



**TEACH EARLY YEARS AWARDS 2022**  
**YOUR GUIDE TO OUR WINNERS**  
**IN EVERY CATEGORY**

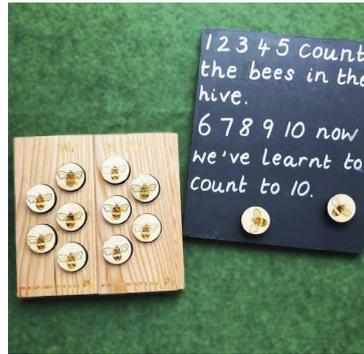


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to upskill your team • The best new picture books**



A natural and fun way for your children to learn about the basics of numeracy, language and communication skills.

Mini Maths features a unique subitising pattern design, formulated to help children become fluent in language and numeracy. Mini Maths Outclass Pack quickly teaches quantity assessment, teaching the critical life skills and fluid thought necessary to form the maths minds of the future.



Mini Maths Outclass Resource Pack £54 + VAT £64.80

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Packs include: 1 double-sided board and 8 chalkboard oval counters.  
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### OVAL COUNTER PACKS AVAILABLE:

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We understand what a challenge it can be for early years professionals to find high-quality products at reasonable prices.

Whether you're looking for resources that provide a wealth of learning opportunities for children, or a CPD course to develop skills and keep up-to-date with best practice, we're here to make finding high-quality early years products as easy as possible.

The Teach Early Years Awards is a celebration of our sector's educational and professional development resources. Each year, we put the call out for the best early years products across the key categories of communication, language & literacy; CPD; creative play; early exploration; happy & healthy; and picture books.

This year, our shortlist featured a wide variety of innovative resources. Our expert panel of judges – including early years authors, educators, consultants and leaders – put products to the test to select the winners for each category. Resources were judged on their educational value, cost, and capacity to withstand the rigours of use in a busy early years setting. With a winning resource and two highly commended resources in each category, I hope you enjoy exploring the winning resources and find some exciting inspiration for your setting.

**Elaine Bennett, Digital Content Manager**



## How we judged

From a host of nominations spanning six trade categories and covering learning, development and CPD across the early years, we compiled a shortlist of 48 worthy finalists.

- Our judges were asked to assess these finalists, taking into account effectiveness and value for money, as well as originality and accessibility. Where applicable, resources were put through their paces in real settings.
- At the end of the process, our judges picked a winner and two highly commended resources in each category.

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Meet the six members of our judging panel.

### 6 CPD

Resources supporting the development of outstanding practice, from books to online training courses.

### 8 Early exploration

For maths and science resources, and all resources designed to help

children broaden their understanding of the world.

### 10 Communication, language & literacy

All resources designed to promote the development of communication and language skills, early writing and/or reading.

### 11 Picture books

Illustrated story books aimed at children under five.

### 13 Creative play

Recognising resources designed to support role play, messy play or construction play, as well as art and craft activities.

### 14 Happy & healthy

Resources supporting physical development, nutrition and PSED, including those designed to promote children's wellbeing

# MEET THE JUDGES

teach  
EARLY YEARS  
AWARDS  
2022

We wouldn't be able to run the **Teach Early Years Awards** without the kind support of our judging panel. We'd like to extend our thanks to all those below for their help.



## JAMEL C CAMPBELL

Jamel is an early years educator, consultant and author. He's been in the industry for over 20 years and is one of the UK's Men in the Early Years ambassadors. Jamel is passionate about the importance of having a diverse and inclusive workforce, curriculum and pedagogy. He also offers training workshops based around representation and staff wellbeing. Follow him on Twitter at [@JamelCarly](https://twitter.com/JamelCarly)



## SUE COWLEY

Sue is an experienced teacher, writer and presenter, specialising in behaviour management – about which she writes regularly for Teach Early Years – and creative teaching and learning. A qualified primary school teacher, she helps to run her local preschool, as chair of the management committee. Her latest book is Learning Behaviours: A Practical Guide to Self-Regulation in the Early Years. Visit [suecowley.co.uk](https://www.suecowley.co.uk)



