



# Bedrock Young Authors

## writing competition 2023/24

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# Showcasing our Young Authors

## Winners



- A version of their story featured in the Bedrock digital library\*
- £250 book voucher for their school
- A Bedrock goodie bag

## Runners up



- £100 book voucher for their school
- A Bedrock goodie bag

\*Please note, we may be required to edit Young Authors stories that are featured in our digital library to ensure that they include challenging language and are suitable for all learners.

[bedrocklearning.org/bedrock-young-authors/](https://bedrocklearning.org/bedrock-young-authors/)



## Let's go on a journey...

We are thrilled to present the remarkable stories from the Bedrock Young Authors competition, a celebration of creativity, imagination and language. This year's theme, "Journeys," invited participants from KS2, KS3, and KS4 to embark on a creative expedition, crafting 200-word stories that explore either fiction or non-fiction writing styles.

Explore the winning entries and runners up in our 6 categories, each a testament to the power of language and the beauty of young imagination.

### Explore the stories...

- [Key Stage 2 Fiction Winner](#)
- [Key Stage 2 Non-fiction Winner](#)
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- [Key Stage 3 Non-fiction Winner](#)
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## Key Stage 2 Fiction: Winner

### The Gem of Power

By Nusaybah,  
Year 5, Byron Court Primary School

## The story...

### The Gem of Power

As Nabahat took her final step into the musty attic, a warm, welcoming glow beckoned her. She edged closer to the source, engulfed by curiosity, and found a crisp piece of paper in her hands: a map, its destination a cave. Straightening the creases, she opened the outer flaps.

Whoosh! Suddenly, what looked like a galaxy full of stars appeared before her. Nabahat found herself in a completely new landscape. Questions raced through her mind like darting arrows: Was that a portal? Was this the start of the map?

Surrounding her in all directions were trees, of scarlet, khaki and gold. Gazing down at her, they formed an arch leading to a muddy path. With every step she took, an icy chill ran down her spine. It seemed as though the cave on the map got further away, until, after what felt like forever, she reached her destination.

It was true; like her map had stated, there was a gem. It swirled around her like glitter the colour of sapphires and violets, before forming armour around her body. A voice out of nowhere murmured softly to her: "Nabahat, you are the chosen one; now you must slay the demon, Chakaka..."



## Key Stage 2 Non-fiction: Winner

### My Journey to Clip'n Climb

By Ariella,  
Year 5, One School Global

## The story...

### My Journey to Clip'n Climb

Did you ever have your courage tested to the limit? I went on a journey to my cousins in England, where we went to Clip'n Climb, an extreme climbing activity.

We hadn't done climbing like this before. And it took a while to get comfortable on the different climbing walls. My uncle had bought a ticket for us to jump off the Leap of Faith, 7.2 meters up in the air. To do one jump we had to climb up a tall central pole and jump off a platform and whack a boxing bag before being lowered down.

When I got to the edge of the platform the only thing holding me was a rope. I was really scared because I've got a fear of heights. It took a lot of courage and encouragement from family to make the jump. It was one of the scariest things I'd ever done, but I was so happy that I did it and it made me feel brave. After Clip'n Climb we went to a fun farm with a bouncy castle and we got some ice cream. It was one of the best climbing journeys of my life.



## Key Stage 3 Fiction: Winner

### The Legend of Aronclaw

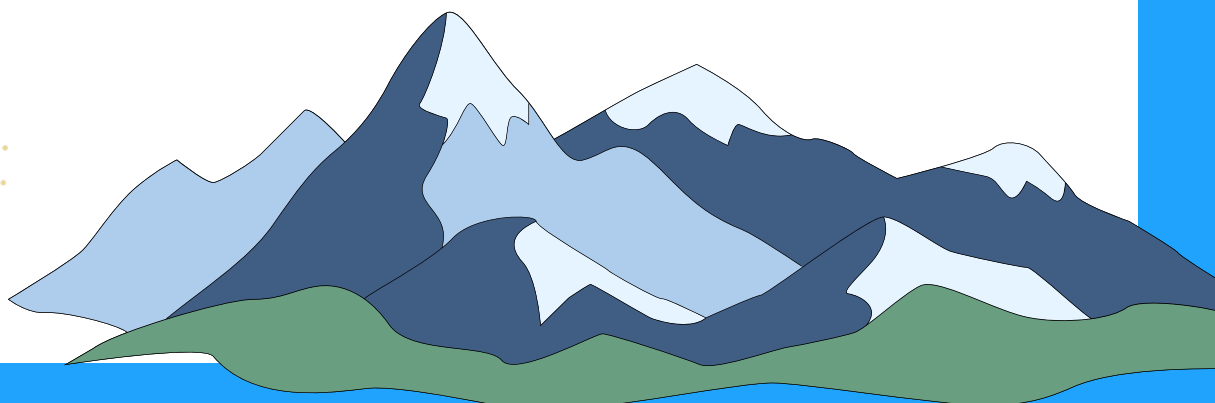
By Elise,  
Year 8, Abbeyfield School, Chippenham

