



Birmingham Public Schools Battle of the Books

A challenge for 4th & 5th graders with a passion
for reading

Sponsored by the BPS Library Media Department

What is Battle of the Books?

We invite all fourth and fifth grade students, who have a passion for reading and who crave a challenge to participate in a Battle of the Books competition.

This is a unique opportunity for students to read ten challenging books that have been pre-selected from a variety of genres. They will receive the booklist on Battle Launch day, Monday, November 7, 2011. Multiple copies of these books, which have been purchased through a generous donation from our PTA, are available in the Media Center.

The challenge of Battle books lies in conflicts and issues, advanced/more mature reading, and the discussion that engages the students after reading these titles. Parents are encouraged to read and discuss the books with their children.

Students will also have the opportunity to participate in teacher-led book clubs to meet with other students, discuss the issues in the books, and prepare for the competition. These book clubs may meet at either lunchtime, before, or after school.

Battle Team Qualifications

Students who wish to participate in the Battle must pass the Accelerated Reader (AR) tests for at least 6 Battle Books by the end of the school day on Friday, January 27, 2012 in order to qualify for a Battle Team. To pass each of the AR tests, students need to answer 6 of the 10 questions correctly. Battle Teams will be comprised of students from Bingham Farms **only**. Battle teammates will be responsible for at least two books on which they become experts.

After qualifying for a Battle Team, we strongly encourage students to continue reading in order to earn higher ribbons or a gold medal. The final deadline for taking AR tests for ribbons and the gold medal is Wednesday, February 15, 2012. In accordance with the district's technology goals, students will be encouraged to communicate with their teammates electronically (i.e. via email, wikis, Moodle).

The Battle

The battle is the culminating activity for the students. Teams meet and answer 30 questions on the 10 Battle Books. Students from Bingham Farms will have our Battle in the **BCS Media Center on Friday, March 2, 2012 from 8:30am until 11:45pm.**

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Certificate, Ribbon, & Medal Qualifications

A certificate of participation: Minimum of 1 Battle Book

Battle Ribbons: 6-9 Battle Books

Gold Medal: All 10 Books

Student participant responsibilities:

1. Qualify for a team.
2. Work and communicate with teammates.
3. Become an expert on books agreed to by your team.
4. Attend Battle Book Clubs.
5. Do their best on Battle Day.

Battle of the Books Participation Slip
Please return to your Media Specialist

Name: _____

Grade: ____ Teacher: _____

I wish to participate in the Battle of the Books. I understand that I can read as few as one Battle Book but that I must pass Accelerated Reader tests on six of the ten books by Friday, January 27, 2012 in order to qualify for a Battle Team. I also understand that I will become an expert on at least two Battle Books.

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

Parent Participation:

Parent Name: _____ Cell #: _____

Email Address: _____

_____ Yes, I can be a table coach on the day of The Battle (March 2nd).

_____ Yes, I am willing to help with Battle but am not available on Battle day.

_____ Yes, I am willing to help with food on Battle Day.

_____ Yes, I can photograph students during lunch or before/after school.

_____ Yes, I can be a coach for my child's Battle team.

_____ Yes, I can help with the after school Battle Rush where team members meet.

_____ Yes, I would be will to help with a father/son Battle breakfast.

_____ Yes, I can facilitate a book club discussion if materials are provided.

_____ No, I won't be able to participate during The Battle.