## EMMA DAVIS

Emma is an early years lecturer having previously managed an outstanding preschool. She is a PhD student, forest school leader and mental health first aider. Emma is a regular contributor to Teach Early Years, both in print and online, sharing inspiring ideas and best practice as well as book reviews. She particularly enjoys outdoor play, picture books and loose parts play. Follow Emma on Twitter at [@EmmaDee77](https://twitter.com/EmmaDee77)



## JAMES HEMPSALL OBE

James Hemsall OBE is director of Hemsall's training, research and consultancy, managing editor of Children's Centre Leader, and national programme director for Childcare Works. With more than 30 years' dedicated service to the children's services sector, James works to drive improvement and change, supporting high-quality and sustainable childcare. Visit [hempsalls.com](https://www.hempsalls.com) or follow on Twitter at [@hemsalls](https://twitter.com/hempsalls)



## RAGEENA TAHIR

Rageena joined Fennies as a Regional Quality Manager, with over 11 years of experience working in nurseries and teaching children English as an additional language. She developed her role to become Head of Education. Holding a level 6 qualification in childcare herself, Rageena now works alongside the internal education specialists to curate specific modules and refine learning activities within Fennies nurseries. Visit [fennies.com](https://www.fennies.com)



## JUNE O'SULLIVAN MBE

June O'Sullivan MBE is CEO of the London Early Years Foundation (LEYF), one of London's largest charitable social enterprises, operating 39 nurseries in some of London's most disadvantaged areas. An inspiring speaker, author, podcaster and expert on early years, social business and child poverty. June is a tireless 'disruptor', striving to make society a better place for all children and their families. Visit [leyf.org.uk](https://www.leyf.org.uk)



# Helicopter Stories On Demand – CPD

[helicopterstories.co.uk/online-learning](http://helicopterstories.co.uk/online-learning)



Charlotte - age 4

There was a unicorn. And the dragon came. And it fired the unicorn. And a little girl came to save the unicorn. And there were powers in her hands.

## Helicopter Stories On Demand

Suitable for anyone who works with 2 to 7 year olds



### What is Helicopter Stories?

Helicopter Stories is in theory a simple approach, based on the work of Vivian Gussin Paley. The practitioner sits with the child, listens to their story, and writes it down word for word. Once the story is finished, the child decides which character they would like to play, and the scribe takes a story from the next on the list.

“ Towards the end of the session, the children gather together, ready to observe and take part in the stories of their peers. A simple stage is marked on the floor and the classroom is transformed into a theatre. **Trisha Lee (Princesses, Dragons and Helicopter Stories)** ”

#### Helicopter Stories On Demand Offers:

- ❖ On Demand professional development on how to deliver Helicopter Stories
- ❖ Downloadable PDFs, simple tasks and additional reading suggestions included
- ❖ 24 bite-sized videos alongside in-depth commentary by Trisha Lee
- ❖ Access lasts for a full calendar year

“ This is a great concept to support children to express themselves whilst developing their communication, language and literacy skills. It is child-centred and builds on the child's own experiences, creativity and imagination. ”

James Hemsall OBE

teach  
EARLY YEARS  
AWARDS 2022  
WINNER

# THE WINNERS

## CPD

### WINNER

#### Helicopter Stories On Demand (Helicopter Stories)

This course is presented by Trisha Lee in bite-sized units and can be accessed at any time. The training goes into great detail about the Helicopter Stories approach and how to make it a regular part of your practice. Each lesson contains a video of between 10-15 minutes, alongside relevant downloadables, simple tasks and additional reading suggestions. Visit

[helicopterstories.co.uk](http://helicopterstories.co.uk)

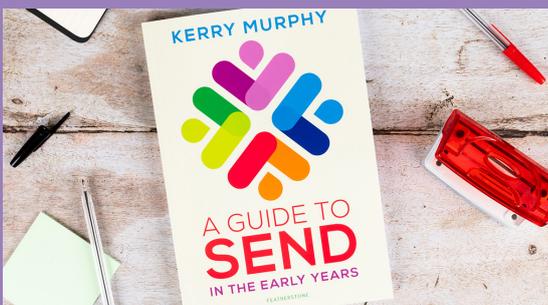


*“This is a great concept to support children to express themselves while developing their communication, language and literacy skills.”*

