Battle of the Books
Information for Students

Battle of the Books is a fun way to get show your love of reading and actually earn some great prizes for it! All you need to do is grab up to four friends (teams should be 5 people or less) from grades 7 & 8 and read the list of librarian-chosen books. A trivia competition (and chaos!) will ensue.

As a team, you need to assign the books to be read by the various team members. You can have each team member read two books, have all team members read all books, or some combination between. It’s really up to you! Pay attention to the authors of the books… they are important!

Important Change: Teams will be required to know how to correctly spell authors’ last names in order to receive credit.

You will need to have a responsible person, 18 years or over, to act as your Team Manager. The Team Manager is there to help you get organized, practice for the battle, and provide transportation the night of the event. In the past, teams have asked a parent, a teacher, an older sibling, or their school librarian to be a Team Manager.

Here are some rules that you’ll need to know about before heading into the library to check out books for the Battle of the Books:

- The books can only be borrowed on a library card belonging to a team member. Team Managers are not to check out books for their teams.
- The books will be available at Sewickley Library, Moon Library, and school libraries.
- Overdue fines for Battle Books are $.25/day.
- If your library does not have the books, please ask us to obtain them from another library free of charge!

Here’s what happens on the night of the Book Battle. First, your team will need to arrive at QVMS Auditorium at least 15 minutes before the start time. You’ll sign in and set up your table. Your team manager will be present, but he/she will be working as a Scorekeeper for a different team.

The Battle Moderator will begin by asking the first question twice. After the question is asked twice, teams will have 20 seconds write down their answers. Play will continue in this manner for the next 4 questions. The Moderator will announce the answers for the first 5 questions. If your team answers correctly you get 4 points, plus a bonus point if you can give the last name of the author, spelled correctly. This means that each question is worth a potential 5 points. Answers must be specific. The moderator and judges will decide if an answer given is correct, and that decision is final. Play will resume as above for the rest of the round. There will be three rounds with one question from each book per round.

At the end of each round, scorecards will be collected and verified. At the end of the third round, the Judges will tally all scores. If there is a tie, a special lightening round will take place between the tied teams. Once a clear winner has been found, the Battle Moderator will announce the winners.

The top three teams will receive prizes.

So, are you interested yet? To get started grab this booklist and a registration form. Find four friends in 7th and/or 8th grade, find a responsible adult to be a Team Manager, create a name for your team, and start reading!!! All final registration forms are due Friday, February 10, 2017 by 5:00 PM.

Questions?? Visit the B.O.B WIKI @ info4BOB.blogspot.com/

Contact Information

Heather Panella, Public Services Librarian
Moon Township Public Library
412-269-0334
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Emily Fear, Teen Services Librarian
Sewickley Public Library
412-741-6920
feare@einetwork.net
Choosing titles for B.O.B. can be a daunting task! The books must face down bullies, an abusive uncle, and the idea that one's life could be over before twenty feet of water. Property damages across the Gulf Coast topped $100 billion. One thousand eight hundred and thirty digits of their deathdate. Her skill often feels stunted. But soon, she is drawn into the disappearance of her best friend, Jason, who's always been there. Jason, for whom she might have had a peregrine falcon named Fury, and Twig is a middle-distance runner striving for athletic success. But they are drawn together in the struggle to overcome the obstacles that life in Harlem throws at them. The two friends must face down bullies, an abusive uncle, and the idea that they'll be stuck in the same place forever.

The riveting tale of this historic storm and the drowning of an American city is one of selflessness, heroism, and courage—and also of incompetence, racism, and criminality. The books were each read, reviewed, and discussed by a team of school and public librarians. Should you have a concern about one of the titles, please contact Moon or Sewickley libraries.

An A Note to Parents and Team Managers

Darius & Twig by Walter Dean Myers

Darius & Twig are an unlikely pair: Darius is a writer whose only escape is his alter ego, a peregrine falcon named Fury, and Twig is a middle-distance runner striving for athletic success. But they are drawn together in the struggle to overcome the obstacles that life in Harlem throws at them. The two friends must face down bullies, an abusive uncle, and the idea that they'll be stuck in the same place forever.

Lily & Dunkin by Donna Gephart

Lily Jo McGrother, born Timothy McGrother, is a girl. But being a girl is not so easy when you look like a boy. Especially when you’re in the eighth grade. Dunkin Dorfman, birth name Norbert Dorfman, is dealing with bipolar disorder and has just moved from the New Jersey town he’s called home for the past thirteen years. This would be hard enough, but the fact that he is also hiding from a painful secret makes it even worse. One summer morning, Lily Jo McGrother meets Dunkin Dorfman, and their lives forever change.