## The story...

### The Legend of Aronclaw

A thick, white fog shrouds the mountainside, hiding it from view. Beneath the misty veil lies a vast meadow, riddled with boulders. Small flowers lay a patchwork quilt of colour over the mountain, where cattle graze in the early morning light. Waterfalls trickle between the scattered rocks, seeking a path towards the jagged chalk cliffs below. At the foot of the mountain, two figures begin the strenuous climb towards the peak. The first figure is a young prince, who wears a red suit embroidered with golden thread. His ears are pierced with diamond earrings, and his leather boots are studded with rubies. Around his shoulders, he wears a dragon skin jacket. The legends tell that this jacket was made from the hide of Aronclaw, the dragon killed by his ancestor – but no one knows if it's true.

The second figure wears an old, grey cloak which billows out behind him as he strides up the mountainside. Beneath the hood is a wise, wrinkled face with a long, pearl-white beard. His gnarled hand grips an oak-wood staff, which swings rhythmically by his side with each step. His name is Elderfear, and he is older than the mountain on which he walks.



## Key Stage 3 Non-fiction: Winner

This Bat'er be Good!

By Amelie,  
Year 7, Paulet High School

### The story...

This Bat'er be Good!

As the dusk settled in, a lone bat took flight from its roost in search of its nightly meal. It navigated through the velvety blackness of the night, its echolocation guiding it through the labyrinth of obstacles. The air was filled with the cacophony of sounds, each one a potential threat or a possible meal.

The bat adeptly dodged branches and other flying creatures as it swooped and soared in pursuit of insects. Its leathery wings beat rhythmically, propelling it through the air with effortless grace. Yet, the journey was not without its challenges. The bat had to contend with the ever-changing landscapes of the night, from dense forests to open fields, each presenting its own set of obstacles and dangers.

As the night wore on, the bat felt the pull of exhaustion tugging at its wings, but it pressed on, driven by the primal instinct to survive. It faced fierce competition from other nocturnal hunters, each vying for the same dwindling food source.

Finally, as the first light of dawn began to break the darkness, the bat returned to its roost, weary but satiated. Its journey had been fraught with challenges, but it had persevered, a testament to the resilient nature of this remarkable creature.



## Key Stage 4 Fiction: Winner

### Anchored Deep

By Izzie,  
Year 10, Lyng Hall School

## The story...

### Anchored Deep

I stood as a silent witness to the dance of seasons, a sapling bathed in the warmth of the sun. Tender leaves unfurled, embracing the gentle whispers of the wind. Through the years, I grew, my roots delving into the earth's embrace, anchoring me to the passage of time.

In the prime of life, I stood proud and strong, my branches a canvas for the symphony of nature. Birds nested in my boughs, and the rustle of leaves told stories of seasons gone by. Spring time of my youth. Storms that tested my resilience, yet I stood resilient, weathering the tempests with the wisdom bestowed by years.

As autumn arrived, a kaleidoscope of colours adorned my branches, a final celebration before the inevitable retreat into dormancy. Winter's hush enveloped me, a time of introspection beneath the blanket of snow. Yet, with the advent of spring, life stirred once more, a testament to the eternal cycle of renewal.

But time wears on, and as the years accumulated, so did the lines etched on my bark. Seasons turned more swiftly, and my branches, once full of vigour, grew weary. In the twilight of my existence, I embraced the inevitability of letting go.