**James Hemsall OBE**

#### Highly commended A Guide to SEND in the Early Years (Bloomsbury)

This book is designed to give every Early Years practitioner the confidence to support children with special educational needs and disabilities. It covers how to define SEND and use inclusive language, how to build and implement inclusion policies and communicate these to parents and carers, how to prepare for transition, and much more. Visit [bloomsbury.com](http://bloomsbury.com)



*“This is a useful resource for practitioners of all levels, providing prompts and challenges to thinking.”*

**James Hemsall OBE**

#### Category finalists

Curriculum Framework for Children and Young People with Vision Impairment – CFVI (Royal National Institute of Blind People)

Phonics in a Rich Reading Curriculum (CLPE)

Muddy Puddle Teacher Training (Muddy Puddle Teacher)

50 Fantastic Ideas to Encourage Diversity and Inclusion (Bloomsbury)

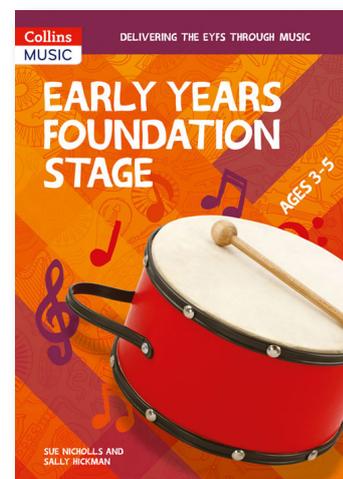
School Ready Music Programme (Boogie Mites)



#### Highly commended Collins Primary Music Early Years Foundation Stage (Collins)

This resource supports Early Years practitioners to deliver the 2021 reformed statutory framework through music. It's child-centric, holistic, flexible and full of delightful songs and inspired activities for children aged three to five.

Visit [collins.co.uk](http://collins.co.uk)



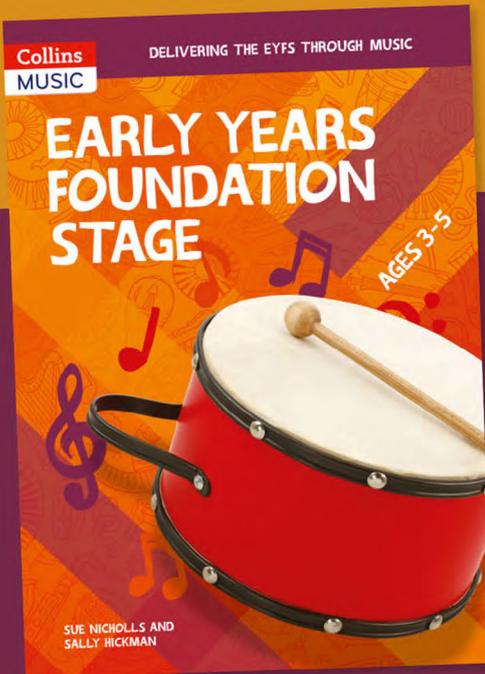
*“This resource is ideal for anyone who wants to grow their confidence in using music to support children’s holistic development.”*

