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## Panel Leader Guidance Kit 2015

Thank you for agreeing to take part in the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize 2015.

This document includes all of the information you, as the Panel Leader, should need to complete the judging process and submit an overall winner.

If you have any questions or concerns please email us at [sciencebooks@royalsociety.org](mailto:sciencebooks@royalsociety.org).

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## Introduction and summary

### What you will need to do...

1. Recruit a panel of children, most between the ages of 8 and 14 if possible.
2. Ask your panel to read the six shortlisted books and to record their scores and thoughts.
3. Hold a meeting/meetings to decide which book your panel will choose as their winner.
4. Submit your panel's results to us.

### Other things you can do...

- Write about, record, photograph and share your panel's activities on the [Scribbles blog](#) and see how other panels are doing.
- Ask the authors questions using our website and check back for the answers.
- Enter our video competition and win £300 of book vouchers for your group.

### Top tips from previous participants...

"We try to involve children of different abilities and backgrounds and not just the science enthusiasts."

"Explain the requirements at the start before the children commit themselves, then it is their responsibility to keep up with the reviews and feedback the scores etc."

"Don't make it into a literacy lesson – keep it fun."

"For our guide group, we set aside two sessions during our weekly meetings to look at the books. The judging groups were organised as patrols and the books rotated after 20 minutes."

"Let your children decide how to organise groups, with guidance to ensure fairness."

"Step back – allow them to discuss, while you listen in and smile!"

### What next...

Have a look at the shortlisted books and the materials we have sent to help you judge them. You can structure your judging in any way you like, but make sure it's fair and that you end up with one overall winning book.

Further information about the judging process and supplementary materials are available on the following pages. If you have any questions or queries please contact us at [sciencebooks@royalsociety.org](mailto:sciencebooks@royalsociety.org) or on 0207 451 2254.

*Any or all of this pack may be copied freely for use with the judging process, and for any subsequent educational or non-profit use.*

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## What we have sent to you

### Guide for panel members

This introduces the panel members to the books and the judging process and should be given to the judges at your first meeting.

### Review poster

This can be used in your final meeting and will represent your panel's final decisions.

This should *not* simply be an average of their scores, but should be the scores the group decide upon together through discussion.

*Why not take a picture of your completed poster and Tweet it to @royalsociety with the hashtag #youngscibooks?*

### Shortlist poster

This shows the shortlisted books and can be used as you see fit.

### Stickers

These come in 'judge' and 'chair' variety and should be given out to panel members, if appropriate.

### Sticky notes, pencils and bookmarks

Swag for your panel members!

Sticky notes are good for judges to keep track of their thoughts.

The bookmarks tell panel members who we are and give them something to take home and keep.

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## Book review sheet

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Book title \_\_\_\_\_

Use this sheet to help you decide which book you like the most. Remember that the books are aimed at different ages, so try to imagine who the book is for.

When you've made your mind up talk to the rest of your group to see whether you can agree which is the *best* science book.

Looking good?	Was this book easy to use?	5
	What did you think of the illustrations, if there were any?	
Well Written?	Is the language right? Are the scientific words explained?	5
	Is it well written; did it flow like a story?	
Interesting?	What is this book about?	5
	What makes it interesting and inviting?	
Appealing?	What made you want to open the book (or what put you off)?	5
	Did you enjoy the book? Can you explain why?	

If you had to describe the book in one sentence, what would you say?
Is there anything else you would like to say about the book?
What age group would enjoy reading this book?

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## Colouring score sheet

BOOK NAME \_\_\_\_\_

How good does the book look?



How well does the book help you understand the topic?



How interesting was this book?



How much did you like this book?



BOOK NAME \_\_\_\_\_

How good does the book look?



How well does the book help you understand the topic?



How interesting was this book?



How much did you like this book?



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## Colouring score sheet

*And my winner is...*

*Because...*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

*My name is.....*

*I am..... years old.*

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## Digital resources and activities

Links to all of the following resources can be found at [royalsociety.org/ypbp-judges](http://royalsociety.org/ypbp-judges)

### Ask the author

This is your Judging Panel's chance to ask the shortlisted authors anything they want!

We'll ask the authors to answer the most popular questions when we interview them over the summer, so get your questions in fast!

### Scribbles blog

Send us your updates, pictures, book reviews and anything else and we'll post it on the Scribbles blog for all the Judging Panels to see.

As well as content from the Judging Panels, we'll be posting news and updates, author interviews, special events and other related content.

### Video competition

This gives your panel the opportunity to win £300 of book tokens for their group and to be featured in a film shown at the Prize's award ceremony in November.

The criteria for entries is shown below.

- Maximum length of 3 minutes
- The video should include shots of the judging panel at work, positive comments from panel members about each shortlisted book and an announcement of the winner chosen by that panel.
- The winner will be the best video, as chosen by the Chair of the Shortlisting panel. The decision will be based on the creativity shown in the making of the video, to encourage unique and different ideas, and the clarity of the video in getting the information across.

To enter the competition simply complete the [online form](https://surveyMonkey.com/s/ypbp-video-comp) (surveyMonkey.com/s/ypbp-video-comp) and follow the instructions.

If you're looking for inspiration, take a look at last year's [award ceremony film](#).

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## How to submit your results

You will need to submit your results via the survey we have set up online. Please [click here](#) to access the survey or visit [surveymonkey.com/s/YPBP15-results](http://surveymonkey.com/s/YPBP15-results).

### The information you will need to fill out the form is:

Name of group leader:

Name of Organisation:

City/Town:

E-mail:

Tel:

Number of judges that formed your Judging Panel:

Name of book	Ease of reading	Layout	Interest	Appeal	TOTAL
<b>365 Science Activities</b> , various authors	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 20
<b>Frank Einstein and the Antimatter Motor</b> by Jon Scieszka	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 20
<b>Jake's Bones</b> by Jake McGowan-Lowe	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 20
<b>Night Sky Watcher</b> by Raman Prinja	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 20
<b>Tiny: The Invisible World of Microbes</b> by Nicola Davies	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 20
<b>Utterly Amazing Science</b> by Professor Robert Winston	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 5	out of 20
<b>Which book do you think should win?</b>					





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## More information

### What is the Royal Society?

The Royal Society is a self-governing Fellowship of many of the world's most distinguished scientists drawn from all areas of science, engineering, and medicine.

The Society's fundamental purpose, reflected in its founding Charters of the 1660s, is to recognise, promote, and support excellence in science and to encourage the development and use of science for the benefit of humanity.

The Society has played a part in some of the most fundamental, significant, and life-changing discoveries in scientific history and Royal Society scientists continue to make outstanding contributions to science in many research areas.

The Society facilitates interaction and communication among scientists via its discussion meetings, and disseminates scientific advances through its journals. The Society also engages beyond the research community, through independent policy work, the promotion of high quality science education, and communication with the public.

To find out more about the [history](#), [fellowship](#) and [governance](#) of the Society, please [visit our website](#).

To find out more about the Society's work for young people please visit our [education pages](#).

### Contact information

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