



## THE CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL

# OUTSTANDING SCIENCE TRADE BOOKS FOR STUDENTS K-12 2020

A project of the National Science Teachers Association and the Children's Book Council

## CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Deadline for Book Submissions: July 8, 2019

### ABOUT THIS LIST

Nine science educators appointed by NSTA read and evaluate the submitted books. Their selections are displayed at the NSTA National Convention in March. The annotated list appears in the February issue of the NSTA journals *Science and Children*, *Science Scope*, and *The Science Teacher*.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Books must be published in calendar year 2019.
- Fiction is eligible if the book has substantial science content.
- Books must be intended for grades K-12.
- All books must originate with a children's publishing company or division and must be published (not simply distributed) by a publisher incorporated in North America
- Books originally published abroad are eligible only if they have a 2019 North America publication date; reprints or licensed editions of titles initially published in North America before 2019 are not eligible.
- Original paperbacks are eligible; paperback reprints are not. If a book is published simultaneously in hardcover and paperback, either edition may be submitted. If both editions are submitted, they constitute separate entries.
- Revised editions of books originally published in North America before 2019 are eligible only if the book has been newly illustrated or if substantial text, constituting at least 25% of the book, has been changed or added.
- Math books are not eligible unless the mathematical principles are applied to scientific functions such as measuring for experiments, using statistical models for scientific research, etc. [For these, go to [Best STEM list submissions](#)]
- Textbooks, workbooks, kits, experiment-only books, and activity books are not eligible.

- Spanish-language editions of titles published in English before 2019 are not acceptable. Spanish-language editions published in North America simultaneously with English-language editions in 2019 are eligible.
- Books published in October, November, or December 2018 **may** be eligible. [Contact the CBC](#) for details.

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Books should have value for both classroom studies and library collections supporting students' work. The selection panel looks for well-presented books that contain substantial science content; that are clear, accurate, and up-to-date. Books need to reflect current scientific research. Books may contain mathematics as is encouraged in the endeavor of science; however, the science content in the book must be able to stand alone and the math should be integrated as part of the endeavor of doing science.

The [Framework for K-12 Science Education](#) and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) suggest grade level appropriate content/process for grade bands, therefore, material submitted should be designated appropriately. If material does not suit the submitted age level, the committee may recommend an alternative age level appropriate for the content and presentation.

The depth of content is suitable for the intended audience and, when appropriate, advances the Nature of Science (NOS), scientific thinking, and has general compatibility with book content and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Science books for children (particularly picture books with minimal text) **should be without significant personification, teleology, or animism, or inaccurate anthropomorphism**. When considering these terms, it

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is important to note that animals do have behaviors similar to people and that to be eligible for this award information in the books needs to reflect current scientific research. If depicted, it should be done in such a way that does not influence or create misconceptions or detract from the science content of the book.

- Personification: representation of an inanimate object with human qualities or form
- Teleology: the use of design or purpose as an explanation of natural phenomenon
- Animism: The belief in the existence of individual spirits that inhabit natural objects and phenomena
- Anthropomorphism: Attribution of human motivation, characteristics, or behavior to inanimate objects, animals, or natural phenomena

Please keep in mind the following items to better curate your submissions to the OSTB list:

- The content in the book is factually correct and not contrary to current scientific thought.
- Books including English measure must also include metric equivalent if available. Metric measure by itself is acceptable.
- Suggested activities, investigations, and/or experiments are safe, feasible, and appropriate for the intended age level.
- Presentation is logical and sequence of ideas is clear.
- The information is free of gender, ethnic, or socio-economic bias, whenever possible.
- Biographies should convey the full sense of the person's character. The books might inspire as well as convey the facts of the person's accomplishments.
- Nature books should offer the natural history and/or the life cycles of organisms.
- Books may contain stories, folktales, and poetry based in science or nature, but should stand on their own as science books.
- Illustrations are in harmony with the text and enhance the presentation.
- Illustrations are appropriate for the content of the book and the intended age level.
- Illustrations showing people should portray cultural diversity and gender equity whenever possible.
- Layout is well-organized and advances the text.
- There should be no spelling, text, or illustration errors.

See [selected titles from past years](#) for an idea of what the committee looks for.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

Please use one of these methods for submission:

- 1) [Download the 2020 Submissions Spreadsheet](#), fill it out, and email it to [Laura.Peraza@cbcbooks.org](mailto:Laura.Peraza@cbcbooks.org). The spreadsheet contains five different tabs, one tab for each corresponding Best Of list. Please be sure to enter your title information in the correct sheet.
- 2) [2020 OSTB Submission Form](#). (If you've submitted successfully you should get a Thank You message **and** an email with a record of your submission.)

Both the Form and Spreadsheet are also available on [our website](#).

## SHIPPING YOUR BOOKS

**Do not ship any books until instructed to.**

You will be asked to send one copy of each title to each of the nine reviewers and one copy to the NSTA office (**10 copies in total**). CBC will send shipping instructions to participating publishers in July. Publishers should begin to ship books as soon as they receive the instructions. **Books must reach reviewers by October 15, 2019.**

## FEES

There is no submission fee for CBC Regular Members to submit titles. The fee is \$75 per title for CBC Associate Members and \$300 per title for non-members. Fees are per title, per list and non-refundable. Titles may not be substituted at a later date.

An invoice and payment instructions will be emailed to you after you submit.

Contact [Laura.Peraza@cbcbooks.org](mailto:Laura.Peraza@cbcbooks.org) for more information.