**James Hemsall OBE**

Find out more 



# Refresh your Early Years curriculum with holistic, flexible resources



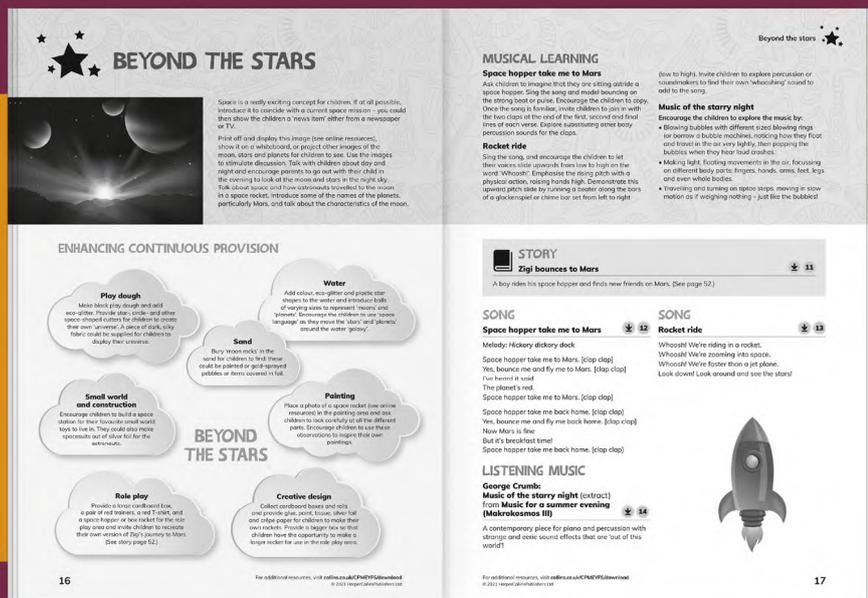
Deliver the 2021 reformed statutory framework - through music!

- \* Full of delightful songs and child-centric activities
- \* Music from around the world to engage and inspire exploration
- \* Ideas and activities for enhancing all areas of musical learning and development
- \* Guidance for planning and assessment
- \* Notation provided for music specialists

978-0-00-844765-6 £34.99

"Packed with fantastic ideas, songs and easy to use materials, this timely text links to all of the areas of learning in the revised 2021 EYFS framework."

Andy Burt, Early Excellence Curriculum Consultant



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HIGHLY  
COMMENDED

# THE WINNERS

## Early exploration

### WINNER

#### Explorer Smart Magnetic Balance Board (Capikooa)

Celebrate children's curiosity with the Explorer Smart Magnetic Balance Board, designed for eager minds and energetic bodies aged one to four. Lightweight and sleek, this wooden balance board has been crafted for little ones to pick up, move and start exploring a new world of imagination. Visit [capikooa.com](http://capikooa.com)



*"It's rare to find something completely new in early years, but this felt like something we had not seen before."*

**Sue Cowley**

#### Category finalists

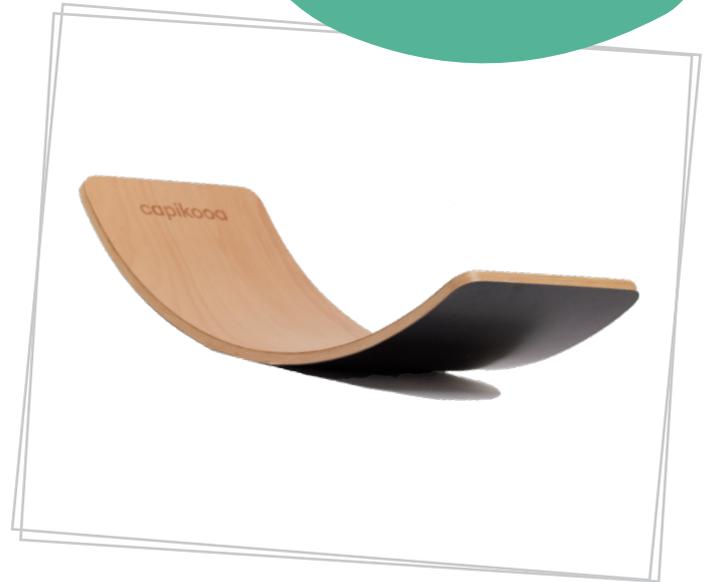
TickIT Wooden Solar System Discs (Commotion)

5 Wild Homes (Quarto Group)

Watch Me Grow Planter (Early Years Resources)

50 Fantastic Ideas for Caring for Living Things (Bloomsbury)

Shelly Hen Lays Eggs (Scallywag)



#### Highly commended Seasons Carpet (Kit for Kids)

This beautiful circular carpet is great for exploring weather, seasons and months in your setting and offers many opportunities for group discussion. Visit [kitforkids.com](http://kitforkids.com)



*"It makes a great talking point for developing children's understanding of seasons and the months of the year."*

