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NSTA Unveils 2018 List of Top Science Trade Books for K-12 Students

ARLINGTON, Va.—December 5, 2017—The National Science Teachers Association, in conjunction with the Children’s Book Council, has released its annual list of “Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students K-12: 2018.” The list represents the best science trade books published in 2017 for students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

“The 2018 Outstanding Science Trade Books list represents a phenomenal mix of resources for teachers and family members looking for great books that can strengthen reading skills while supporting science learning.” said David Beacom, NSTA Associate Executive Director and Chief Content Officer. “These books motivate students to read. They include entertaining stories, compelling characters, and use imaginative language that will leave children wanting to read the books time and time again.”

Members of a book review panel made up of science educators and literacy professionals, appointed by NSTA, selected 53 books for the list from a roster of 204 submissions. The list of winning titles includes topics that range from aardvarks to elephants, seagrass to solar systems and features brilliantly illustrated picture books, thoughtful stories, captivating text and inspiring ideas.

The review panel used rigorous guidelines to select the top books. Criteria include the amount of science content; presentation of material in a clear, accurate, and up-to-date manner; differentiation between theories and facts; avoidance of over-simplification; the use of data to support generalizations; and freedom from gender, ethnic, and socioeconomic bias. The panel also chooses books based on other considerations, including appropriate content level for the intended audience and accuracy of illustrations.

NSTA and CBC have collaborated on the list of Outstanding Science Trade Books for Students since 1973 in an effort to help science educators and family members access quality books that support learning in science. In addition to the NSTA and CBC websites, the list will appear in the February issues of NSTA’s elementary, middle level, and high school journals for teachers.

About NSTA
The Arlington, VA-based National Science Teachers Association is the largest professional organization in the world promoting excellence in science teaching and learning, preschool through college. NSTA’s membership includes approximately 55,000 science teachers, science supervisors, administrators, scientists, business representatives, and others involved in science education.
NSTA Press produces 25 to 30 new books and e-books each year. Focused on the preK–college market and specifically aimed at teachers of science, NSTA Press titles offer a unique blend of accurate scientific content and sound teaching strategies. Follow NSTA Press on Facebook for the latest information and new book releases.

About the Children’s Book Council
The Children’s Book Council (CBC) is the nonprofit trade association of children’s book publishers in North America, dedicated to supporting and informing the industry and fostering literacy.

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