Drowned City: Hurricane Katrina & New Orleans by Don Brown

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina’s monstrous winds and surging water overwhelmed the protective levees around low-lying New Orleans, Louisiana. Eighty percent of the city flooded, in some places under twenty feet of water. Property damages across the Gulf Coast topped $100 billion. One thousand eight hundred and thirty-three people lost their lives.

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My 7th Grade Life in Tights by Brooks Benjamin

All Dillon wants is to be a real dancer. And if he wins a summer scholarship at Dance-Spllosion, he’s on his way. The problem? His dad wants him to play football. And Dillon’s freestyle crew, the Dizzee Freekz, says that dance studios are for sellouts. His friends want Dillon to kill it at the audition—so he can turn around and tell the studio just how wrong their rules and creativity-strangling way are. At first, Dillon’s willing to go along with his crew’s plan, even convincing one of the snobbiest girls at school to work with him on his technique. But as Dillon’s dancing improves, he wonders: what if studios aren’t the enemy? And what if he actually has a shot at winning the scholarship?

Ink & Ashes by Valynne Maetani

Claire Takata has never known much about her father, who passed away ten years ago. But on the anniversary of his death, she finds a letter from her deceased father to her stepfather. Before now, Claire never had a reason to believe they even knew each other. Struggling to understand why her parents kept this surprising history hidden, Claire combs through anything that might give her information about her father... until she discovers that he was a member of the yakuza, a Japanese organized crime syndicate. The discovery opens a door that should have been left closed. The race to outrun her father’s legacy reveals secrets of his past that cast ominous shadows, threatening Claire, her friends and family, her newfound love, and ultimately her life.

Magonia by Maria Dahvana Headley

Since she was a baby, Aza Ray Boyle has suffered from a mysterious lung disease that makes it ever harder for her to breathe, to speak—to live. So when Aza catches a glimpse of a ship in the sky, her family chalks it up to a cruel side effect of her medication. But Aza doesn’t think this is a hallucination. She can hear someone on the ship calling her name. Only her best friend, Jason, listens. Jason, who’s always been there. Jason, for whom she might have had more-than-friendly feelings. But before Aza can consider that thrilling idea, something goes terribly wrong. Aza is lost to our world—and found by another. Magonia. Above the clouds, in a land of trading ships, Aza is not the weak and dying thing she was. In Magonia, she can breathe for the first time. Better, she has immense power—but as she navigates her new life, she discovers that war between Magonia and Earth is coming. In Aza’s hands...

Dillen & Thordrke by E.K. Johnston

There have always been dragons. As far back as the occupation of Holland, Her actions are a direct result of the loss of Bas, her boyfriend. Lying about his age, he enlisted and died on the frontlines during the German invasion. When one of her best customers asks for her assistance in finding a Jewish girl she was hiding, Hanneke is stunned. But soon, she is drawn into the disappearance of the girl in the blue coat.

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The Story of Owen: Last Dragonslayer of Trondheim by E.K. Johnston

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Nimona by Noelle Stevenson

Nimona is an impulsive young shapeshifter with a knack for villainy. Lord Ballister Blackheart is a villain with a vendetta. As sidekick and supervillain, Nimona and Lord Blackheart are about to wreak some serious havoc. Their mission: prove to the kingdom that Sir Ambrosius Goldenloin and his buddies at the Institution of Law Enforcement and HEROICS aren’t the heroes everyone thinks they are. But as small acts of mischief escalate into a vicious battle, Lord Blackheart realizes that Nimona’s powers are as murky and mysterious as her past. And her unpredictable wild side might be more dangerous than he is willing to admit.

When by Victoria Laurie

Maddie doesn't have a choice. The forehead of every person she sees is marked by the shadowy digits of their deathdate. Her skill often feels more like a curse than a gift, and Maddie grudgingly puts it to use identifying deathdates for the paying customers her mother reels in. It seems like a way to help support her family until one client's son goes missing on the exact date Maddie has pinpointed, and she gets pulled into an investigation that turns her world upside down. As more young people disappear and are later found murdered, suspicion swirls around Maddie, who could hold the key to cracking the case.

Annotations taken from Amazon