

Register now to take part in the  
**Cumbria Primary  
 School Book  
 Award 2020**

**Spellbinding**



**Sign up by  
 Friday 15  
 November**

**Library Services for Schools**

**What's it all about?**

Now in its 13th year, our popular Primary Schools Book Award and reading challenge will run during Spring Term 2020.

From the hundreds of brilliant books published during 2019, we have arrived at a shortlist of 11. It is up to pupils to vote for their favourite to win. The award is aimed at years 5 & 6.

Our aim is to create enthusiasm and excitement about reading and to support the wider reading agenda in school. The book list has been carefully selected to cater for a range of abilities and interests that will appeal to both boys and girls in years 5 & 6.

It's free for all LEA schools and subscribing academies. There is a small admin charge for non-subscribers.

**How will it work?**

Each child will be given a passport with a different sticker to collect every time they finish a book.

Schools will need to purchase set(s) of the shortlisted titles. Hills Books are offering a 30% discount with free plastic jackets if you order through us. Cost per set is £55.00.

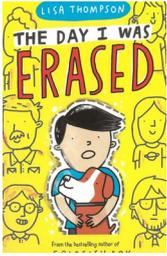
Books, passports and stickers will be delivered in early January. Pupils can then start to read as many books from the shortlist as possible.

Children can take part in online discussions about the books via our Spellbinding website. There are also downloadable pupil activities and teachers resources. Visit [spellbindingcumbria.org.uk/primary/](http://spellbindingcumbria.org.uk/primary/) to see last years content. Voting will take place after the Easter holidays.

**So why not sign up today and get your school involved....**

School Name _____	How many children will be taking part? _____
Town _____	We would like to purchase _____ sets of books at £55.00 per set of 11 titles.
Contact Name _____	Signed _____
Email Address _____	Date _____

## Spellbinding 2020 Shortlist



Family/Mystery

### Thompson, Lisa **The Day I Was Erased**

*Dark Blue AR 4.5 MY*

Maxwell is always in trouble. He's a total menace to his teachers and big sister, but has a soft side, too. He rescued his dog, Monster, from being run over and checks on his elderly neighbour after school. One day, while looking through a mysterious cabinet of curiosities, Maxwell finds himself erased from his life - it's as if he's never been born. At first, being able to walk around without being yelled at is great, but Maxwell starts to miss his old life. A story of family, friendship and finding your place in the world.

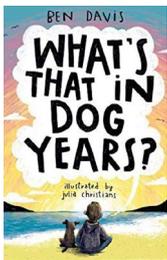


Humour/Family

### Cousins, Dave **My Babysitter is a Robot**

*Grey*

A brother and sister have to work together when the robot their gran has made to babysit them starts to malfunction. When Grandma creates a robot babysitter for twins Jake and Jess, chaos ensues! Robin is embarrassing, clumsy and, worst of all, programmed to make them do their homework. They're also pretty sure he thinks their dog is a baby. The twins decide they have to do something before everyone realizes that Robin is a robot. But getting rid of their new babysitter will mean putting aside their sibling squabbles and working together, which might be an even bigger challenge...A fun lower level text to encourage reluctant or less able readers.

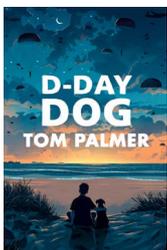


Animal

### Davis, Ben **What's that in Dog Years?**

*Dark Blue*

A boy decides to create a bucket list for his dog who he knows is getting old. Gizmo has been my best friend since the day I was born - he's always been around. But now they're telling me he might not always be around which completely sucks. I'm determined that me and Gizmo will have lots more fun and adventures before he goes - I mean, he loves parties, deserves pampering, and needs a break by the seaside. And as for that old saying about how you can't teach an old dog new tricks - it's true, you really can't! Gizmo's bucket list is up and running - unlike Gizmo who is totally lazy and demanding to be carried. Addresses values of resilience, friendship, tolerance.



Animal

### Palmer, Tom **D-Day Dog**

*Dark Blue AR 4.2 MY*

A boy learns about the fate of a young soldier and his dog who took part in the D-Day landings during World War II. Jack can't wait for the school trip to the D-Day landing beaches. It's his chance to learn more about the war heroes he has always admired - brave men like his dad, who is a Reserve soldier. But when his dad is called up to action and things at home spiral out of control, everything Jack believes about war is thrown into question. Finding comfort only in the presence of his loyal dog, Finn, Jack is drawn to the heart-wrenching true story of one particular D-Day paratrooper. On 6 June 1944, Emile Corteil parachuted into France with his dog, Glen - and Jack is determined to discover their fate.



