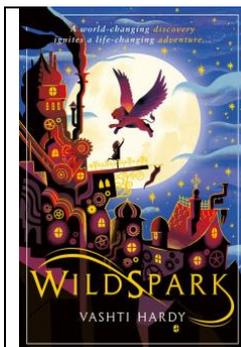




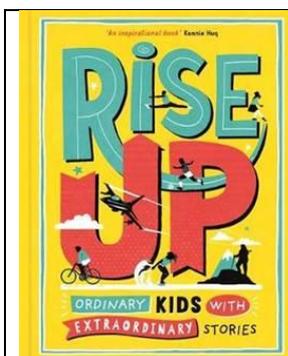
Announced on World Book Day in a special edition of Blue Peter, the 2020 winners of **The Best Story** and **The Best Book of Facts** were voted for by over 300 children from 12 participating schools around the UK, after shortlists had been drawn up by a panel of judges.

The Best Story- **Wildspark** by Vashti Hardy. Scholastic. ISBN: 978-1407191553



A brilliant mix of science fiction, adventure and fantasy, Wildspark is set in a world where the spirits of dead people can be harnessed and given new life in mechanical animals. Prue's family is still devastated by grief a year after her brother's death and she leaps at the chance to join the mysterious Ghost Guild to try and find a way to bring him back. Great characters and exciting action but with an underlying thought provoking message about ethics and humanity

The Best Book with Facts -**Rise Up: Ordinary Kids with Extraordinary Stories** by Amanda Li and illustrated by Amy Blackwell. Buster Books. ISBN: 978-1780555782



This inspiring and accessible book tells 29 tales of amazing young people from across the world who have achieved the unimaginable. From surviving a plane crash in the jungle, to striking against climate change, to triumphing over illness and injury or overcoming bullying. Entries include Greta Thunberg, Boyan Slat and Phiona Mutesi, to name but a few.

Each engaging story is combined with visually stunning illustrations and after the biographical information for each person, there are interesting suggestions for activities based on that child's message or passion, with, for example, tips on how to become a K-pop star or facts about the Australian Outback and sending a coded message in Braille.

Managed by BookTrust, the UK's largest children's reading charity, the immensely popular **Blue Peter Book Awards** have been honouring amazing authors, imaginative illustrators and the best

books for children, published in the previous 12 months, since 2000. You can read blogs by shortlisted authors and find out more on the website. www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/awards-and-prizes/current-prizes/blue-peter-book-awards

Judges for 2020 were

TV Presenter and Actress Meryl Fernandes, the award-winning poet, performer and author Joseph Coelho, publishing booktuber expert Jean Menzies and Blue Peter Editor and non-voting chair Ellen Evans.

Best story shortlist

1. Owen and the Soldier by Lisa Thomson and Mike Lowery (Barrington Stoke) ISBN: 978-1781128657
2. Vote for Effie by Laura Wood. (Scholastic) ISBN: 978-1407187723
3. Wildspark by Vashti Hardy. (Scholastic) ISBN: 978-1407191553

Best book with facts shortlist

1. Fanatical About Frogs by Owen Davey (Flying Eye Books) ISBN: 978-1912497980
2. How To Be An Astronaut and Other Space Jobs by Dr Sheila Kanani and Sol Linero (Nosy Crow) ISBN: 978-1788004442
3. Rise Up: Ordinary Kids with Extraordinary Stories by Amanda Li and illustrated by Amy Blackwell. (Buster Books) ISBN: 978-1780555782