**Sue Cowley**

#### Highly commended Glow and Go Bot (TTS)

Meet this multi-sensory, rechargeable robot which will captivate young children's interest as they plan its illuminated movements and adventures, while laying firm technological foundation skills. It has three modes, is rechargeable and stops automatically when picked up. Visit [tts-group.co.uk](http://tts-group.co.uk)



*"You could use this resource in lots of different ways to develop early STEAM skills."*

**Sue Cowley**

# Our award winning products



teach  
EARLY YEARS  
AWARDS 2022  
WINNER

## EYR The Tiger who Came to Tea set

**WINNER of the communication, language and literacy category**

- Supports the classic tale of The Tiger who came to Tea
- Puppets come in a choice of skin tone
- Supports inclusivity in any setting



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AWARDS 2022  
FINALIST

## EYR Watch Me Grow Planter

**FINALIST in the Early Exploration category**

- Supports key EYFS topics such as minibeast and plants
- Designed to be the perfect height for a child
- Children can observe and investigate above and below the soil
- FSC certified wood



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AWARDS 2022  
HIGHLY COMMENDED

## EYR Open Ended Dolls House

**HIGHLY COMMENDED in the Creative Play category**

- Easily built and taken apart to store flat
- Children can decorate as they please
- Can be used in any imaginative play set up
- Encourages endless possibilities for play
- FSC certified wood



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100'S MORE  
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our website

[www.earlyyearsresources.co.uk](http://www.earlyyearsresources.co.uk)

# THE WINNERS

## Communication, language & literacy

**Category finalists**  
Animal Colours (Quarto)  
Alphabet Tiles (Kit for Kids)  
Supersounds (The Learning Lady)  
Finger Phonics Board and Big Books (Jolly Learning)  
Baby Touch series (Ladybird Books)



### WINNER

#### **Tiger Who Came to Tea Story Set** (Early Years Resources)

First published in 1968, The Tiger Who Came to Tea has been a firm favourite for over 50 years, with the beautifully illustrated pictures making it easy for children to follow along. This set, which contains a paperback version of the book, soft family dolls (with black or white skin) and a cuddly tiger hand puppet, means your little ones can host their very own tiger tea party. Visit [earlyyearsresources.co.uk](http://earlyyearsresources.co.uk)



*"Children love to act out stories, so this resource is perfect. Children can recognise the characters as they appear in the story and remember familiar phrases which they begin to tell themselves."*

**June O'Sullivan MBE**

#### **Highly commended** **Mini Maths and Mini Maths** **Song Pack** (Outdoor Classrooms)

This versatile and natural outdoor mini maths set is perfect for small groups of children. It's a fun way to practise basic maths concepts such as adding, subtracting, matching, doubling and halving. Visit [outdoorclassrooms.company.site](http://outdoorclassrooms.company.site)

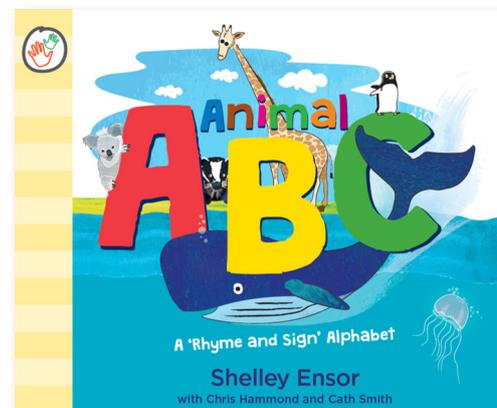


*"We liked that it is wooden and that the pieces are a good size for children. You can use this for many different activities."*

**June O'Sullivan MBE**

#### **Highly commended** **Animal ABC; A Rhyme and** **Sign Alphabet** (Little Signers Club)

This book helps to gently develop hand/eye co-ordination, fine motor skills and emerging literacy skills in young children. You don't need any signing experience to be able to use and enjoy it. It's easy-to-use format will delight children of all ages and abilities – but without being too much, too soon. Visit [littlesignersclub.co.uk](http://littlesignersclub.co.uk)