## Key Stage 4 Non-fiction: Winner

### The Extra Mile

By Sterling,  
Year 9, One School Global

## The story...

### The Extra Mile

The quote "There are no traffic jams on the extra mile" should inspire you and me to go the extra mile to success. This quote wants us to put extra effort into something beyond what's required.

I've personally felt the impact of this about a year ago, I got a lower grade due to rushing through my assignment and making stupid mistakes. Frustrated with myself I knew that something had to change. So, I set myself some goals and tackled the next assignment with more detail and time to prevent these stupid mistakes.

The result? Would you have guessed? A much better grade than the one before! If you are in a similar situation, you are not alone. Even heroes or people you may look up to, push themselves every day beyond comfort zones to achieve bigger, better, and greater.

Going the extra mile and putting some extra work into something isn't just personal success; it also inspires others. It's also not just about winning; it's also about conquering the unexpected. So, I would encourage you to take that step, it's for good. And once you did it, trust me. You will not regret it.





## Key Stage 2 Fiction: Runner up

### Ava's Adventure

By Dipika,  
Year 3, British International School Riyadh – Diplomatic Quarter

## The story...

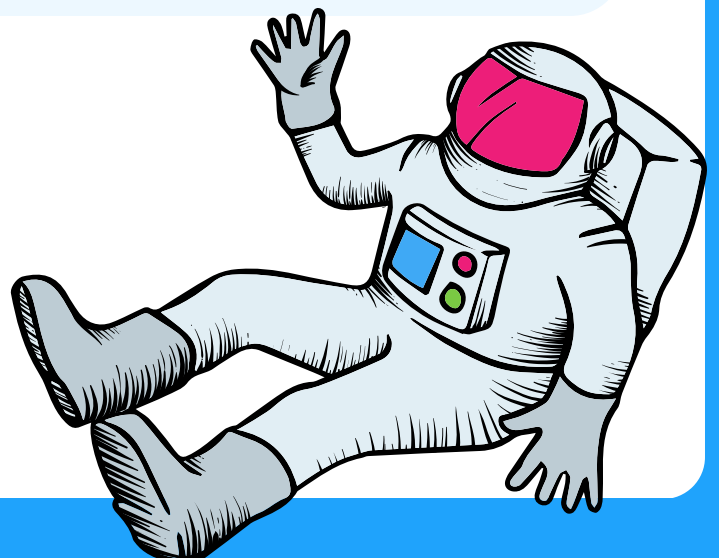
### Ava's Adventure

Long ago, there lived a brave girl called Ava. She found a magical map and followed the golden words on it. The map said to go outside, and once she did, it said to go to the smallest place in town.

Before she left, Ava packed her bag and rented a horse from the stables. Ava rode the horse to the smallest spot in town, which was a cabin. Once Ava was inside the cabin, she said, "I just want an exciting adventure!"

The words on her map turned into a route which said to go to the woods and climb up a tree. So, Ava followed the instructions. After that, Ava looked at the map and there was an arrow pointing up at a big blue button. When she pressed it, she was wearing... AN ASTRONAUT SUIT!!!! Ava was fascinated. Looking around, she realised she was in... SPACE!!!!

Ava smelt fresh air running through her nostrils and felt amazed. She heard a never-ending silence and saw the beautiful world, the sun and trillions of stars. The map started glowing and Ava was back at her house. Ava went to bed hoping to dream of her next adventure.



