



Early Years Excellence 2017 winners revealed

The judges' verdicts are in, and *Teach Early Years* is delighted to announce the winners of its first Early Years Excellence Awards.

The more than 300 products, services and publications that were nominated in January and February were whittled down to a 65-strong finalists shortlist in March, and from this our expert panel of early years leaders, consultants and authors has selected 38 resources, bestowing five-star, four-star and, in most cases, three-star prizes in each category.

Amongst the winners there are in-depth CPD toolkits and online training courses; fantastic picture books and creative construction equipment; toys for indoors and out; and a wide array of resources to promote learning across the Early Years Foundation Stage. You will find a complete list of those who have received awards below.

Commenting on the announcement of the winners, *Teach Early Years* editor, Jacob Stow, said, "This is the first time we have put the call out to the sector, but the response has been fantastic and we have some very worthy winners to share. It is an incredibly diverse list, but every resource, toy, game and publication on it has something to offer early years settings.

"We would like to thank all those who took part in Early Years Excellence 2017, and our nine judges for their time and expertise. We look forward to opening nominations for 2018 in the not too distant future, and building upon the success of this year's Awards."

You will find full coverage of this year's winning resources, including pictures and comments from our judges, in *Teach Early Years* issue 7.4. A complete listing featuring photographs, verdicts and links to further information is also available at teachwire.net/eyexcellence

Early Years Excellence 2017 – the Winners

Communication, Language & Literacy Resource

- 5* Mantra Lingua – **LinguaTalk Interactive Nursery Pack**
- 4* I CAN – **Early Talkers Boxset**
- 3* Little Creative Days – **Pojo and the Chest of Dreams Create and Show Kit**

SEN Resource

- 5* EYP Direct – **Sensory Mood Light Table**
- 4* Singing hands – ***It's Signing Time* DVDs**
- 3* Child's Play – ***Off To The Beach***

Maths Resource

- 5* EYP Direct – **Rainbow Pebbles**
- 4* Orchard Toys – **Spotty Dogs**
- 3* Ten Town Ltd – **Ten Town**

Role-play Resource

- 5* Eduzone – **Fruit and Veg Colour Sorting Set**
- 4* The Curious Fox Company – **Child's Writing Belt**
- 3* Pretend to Bee – **Mini-Beast Snail Tabard**

Music Resource

- 5* The Voices Foundation / Alfred Publishing – **Inside Music: Early Years**
- 4* Out of the Ark Music – ***I Love Music***
- 3* Sound Children – **Bambajam Pelangi**

Creative Resource

- 5* U-nu – **U-nu Creative Construction Set**
- 4* K'NEX – **Kid K'NEX Range**
- 3* T4Kids – **The Classroom Hammering & Drilling Set**

Understanding the World Resource

- 5* Primo Toys – **Cubetto**
- 4* Bloomsbury Education – ***50 Fantastic Ideas for Investigations***
- 3* Fourth Wall Publishing – ***ABC of the World***

Physical development Resource

- 5* B inspired – **Mini Moves Cards**
- 4* Health Matters Education – **'Busy Feet' Explorers Toolkit**

Outdoor Resource

- 5* Ur-Tubes – **Amazing Den Kit**
- 4* Early Years Resources – **Timber Treasures**
- 3* Yellow Door – **Sensory Sounds Eggs**

CPD Resource

- 5* Kent County Council – **EFICL Pathways to Excellence Toolkit**
- 4* Herts for Learning – **Places to Play Every Day**
- 3* British Council – **English In Early Childhood: Language Learning and Development MOOC**

Picture Books

- 5* *They All Saw A Cat* (Brendan Wenzel, Chronicle Books)
- 4* *Also an Octopus* (Maggie Tokuda-Hall / Benji Davies, Walker Books)
- 3* *The Lumberjack's Beard* (Duncan Beedle, Templar Publishing)

Toy or Game

- 5* Orchard Toys – **Match and Spell**
- 4* Learning Resources – **Jumbo Dinosaur Set 2**
- 3* Bigjigs Toys – **Green Toys Farm**

Under-twos Resource

- 5* Pat-A-Cake (Hachette Children's Group) – **First Baby Days Series**
- 4* Orchard Toys – **Farmyard Heads and Tails**
- 3* Val Sabin Publications – **Action Babies (Birth to 12 months)**