

5th Grade Battle of the Books 2017



What is Battle of the Books?

- A reading competition for 5th graders
- Teams of 3-5 5th graders work together, with a coach, read and prepare for the competition
- An opportunity for creativity as they come up with team names and team attire
- A chance to read new authors or genres, and the possibility of getting really excited about reading

Who can participate?

- Any 5th grader who lives in or attends school in Rochester Hills, Rochester, Oakland Township
- 5th graders must have valid library cards to register
- Coaches must be willing adults (i.e. over 18)
- Teen siblings or friends can help as “assistant coaches”

How do we register?

- Go to the desk in the youth services department – a librarian will take all your information
- Provide team name, 1 coach’s name, coach’s contact information, school name, team members name and library card numbers
- Details for team registration (including team name and adding or removing team members) can take place up to February 1st

When is the Battle?

- A Saturday morning in March – date TBA (waiting for gymnasium availability) – we should know by the end of November

What does the coach do?

- Read at least some of the books
- Help the 5th graders make a plan for preparing for the Battle
- Guide them and keep them on track
- Allow them to take the lead and be somewhat self-directed
- Make sure to keep this fun (this does not affect college or job applications!)
- Be the contact (via e-mail) for the library. We'll be sharing updates, etc.
- Register for the program, too!

How do we prepare?

- Read, read, read!
- Take notes
- Divide up the books and teach other teammates about the books you read
- Memorize titles and authors
- Discuss the books with your teammates and coach
- Get your parents to read a couple of the books

What is the actual Battle like?

- Saturday morning in March (exact date TBD) at a high school gym
- Kids sit on the floor, spectators in the bleachers
- We ask the teams 50 questions about the 12 books
- Each question can be answered with the title and author of each book
- Answers are written by each team on sheets provided for them
- Awards ceremony the following week

How do we pick the books?

- Some at 5th grade reading level, some below, some above
- Multiple genres
- Award winning
- Classic or future classic

Coaches' Meetings

- Monday, November 28th & Wednesday November 30th at 7:30 - pick 1
- For coaches only – not meant for 5th graders
- Should not last more than 45 minutes
- We will go over strategies, preparation tips, and a coach's role
- Review sample questions
- Great time to get questions answered

Contact Claire at claire.lopiccolo@rhpl.org with questions