

# BEST STEM BOOKS



## BOOK CONTENT GUIDELINES

Deadline for Book Submissions: April 30, 2024

### ABOUT THIS LIST

Nine reviewers appointed by ASEE, ITEEA, NSTA, and SEPA will read and evaluate the newly published books submitted in 2024 for BSB in the fall. After voting and discussion, the CBC coordinates a major announcement in January to our wide network of teachers, librarians, booksellers, and parents. The annotated list will appear in the February's *NSTA Reports* and ITEEA's *Children's Technology and Engineering* magazine and promoted through membership networks and at partner conferences.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Books must be published in 2024. Books published in Oct.-Dec. 2023 may be eligible. (Email Sommer at [sommer.wissner@cbcbooks.org](mailto:sommer.wissner@cbcbooks.org) for details)
- Books must be intended for grades K-12.
- Textbooks, workbooks, kits, experiment-only books, and activity books are *not* eligible.
- Original paperbacks are eligible; paperback reprints are not. If a book is published simultaneously in hardcover and paperback, either edition may be submitted. If both editions are submitted, they constitute separate entries.
- Revised editions of books originally published in North America before 2024 are eligible only if it has been newly illustrated or if substantial text -- at least 25% -- has been changed or added.
- Spanish-language editions published in North America simultaneously with English-language editions in 2024 are eligible.
- Fiction is eligible if the book has substantial Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics content.

### Guidelines that the NSTA educators will be looking for:

Books should have value for both classroom studies and library collections supporting students' work. The selection panel looks for well-presented books that contain substantial STEM content; that are clear, accurate, and up to date.

Additional book content guidelines:

- Models innovation
- Illustrates authentic problems
- Assimilates new ideas

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BSB is a project of the American Society for Engineering Education, International Technology and Engineering Educators Association, National Science Teachers Association, Society of Elementary Presidential Awardees, and the Children's Book Council.

- Invites divergent thinking
- Explores multiple solutions
- Integrates STEM practices
- Shows progressive change or improvement
- Accurate content presented in an age-appropriate manner

If material does not suit submitted age level, the committee may recommend an alternative age level appropriate for the content and presentation.

Please keep in mind the following items to better curate your submissions to the STEM list:

- The content in the book is factually correct.
- Suggested activities, investigations, and/or experiments are safe, feasible, and appropriate for the intended age level.
- If there are activities they should reflect divergent thinking.
- STEM thinking is evident.
- The information and illustrations are free of gender, ethnic, cultural, or socio-economic bias, whenever possible.
- Layout is well-organized and advances the text.
- Books should not show behavior condoning harassment, sexual content, inappropriate language, and/or violence.

See [previous winners](#) for additional insights into what the committee looks for.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

- [Download the 2025 Submissions Spreadsheet](#), fill it out, and email it to [Sommer.Wissner@cbcbooks.org](mailto:Sommer.Wissner@cbcbooks.org) by April 30.
- The spreadsheet contains two different tabs: one tab for publisher info and another tab for your title submissions.

## SHIPPING YOUR BOOKS

- Do not ship any books until we email you shipping instructions in July.
- You will be asked to send one copy of each title to each reviewer.

## FEES

CBC Regular Members: No fee

CBC Associate Members: ~~\$75~~ \$60 per title

Non-Member Publishers: ~~\$300~~ \$250 per title

An invoice and payment instructions will be emailed to you after you submit your titles.

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