Humour/Adventure

### Bass, Guy **Skeleton Keys: The Unimaginary Friend**

*Grey*

Skeleton Keys has to step in when a lonely boy's imaginary friend suddenly becomes real and wreaks havoc on a small island. Ben can't believe it when his imaginary friend the Gorbimey becomes unimaginary. The Gorbimey is loyal and kind ... and real! But Skeleton Keys is far from convinced by the Gorbimey's friendly ways. However the Gorbimey is soon the least of Skeleton Keys' worries - for strange things happen when imaginations run wild!



Family/Mystery/  
Adventure

### Eagle, Judith **The Secret Starling**

*Dark Blue*

A girl is befriended by a streetwise boy when she is left with a crumbling manor house after her destitute uncle abandons her. Clara has lived a life of solitude, home schooled under her mean uncle's strict regime... until now! The day that Uncle abandons Clara, leaving her with nothing but a wedge of 'guilt money' and a half empty, crumbling manor house, she is determined to do things her way for a change and when streetwise Peter turns up, with his rescue cat and a surprising array of knowledge, she is sure that between them they have everything they need to survive. But the house is to be sold... and Uncle has lied to Clara... nothing, NOTHING is as it seems.



Fantasy/  
Adventure/Humour

### Howard, Martin **The Cosmic Atlas of Alfie Fleet**

*Dark Blue*

A young boy enjoys an adventure on another planet when he meets Professor Bowell-Mouvement, a map-making adventurer that travels across the universe via stone circles. Join Alfie Fleet and discover a whole universe of wonders - from giant sand lobsters on planet Maureen and the Twang Bears of Mumsey, to the eerie (yet oddly quite boring) brains in jars on Brains-In-Jars World. Thrills and adventure await, just hop on board the slightly old and rusty moped of Infinity!



Fantasy/  
Adventure

### Littler, Jamie **Frostheart**

*Dark Blue*

A boy discovers he has magical powers when he goes off to search for his missing parents, accompanied by his yeti guardian. Far out in the coldest part of the monster-infested Snow Sea, Ash waits for his missing parents, with only his grumpy yeti guardian for company. But when an accident reveals that Ash has amazing magical powers, he's whisked aboard the Frostheart - an explorer sleigh with a daring crew who need his help. Can they help Ash master his new powers - and find his family?



Family/  
Adventure

### Killick, Jennifer **Mo, Lottie and the Junkers**

*Dark Red*

Mo Appleby's ordered life is turned upside down when he and his mum move in with his new stepdad and stepsisters, Lottie and Sadie. The home he left behind is just across the street, and there's something not quite right about the new occupant. Other strange new people keep popping into his life, too: a bonkers lollipop man and a boy called Jax, who seems to understand Mo better than anyone else. Who are the weird new people in their town? Do they have any involvement in the disappearance of Mo's dad many years ago? And why does the ice cream taste so good? Lottie is determined to find out exactly what's going on, even if it makes Mo mad, and even if it leads them both into serious danger.



Fantasy/  
Adventure

### McLachlan, Jenny **The Land of Roar**

*Dark Blue*

When twins Arthur and Rose were little, they were heroes in the Land of Roar, an imaginary world that they found by climbing through the folding bed in their grandad's attic. Roar was filled with things they loved - dragons, mermaids, ninja wizards and adventure - as well as things that scared them (including a very creepy scarecrow...). Now the twins are eleven, Roar is just a memory. But when they help Grandad clean out the attic, Arthur is horrified as Grandad is pulled into the folding bed and vanishes. Is he playing a joke? Or is Roar... Real.



Fantasy/  
Adventure

### Taylor, Thomas **Malamander**

*Dark Red AR 4.8 MY*

Herbert Lemon and Violet Parma are caught up in an adventure concerning a legendary sea-monster when they try to find out what happened to Violet's missing parents. Who will uncover the secret of the malamander? In the basement of the Grand Nautilus Hotel, a mysterious girl crashes into Herbie Lemon's room and cries, "Hide me!" In the window of the Eerie Book Dispensary, a mechanical mermonkey sits and waits. And out beyond the pier, something stirs. Could the legendary malamander have returned?