## Key Stage 2 Non-fiction: Runner up

### Journey

By a learner,  
KS2, Haileybury Almaty

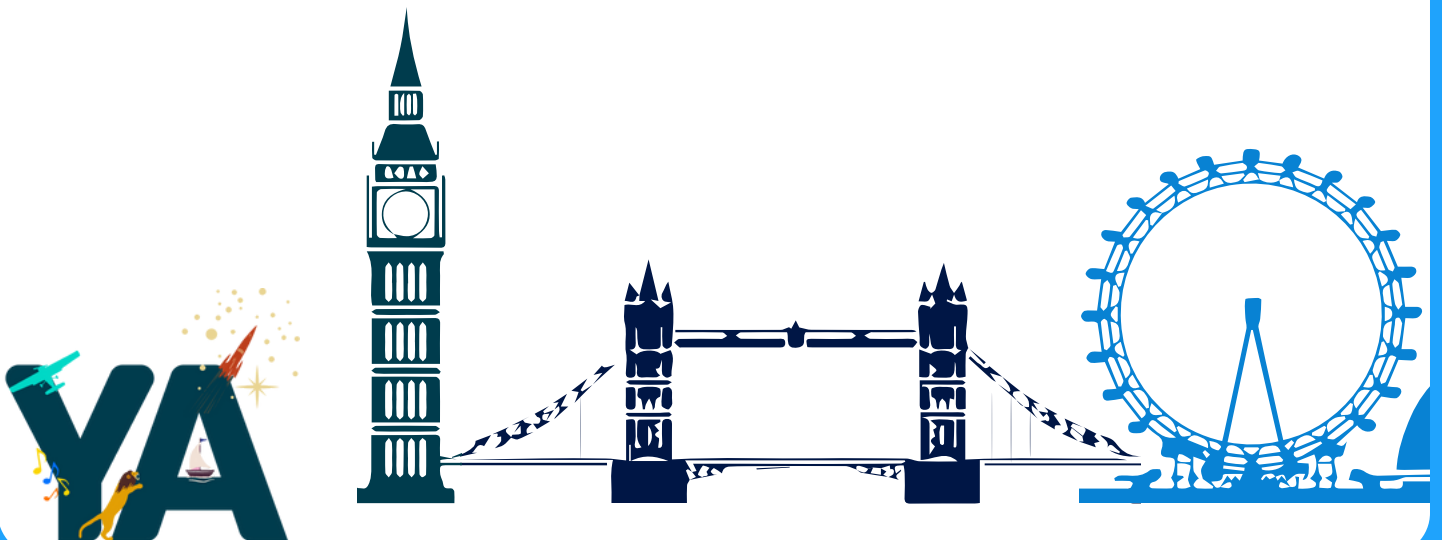
## The story...

### Journey

I have been travelling a lot since childhood. While travelling I learn a lot of new things. The most memorable trip was to England, London. We walked around the city and saw many different beautiful buildings such as Big Ben, Tower Bridge, London Eye, the wax museum and many old castles.

In London I met my friend. Her name is Aidana. We studied with her in the reception class at school. When she moved to London, I missed her a lot. We wrote letters to each other and sent postcards by mail.

The day of meeting had come. We saw each other, hugged tightly and went for a walk in Hyde Park. That day we remembered how we played at our school! Journey for me is to see a lot of new things and meet old friends.



## Key Stage 3 Fiction: Runner up

### Journey

By Carrie,  
Year 7, Fitzharrys School

## The story...

### Journey

Ada's world was lit on fire.

In a small town filled with cobble stone streets and whispering trees lived a girl named Ada. She was adorned with a crown of dreams yet burdened with the weight of insecurities that help her captive in her own mind. Ada stepped foot into echo grove, the old trees towered above her like skyscrapers. She observed the grove, it was cryptic. Abruptly it felt like the heavens opening, a warm glistening light glimmered down on her, and blow of wind twirled round Ada. She swiftly turned her head peering in every which way. The pure skyline a limit beyond which there is nothing that lies the unknown, unlocked. Ada found herself wandering towards the horizon never knowing what next. The island whispered and murmured at her, as Ada dizzily stood from her feet "Who's there" she mumbled.

A slithering hissing sound responded "The island of lost memories". A song of evocation danced through Ada's head. She saw the past the mind's eye of when she was younger. Ada fell to her knees mourning the forgotten years, sobbing. "Why" Ada weeped in despair feeling like she could just disappear.

Now she understands why they lit the match.



## Key Stage 3 Non-fiction: Runner up

### Christopher Columbus

By Kai,  
Year 7, Crofton School

## The story...

### Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus was born around 1440-1450 in Genoa, Italy. In 1492 Columbus met with two brothers in Palos, Spain. They were sea captains named Martin Alonso Pinzon and Vicente Yanez Pinzon. The brothers helped Columbus obtain three small ships, The 'Santa Maria' the largest, the 'Pinta' and the 'Nina'.

Columbus had earned his living by making and copying maps and charts of the ocean but dreamt of discovering new lands. It was on Friday August 3rd in 1492 that Columbus and the brothers set sail.

Course was set for the canary islands, the furthest westerly islands known.

The journey was not without problems, but Columbus overcomes them to achieve his journey. They made it to the canaries.