*"This resource encouraged teachers to use the signs consistently, encouraging and supporting children to use the signs too."*

**June O'Sullivan MBE**

# THE WINNERS

## Picture books

### Category finalists

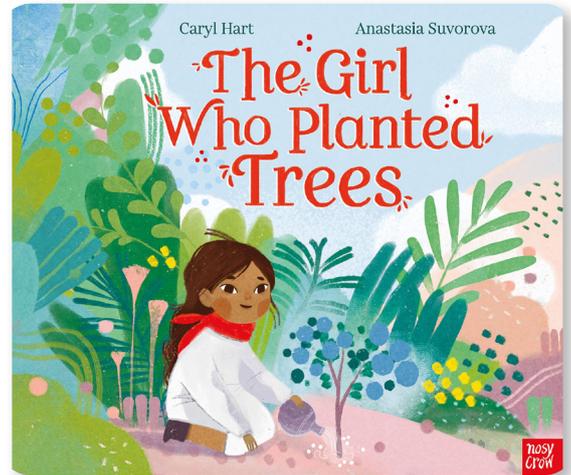
Elephant Island (Gecko Press)  
Sunshine at Bedtime (Story House Publishing)  
All Through the Night: People Who Work While We Sleep (Nosy Crow)  
Milo Imagines the World (Two Hoots)  
That's Not My Name! (Ladybird)

### WINNER

## The Girl Who Planted Trees (Nosy Crow)

In this empowering picture book by award-winning author Caryl Hart, one small girl inspires her whole village to plant a beautiful forest on the mountain. Children will feel empowered to tackle global issues such as deforestation and realise that, in the words of Greta Thunberg, 'No one is too small to make a difference'. Visit

[nosycrow.com](http://nosycrow.com)



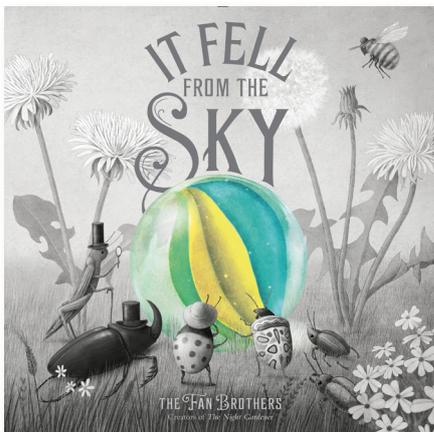
*"The lyrical text and eye-catching illustrations combine to create an inspiring tale of hope, community and positivity."*

**Emma Davis**

### Highly commended

## It Fell From The Sky (Quarto)

This whimsical and elegantly illustrated picture book is about community, art and the importance of giving back. It teaches children important life lessons about greed and the importance of sharing. Visit [quartoknows.com](http://quartoknows.com)



*"Beautifully detailed illustrations really bring this story to life, with plenty to look at and inspire conversation with children in Early Years and beyond."*

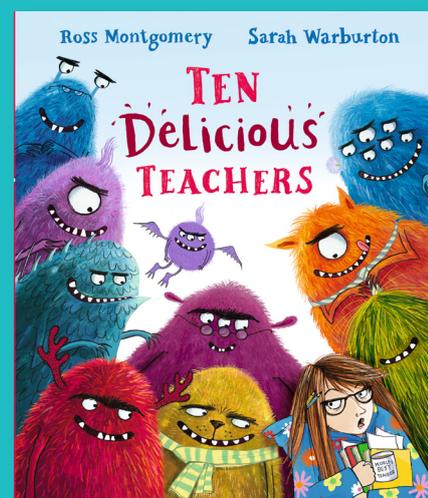
**Emma Davis**

### Highly commended

## Ten Delicious Teachers (Walker Books)

This irreverent and zany counting book is gently thrilling and is written in a deliciously infectious rhyme with witty and whimsical illustrations.

