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## **Animals rule the roost in the shortlist for the Booktrust Early Years Awards 2010**

Booktrust is pleased to announce the 2010 shortlist for their Early Years Awards. The shortlisted books all exemplify the remarkable creativity in words, design and illustration necessary to encourage young children to read.

Old favourites such as the long-running Usborne series *That's Not My...* and well established authors and illustrators such as Rod Campbell and Annie Kubler proved to have enduring popularity for the youngest readers, all featuring in the shortlist for the Best Book for babies category. Books featuring animals dominated the Best Picture Book category, from flying jellyfish and stinky skunks to smart fish and a rather large moose. The next generation of illustration talent is celebrated in the Best Emerging Illustrator category, with four out of the six shortlisted books by debut illustrators.

The winner for each category will be announced at an awards ceremony to be held at BAFTA, 195 Piccadilly, London, on the evening of 2 September 2010. Each winner will receive a cheque for £2,000.

Commenting on this year's shortlist, **Chair of judges and children's literature consultant Wendy Cooling** said:

'It was, as ever, a tough choice to select six books for each category from the wide range of excellent books for early years children being currently published. In particular, picture books for the very young are exciting and stimulating this year and reflect the brilliant creativity and imagination of today's writers and illustrators. Children sharing these books with adults will be well on the way to falling in love with books and to becoming life-long readers.'



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**The shortlisted books by category are:**

**The Best Book for babies under one-year-old:**

*Goodnight Buster* by Rod Campbell (Macmillan Children's Books)

*Happy Snappy (Mr Croc)* by Jo Lodge (Hodder Children's Books)

*Hop a Little, Jump a Little* by Annie Kubler (Child's Play International Ltd)

*I Love My Mummy* by Giles Andreae, illus. Emma Dodd (Orchard Books)

*That's Not My Tiger* by Fiona Watt, illus. Rachel Wells (Usborne)

*Who's in the Garden?* by Phillis Gershator, illus. Jill McDonald (Barefoot Books)

**The Best Picture Book for children up to five-years-old:**

*Ernest* by Catherine Rayner (Macmillan Children's Books)

*The Fox in the Dark* by Alison Green, illus. Deborah Allwright (Alison Green Books)

*Jeremiah Jellyfish Flies High* by John Fardell (Andersen Press)

*The Night Iceberg* by Helen Stephens (Alison Green Books)

*One Smart Fish* by Chris Wormell (Jonathan Cape)

*Sing a Song of Bottoms* by Jeanne Willis, illus. Adam Stower (Puffin Books)

**Best Emerging Illustrator for children up to five-years-old:**

*Birdsong* by Ellie Sandall (Egmont)

*The Django* by Levi Pinfold (Templar)

*Dogs Don't Do Ballet* by Anna Kemp, illus. by Sara Ogilvie (Simon and Schuster)

*Jack Frost* by Kazuno Kohara (Macmillan Children's Books)

*Jeremiah Jellyfish Flies High* by John Fardell (Andersen Press)

*The Talent Show* by Jo Hodgkinson (Andersen Press)

The judges for the Booktrust Early Years Awards 2010 are chair **Wendy Cooling** MBE, presenter and broadcaster **Kirsty Gallacher**, author/illustrator **Michael Foreman**, Booktrust Development Manager **Janet Harrison** and Modern Matron **Jackie Woodroffe**.



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**The Booktrust Early Years Awards aim:**

- to celebrate, publicise and reward the exciting range of books being published today for babies, toddlers and pre-school children.
- to promote and make these books accessible to as wide an audience as possible.

**Categories of award:**

- The Best Book for babies under one-year-old
- The Best Picture Book for children up to five-years-old
- Best Emerging Illustrator for children up to five-years-old

**\*\*\*Short biographies of judges and jacket cover images available**

\*\*\*For further information please contact Will White on 020 8875 4583 or email [will.white@booktrust.org.uk](mailto:will.white@booktrust.org.uk)

**Notes to Editors**

**About Booktrust**

Booktrust is an independent charity dedicated to encouraging people of all ages and cultures to engage with books. The written word underpins all our activity and enables us to fulfil our vision of inspiring a lifelong love of books for all. Booktrust is responsible for a number of successful national reading promotions, sponsored book prizes and creative reading projects aimed at encouraging readers to discover and enjoy books. These include the Orange Prize for Fiction, the Children's Laureate, the Booktrust Teenage Prize and Bookstart, the national programme that works through locally based organisations to give a free pack of books to young children, with guidance materials for parents and carers. Booktrust has developed two further free book programmes in the UK: Booktime, run in association with Pearson, gives a free book to every reception-aged pupil, and Booked Up, which gives a free book, from a choice of nineteen to every Year Seven pupil. See [www.booktrust.org.uk](http://www.booktrust.org.uk)