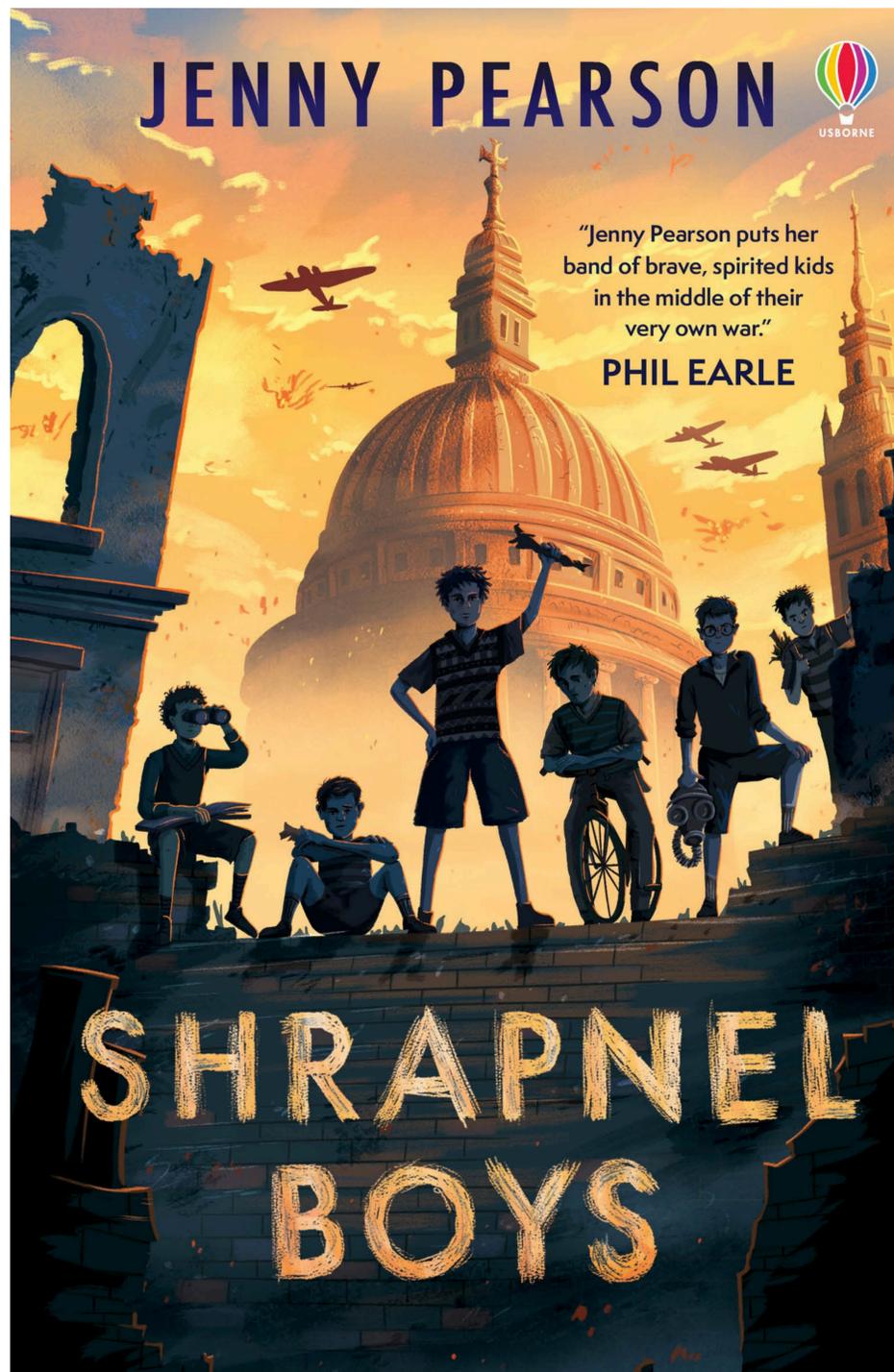


The Carnegies



The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources

Shrapnel Boys

Carnegie Medal for Writing

Author: Jenny Pearson

Age range: 9+

Description:

Set in the Second World War, this tells the story of two brothers Ronnie and Micky who are not evacuated and shows the emotional impact that war on childhood. Set during the turbulent time of World War Two, there are numerous parallels with modern day concerns like radicalisation in this exciting yet poignant adventure novel. The landscape of war-torn London is convincing and highly memorable.

Themes:

- History (WWII)
- Evacuation
- Home front
- Friendship
- Bullying
- Loss
- Brothers
- Resilience
- Radicalisation

Shadowing Ideas:

1. Set during the Second World War, this story perfectly evokes 1940s London. Take the opportunity to dress up in 1940s outfits, listen to some 1940s music or even have a go at learning some 1940s dances. If you don't fancy dressing up, you could try some popular games like Dominoes, Jacks, Pick Up Sticks and Noughts and Crosses – all very good for passing long hours in an Anderson shelter!
2. Listen to American war correspondent Edward R Murrow's reports from the London Blitz or search the The Imperial War Museum's collection of images (<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/15-powerful-photos-of-the-blitz>) to get a feel for what it might have been like to experience an air raid. Using your research as well as descriptions from the book, write and perform your own radio broadcast describing the sights, smells and sounds of an air raid.
3. Try some Blitz skyline art. Look at examples online and decide if you would like to make your skyline using colour or chalk and black paper. Remember, it wasn't just London that experienced air raids; you might like to create a skyline that features landmarks from your local area.