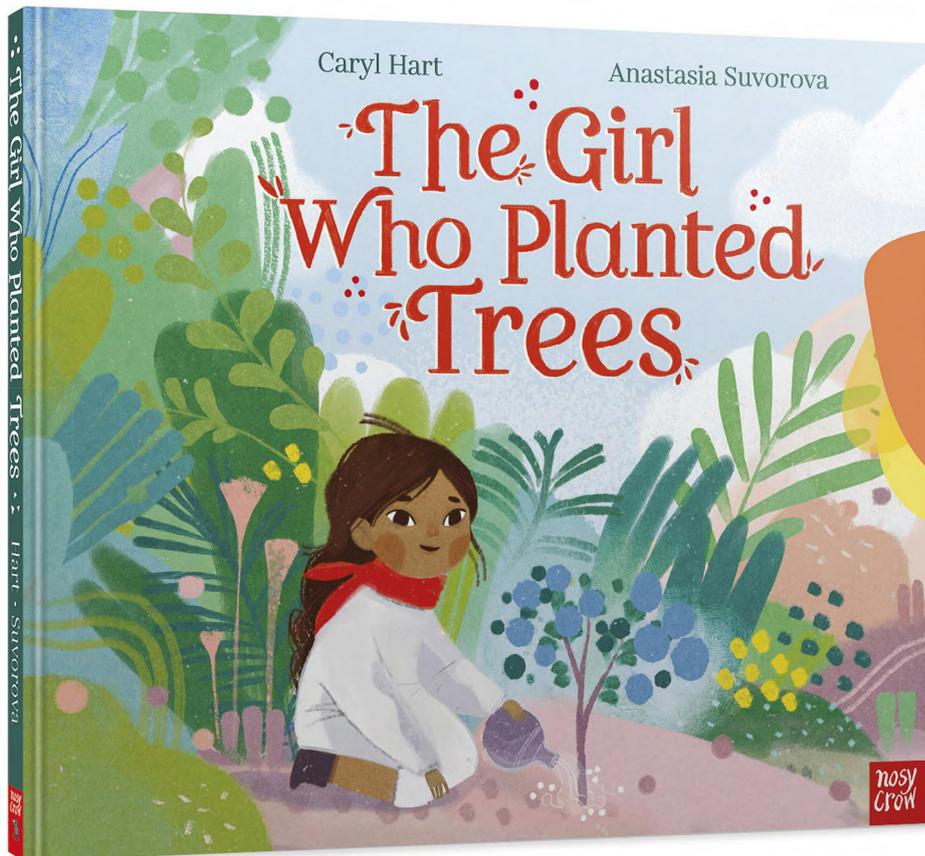
Visit [walker.co.uk](http://walker.co.uk)



*"Not only is this book fun and engaging, but it also encourages children to count, promoting early mathematical development."*

**Emma Davis**

An uplifting tale that will  
inspire children everywhere



teach  
EARLY YEARS  
AWARDS 2022  
WINNER

Hardback £12.99 • Paperback £7.99  
Suitable for 3+

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and together they create something incredible.  
A powerful, award-winning story of  
**hope, community and determination.**



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**nosy  
CROW**

# THE WINNERS

## Creative play

### Category finalists

ZigZag Blocks (Educational Advantage)

TickIT Natural Architect Set (Commotion)

Alice Sharp's Eco Build a World (TTS)

XL Polydron (Polydron)

Polar Bear Zip-top (Pretend to Bee)

### WINNER

## 212 Mega Pack (Connetix)

Allow children to use their imagination, take the lead in their play and create the ultimate rainbow fun with this resource. The set features every shape in every colour, plus six large hexagonal tiles and two purple car bases. Children will enjoy creating rainbows, towers, castles, robots, trains and more with this open-ended toy. Visit [connetixtiles.com](http://connetixtiles.com)



*"This is an excellent way to introduce STEAM related concepts and vocabulary. It's a versatile and durable resource that can be used to promote development across all areas of learning."*

**Rageena Tahir**

### Highly commended Dip into Drama (Pyjama Drama)

Sign up to learn three powerful techniques by watching short, fun, and engaging training videos which last less than an hour. This training enables educators to deliver Pyjama Drama adventures with confidence and skill. Visit [pyjamadrama.com](http://pyjamadrama.com)



