

The Animal Behavior Society

Outstanding Children's Book Award

2021 Call to Publishers

Submission Deadline: April 15th



THE DEADLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ABS CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD COMPETITION IS APRIL 15th



Dear Publisher,

An appreciation of nature and science enriches the lives of children immeasurably. To encourage and reward accurate and compelling authorship of children's books about animal behavior, the Animal Behavior Society is sponsoring its 18th annual Outstanding Children's Book Award. We are interested in reviewing children's books published in 2020 by your company that include a realistic depiction of what animals do and how they behave (i.e., how they interact with the environment and other species). We are not looking for books that simply describe an animal or where it is found. Nominated books can be either non-fiction or fiction. They should be fully illustrated and appropriate for children in grades 3-4.

Books will be reviewed by members of the Animal Behavior Society Education Committee and voted on by children at elementary schools across North America. The Committee will select up to five books as finalists based on scientific and literary quality, and then children will review these finalists and choose a winner. The winner will be awarded the "Outstanding Children's Book Award". We have recently developed winner and finalist seals (see images below) to help publishers promote these outstanding children's books.

However, due to the current health concerns of the Covid-19 pandemic, we are adjusting our book award this year. Books will still be reviewed by the Animal Behavior Society Education Committee and finalists voted on by elementary school children, but the timing and review process is changing. **We are asking for books to be received by April 15th.** The review committee's chosen finalists will be announced early Summer, student voting will occur early Fall and a 2021 winner will be announced late Fall.

If your submitted book is chosen as a finalist, you will be notified by mid-summer. We will ask that you send one (1) additional copy to each of the five Committee members AND a digital file of your book. For student voting, we will be utilizing a digital format in addition to our hard-copy format. This hybrid voting process will allow both local and non-local elementary students from across North America to participate. Digital formats should include the book in its entirety; additional details on digital formats will be provided in the finalists instructions.

Review criteria, and information about past winners and finalists, can be found at: <http://www.animalbehaviorsociety.org/web/education-award.php>

If you would like your book(s) to be considered for this year's Outstanding Children's Book Award, please send one copy to each of the five reviewers below. Note that we have an international committee – please write "GIFT" on the box shipped to Canada to avoid having duty fees applied. With your submission, please include your email address and surface mail address for direct contact.

Crista Coppola

10755 N Paisano Ave
Tucson, AZ 85742

Emilie Snell-Rood

4548 Olson Lake Trail
Oakdale, MN 55128

Jennifer Mather

University of Lethbridge
Department of Psychology
4401 University Drive
Lethbridge AB Canada T1K 3M4

Sarah Humfield

2306 Bluff Blvd
Columbia MO 65201

Leslie Curren

68 Pearson Dr
Byfield, MA 01922

Please be sure to send your books by the deadline of **April 15, 2021** to be considered for this year's award.

Best regards,

Crista Coppola, ABS Children's Book Award Chair