
- **Purpose-built for the EYFS:**
Language, workflows and reports that match inspections and multi-agency work.

Try it in your setting



**Watch the quick snapshots and
get a free Practice Evaluation
to support your setting:**



Key features include:

- 3D body maps for accurate injury recording
- Anonymous whistleblowing to support staff voice
- Automated alerts via email and SMS
- Linked concern tracking to spot patterns early
- Complaint logging is often associated with safeguarding and certainly quality assurance

It's safeguarding and well-being, built for the EYFS, with confidentiality and clarity at its core.

We're continually improving **On the Button** based on what settings tell us they need. We have great plans for 2025/26!

weareonthebutton.com/TEY



WINNER

ticket Whizz Balance Bike

(Commotion Ltd)

The Whizz Balance Bike is the perfect way to help little ones build confidence and balance from an early age. Designed for children aged 24 months to five years, this bike features a durable, rustproof plastic frame that stands up to all the outdoor adventures and indoor fun children can handle. The puncture-proof tyres ensure a smooth and safe ride on a variety of surfaces, while the adjustable seat (33-43cm) grows with children as they develop their riding skills. The built-in footrest adds an extra level of comfort and stability, making it easier for toddlers and preschoolers to enjoy their ride.

“A great tool to develop hand-eye coordination and spatial awareness, plus it’s all-around fun”

Jamel C Campbell

**CATEGORY
FINALISTS**

**1DECISION
– RAINBOW
SMART PSED
(1Decision Ltd)**

**THE BIG 3 + ME
(Human Values
Foundation)**

**JIGSAW PSHE
(Jigsaw
Education
Group)**

HIGHLY COMMENDED

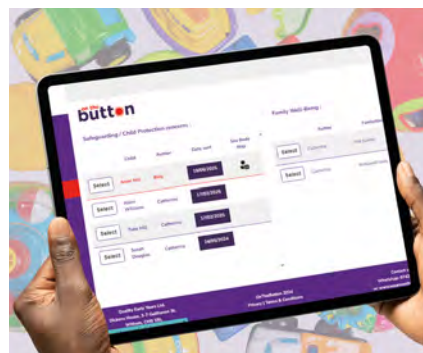


Gonge Mini Parkour Mega Set

(Profile Education Ltd)

With 31 different elements, this set will captivate children of all skill levels. It challenges children’s physical strength and agility and develops cognitive skills such as planning and imagination.

“This should be in every setting – it’s brought so much joy to the children in my care”



On the Button

(Quality Early Years Ltd)

This platform normalises logging safeguarding concerns on the spot, without leaving the room. Senior staff are notified and prompted to acknowledge or act. All safeguarding activity is centrally stored and the system intelligently links concerns to highlight patterns.

“I like that there are EYFS supporting documents to use alongside the system. It’s an amazing resource”

For
ages 3-6

Kickstart their early years learning with

 NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

Little Kids



Interactive sticker activities, games and puzzles develop and enhance children's key skills in numeracy, literacy and more!

Learn about wildlife, science, culture and history with engaging, easy-to-follow text!

Packed with gorgeous photographs, fascinating facts and exciting articles to read together!

40+
stickers
with every
issue!

teach
EARLY YEARS
AWARDS 2025
HIGHLY
COMMENDED

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See full cancellation policy on our website for further details. For standard rates and full T&Cs please visit natgeokids.com
For subscriptions in the Republic of Ireland, please visit natgeokids.com/ie/littlekids

HIGHLY COMMENDED



Outdoor Exploring Observation Table

(Profile Education Ltd)

Encourage early STEM development and learning about the natural world. Develop cognitive and gross motor skills with the chalkboard, clear shelf and built-in pockets for holding artwork or accessories.

“Sturdy, well-made and well-designed. It will last for years and offers great versatility”



National Geographic Little Kids Magazine

(National Geographic Little Kids Magazine)

With the Development Matters Framework at its core, this offers great educational value. An EY advisor reviews each issue to ensure pedagogical accuracy. The ‘Explore Together’ page facilitates meaningful moments with caregivers.

“A great way to explore the world with children, and content aligns with EYFS areas of learning”



CATEGORY FINALISTS

MINI MASH
(2Simple Ltd)

WOODEN SORTING POTS
(Educational Advantage)

EYFS NATURE RANGERS, ENDEAVOUR CHALLENGE
(Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew)

WINNER

Ten in the Bed

(Yellow Door)

Packed full of mathematical learning potential, this versatile, double-sided number line is perfect for developing a secure understanding of numbers one to ten. It has one long base slot, encouraging children to estimate spatially to order the bears. Children will enjoy playfully learning as they match the bears’ numerals to the dot patterns on the duvet. By using the unmarked sides and the delightful details on the bears, children can explore number bonds and spot and create repeating patterns using the bears’ arm positions, fur and pyjama colours, and nose and ear shapes. This resource is made from FSC-certified beech and pine.

“Innovative, sturdy and sustainable. Use it for independent learning as well as specific maths activities”

Sue Cowley



WINNER

Maya and Marley and the Great Big Tidy-Up

by Laura Henry-Allain MBE and Yabaewah Scott
(Penguin Random House)

Maya and Marley live in their very own playground with Mum, Dad and pet goats Lou and Chou. But when the playground becomes overrun with litter, it's up to Maya and Marley to plan a tidy up. Will they be able to clear it all away by themselves? This warm, adventurous book promotes empathy and caring for the world around you. Author Laura Henry-Allain MBE is the creator of CBeebies' well-loved *JoJo* and *Gran Gran* characters and is the series' associate producer.

**CATEGORY
FINALISTS**

**IT'S OK TO
SAY NO**

by Molly Potter
and Sarah
Jennings
(Bloomsbury
Publishing
Limited)

**THE MUSEUM
OF SHAPES**

by Sven Volker
(Cicada Books)

**A CARD FOR
MY MUM**

by Dr Bashabi
Fraser and
Maanvi Kapur
(Lantana
Publishing)

HIGHLY COMMENDED

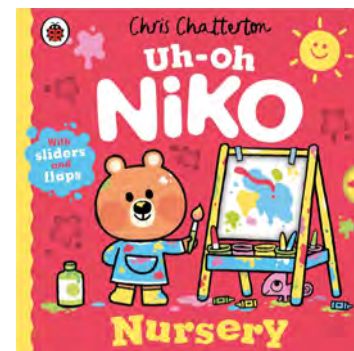


Good Golden Sun

by Brendan Wenzel (Sallywag Press)

This is a bold and playful exploration of how the sun touches all life on earth. Celebrate the mysteries of light from sun-up to sun-down as it weaves its way through creation.

"It takes children on a poetic journey through the natural world, showing the connections between creatures and environments"



Uh-Oh, Niko: Nursery

by Chris Chatterton
(Penguin Random House)

Help little Niko on his first day at nursery in this interactive board book packed with push-and-pull sliders and flaps. Children will love joining in with the fun-filled rhyming text which will inspire imaginative play.

"The playful 'oops' moments make it perfect for toddlers learning nursery routines"

“ Joyful and purposeful storytelling that captures big ideas in a child-friendly and engaging way”

Emma Davis

**Interested in
entering next year?**

**Nominations will be
open in May 2026**



teachawards.com