

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to share the 2019 Neev Book Award Shortlist with you.

If you are looking for high quality children's literature for your children, we encourage you to explore our rich and varied shortlist. Here are some great ways to get your children to engage with the books:

- **Pick your Winner:** Encourage your child to read as many of the books as possible in the category appropriate for his or her age. Your child can decide which book deserves the Neev Award and announce a winner.  
Most importantly, your child can send book ratings and reviews to the NEEV jury. We'd love to hear what children think as we make our final decisions.
- **Literature Circles or Student Book Clubs:** Get your child to form a small reading group with friends. The group can choose books off the shortlist to read and discuss. Make it a social event with food!
- **Read together:** Choose books to read together or as a family, and then discuss it. Set aside "family reading time" and make reading a priority. Ask your child what you thought the big themes are, and what the author might be trying to tell us through the book.
- **Read Aloud** (for the picture book category): Use our wonderful picture books for your night-time read aloud. Cuddle up with your younger child, read the book to him/her, and then discuss it together. Some of the picture books will also work well for older children – we believe that there is no better way to bond with your child than to read together.

If you'd like to purchase book bundles for your home, here are the links you need to use:

<https://www.flipkart.com/neev-book-award-2019-store>

As author Kate DiCamillo said, "*Reading should not be presented to children as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift.*" We hope that through our shortlist, you will be able to offer your children the gift of reading.

Warm regards,  
The NEEV Children Book Awards Jury