Upon leaving the Canaries, they headed West, on October 11th five long weeks since departing the Canary Islands "LAND HO". Columbus thought by sailing West he would reach India, He discovered San Salvador to Cuba. This is why this part of the world is called the West Indies.

Columbus was a hero. He was made admiral of Spain and raised to the rank of nobleman.



## Key Stage 4 Fiction: Runner up

### Parallel Journeys: Beyond the Veil

By Alona,  
KS4, Virginia College

## The story...

### Parallel Journeys: Beyond the Veil

As the train doors sealed shut, Mia felt a tingle, a peculiar sensation that whispered secrets of the unknown. She glanced around, finding herself surrounded by an otherworldly luminescence. The train lurched forward, hurtling through a kaleidoscope of cosmic dimensions.

At the first stop, the landscape unfolded into a world draped in perpetual twilight, where sentient flora conversed in melodious whispers. Mia stepped onto the iridescent soil, enraptured by the harmonious symphony of nature.

The next dimension unfurled into a cityscape suspended amidst clouds, where clockwork marvels hummed in synchronous rhythm. Buildings intertwined with the sky, and gears spun tales of forgotten epochs. With each stop, Mia's heart quickened, a blend of trepidation and exhilaration. She encountered crystalline oceans, metropolis-sized libraries harboring chronicles of lost civilizations, and realms where time wove itself into tangible tapestries.

At the final stop, the train halted in a dimension of endless possibilities, where dreams thrived as palpable realities. Here, Mia discovered her essence intertwined with the fabric of creation, her thoughts shaping galaxies and birthing celestial wonders.

As the train embarked on its return, Mia carried remnants of each reality within her. Though she returned to her mundane existence, the journey across dimensions had ignited an eternal spark of wonder, reminding her that boundless worlds awaited those with the courage to seek them.



## Key Stage 4 Non-fiction: Runner up

### Overcoming your fear

By Kerenza,  
KS4, One School Global

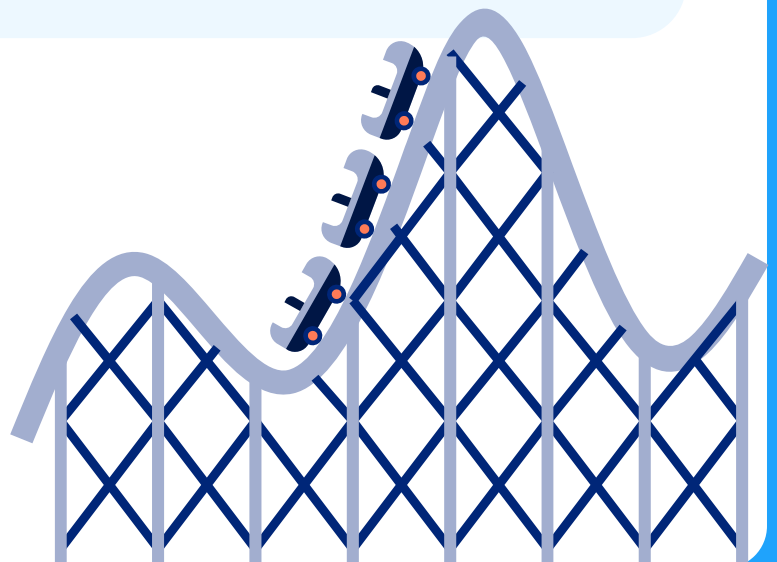
## The story...

### Overcoming your fear

Follow me on a journey through the struggles of a girl who lived in Germany and loved going to theme parks. On her birthday, her family travelled to a theme park and explored all the rides, but one. The ride was a drop slide, she had always been avoiding it, for she was scared.

Her family motivated her to face the challenge because she had been scared for so long. So, she faced it! She stepped closer and closer towards it, eventually reaching the top of it. She gathered up all her courage and with a little bit of help from people around her she slid down the drop slide.

As she arrived at the bottom she was surprised, because it turned out to be fun and she slid down it again. As you can see, overcoming your fears and achieving your goals, is not that bad after all. The journey from being scared and overcoming is long and might need some help, but everyone must face a fear at some point in their life. So overcome your fears! Because if you don't, you will live with regret! The time to shine is now!





**Celebrating creativity, imagination and language**

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