



The **Waterstones Children's Book Prize** is an annual award given to a work of children's literature published during the previous year. First awarded in 2005, the purpose of the prize is "to uncover hidden talent in children's writing" and is therefore open only to authors who have published no more than three books. Since 2012 it has been divided into three categories, Illustrated books, Younger Fiction and Older Fiction with an Overall Winner. The prize is voted for by the booksellers from all around the country. Past winners include Sally Nicholls, Katherine Rundell and Rob Biddulph.

The shortlists are announced in February and the winner in March of each year.

<p>Illustrated Books and Overall winner Look Up! by Nathan Bryon. Illustrated by Dapo Adeola (Puffin Books. ISBN: 978-0241345849) This joyous, life-affirming picture book introduces Rocket, a fantastic character who is a space-obsessed girl who wants everybody to be as excited as her about an impending meteor shower. She is determined to get her older brother to take his gaze from his phone and appreciate the world. Wonderful vivid illustrations</p>	
<p>Younger Fiction winner High Rise Mystery by Sharna Jackson. (Knights Of. ISBN: 978-1999642518) With its vibrant urban setting and engaging characters, High Rise Mystery is a very welcome fresh addition to the burgeoning child detective genre. The murder of their art schoolteacher sets young sleuths Nik and Norva on a thrilling adventure to bring his killer to justice. While the novel feels topical and real, High Rise Mystery is, at its heart, a classic children's mystery.</p>	
<p>Older Fiction winner Bearmouth by Liz Hyder (Pushkin. ISBN: 978-1782692430) Thrillingly original and a real page-tuner based on real-life stories of nineteenth century child miners, Bearmouth is set in a deep underground mine, and told in a distinctive dialect, invented by Hyder and maintained throughout.</p>	