*"This is a fantastic platform to engage, motivate and train staff in the effective delivery of drama sessions – an area that not all practitioners are confident in."*

**Rageena Tahir**

### Highly commended

## Open-ended Dolls' House (Early Years Resources)

This dolls' house has been specially designed to help children express creativity and expand imaginations. Once pieced together, the structure allows multiple children to gather around and play, creating four separate 'rooms' with windows, doors and a garage. Paint the wooden panels to make them your own, or leave them plain to allow for an open-minded play experience. Visit [earlyyearsresources.co.uk](http://earlyyearsresources.co.uk)



*"This is great for allowing multiple children to express their imagination in different ways at the same time using the same resource."*

**Rageena Tahir**

# THE WINNERS

## Happy & healthy

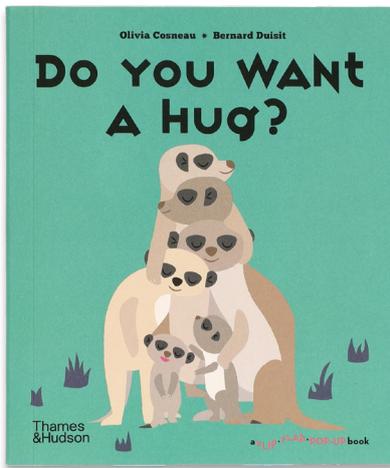
### Category finalists

A Perfect Wonderful Day with Friends (Gecko Press)

TickIT My Emotions Wooden Tiles (Commotion)

Let's Go For A Walk (Quarto)

Gonge Mini Parkour Set (Profile Education Ltd)



### WINNER

## Do You Want a Hug? (Thames & Hudson)

With interactive pull-tabs and wheels to turn, this pop-up book is a playful way to talk about consent and body boundaries with little ones. Visit [thamesandhudson.com](https://www.thamesandhudson.com)



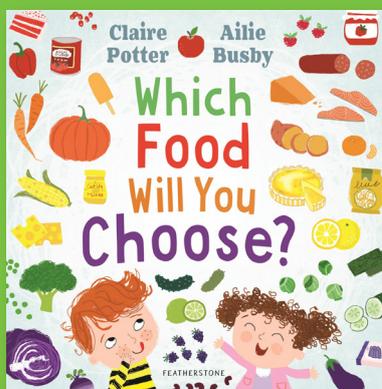
*“As soon as I picked up this book I connected with it and got the message. I really enjoyed reading the simple text and loved the fact that it’s interactive.”*

**Jamel C Campbell**

### Highly commended

## Which Food Will You Choose? (Bloomsbury)

This clever picture book features deliciously illustrated pages of red, yellow, green, orange and purple foods. Enjoy the story together and then play the game in real life! Recommended by paediatric dietitians to help with fussy eating, it’s a fun and effective way to coax children out of their comfort zone and encourage them to go for something new and different. Visit [bloomsbury.com](https://www.bloomsbury.com)



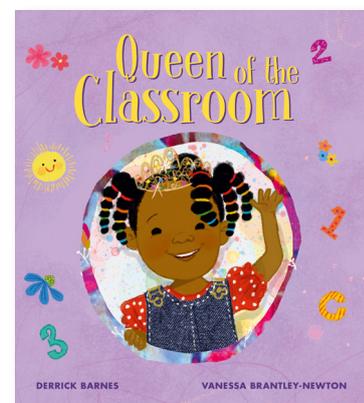
*“Giving a colour of food for each day and providing different options is an effective and thought-provoking way of promoting healthy meals and healthy eating.”*

**Jamel C Campbell**

### Highly commended

## Queen of the Classroom (Scallywag Press)

MJ is more than ready for her first day of nursery and knows she’ll be able to follow her mum’s advice for being the best queen her nursery has ever seen: by brightening up every room she enters, being caring and kind, and always being helpful to others. This book reinforces excitement and empower young readers starting school. Visit [scallywagpress.com](https://www.scallywagpress.com)



*“This book has amazing illustrations which give it a warm, vibrant feel. The illustrations also mirror our cosmopolitan society.”*

**Jamel C Campbell**