



2021

Battle of the Books

Westchester Library System League

<https://crotonfreelibrary.org/battle-of-the-books>

<https://www.westchesterlibraries.org/bob/>

www.facebook.com/WLSBattleofthebooks

Croton Free Library

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MISSION

The goal of the Westchester Library System Battle of the Books program is to promote the love of reading in kids and teens, to expose them to titles and authors that they might not encounter otherwise, to encourage them to think of their public library as a resource for entertainment and connection, and to inspire teamwork in an atmosphere of friendly competition.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

The Battle of the Books (BOB) is a countywide competition of young adults and children from all participating Westchester County public libraries. Teams will compete by answering trivia questions based on five different books. There will be two divisions; teams are divided by grades (4-7 or 6-12). This year, everything is online.

WHO CAN BE ON THE TEAM?

- Anyone entering grades 4-7 or grades 6-12 in September 2021.
- Each team must have at least 3 members. The maximum number of team members allowed to participate in a round of battle is 5.

SCHEDULE & TIME COMMITMENT

- **April 29** – Interest meeting
- **May 10** – Commitment form due
- **May** – Finalize teams & schedule, purchase & distribute books, begin reading books
- **June 1** – Practices begin (see schedule below)
- **July 19** – Battles begin!

Practices will run about an hour long on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 6:00–7:00 p.m.

Schedule for Division A (grades 4-7):

Tuesday meetings June-Sept.

- June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (“book club” practices)
- July 6, 13 (prep & buzzer practices)
- July. 20, 27 & August 3, 10, 17 (battles)

Schedule for Division B (grades 6-12):

Thursday meetings June-September

- June 3, 10, 17, 24 & July 1 (“book club” practices)
- July 1, 15 (prep & buzzer practices)
- July. 22, 29 & August 5, 12, 19 (battles)

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE TO MISS A PRACTICE OR A BATTLE

Email the coaches or advisors listed at the beginning of this document!

2021 BOOKLIST

Younger Division's Titles (4-7)

- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft
- *The Parker Inheritance* by Varian Johnson
- *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan
- *Bob* by Wendy Mass and Rebecca Stead
- *The Next Great Paulie Fink* by Ali Benjamin

Older Division's Titles (6-12)

- *Nyxia* by Scott Reintgen
- *Cinder* by Marissa Meyer
- *Truly Devious* by Maureen Johnson
- *The Secret Life of Prince Charming* by Deb Caletti
- *Akata Witch* by Nnendi Okorafor

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS - MORE INFO

For a full FAQ, visit

<https://www.westchesterlibraries.org/bob/2021-virtual-battle-of-the-books-summer-league/faq/>

HOW IS THE BOB TOURNAMENT STRUCTURED?

- In each round a question will be asked; the first team's active players to buzz in will have 15 seconds to confer in the main zoom room before giving their answer.
- If they answer correctly, they are awarded a point. If they answer incorrectly, a different question of similar difficulty will be asked of the opposite team who will have 15 seconds to confer before giving their answer. If they answer correctly, they are awarded a point. If they answer incorrectly, no one is awarded the point and play progresses to the next question.
- While libraries are encouraged to keep track of their wins and losses, due to concerns of equitable access, the Board has opted to eliminate having a Final or a Semi-Final to keep the competition more low stakes.

WHAT ARE THE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS LIKE?

- Trivia questions for the Battle of the Books will be written, edited, and selected by the WLS' Battle of the Books planning committee.
- Questions will be fact-based only, with simple one word or one-phrase answers.
- Questions cannot be true/false, yes/no or multiple choice.
- There will be 25 questions in each Battle Match. Questions about all 5 books will be included in each match. Teams get 1 point for each correct answer. The team with the most points after

all 25 questions have been asked wins the match.

- The person who buzzes in first must be the person to officially answer that question for the team and after buzzing in may confer with teammates for 10 seconds before answering. The opposing team is allowed to confer while the answering team is conferring.

Sample Questions (Kids 2017)

1. In *One Crazy Summer*, what name does Big Ma still call JFK Airport?
Answer: Idlewild; *One Crazy Summer*, p. 4
2. In which book does a character make a phone call at 3:45 a.m.?
Answer: *Fuzzy Mud* by Louis Sa
3. What is Melody's favorite soda?
Answer: Mello Yello Out of My Mind, p. 44
4. In Grandmamma's story about the witches turning a girl into a chicken, what color eggs did the chicken lay?
Answer: Brown; *The Witches*, p. 20

Sample Questions (Teens 2017)

1. In *Jackaby*, Abigail ran away to join an archaeological expedition in what mountain range?
Answer: Carpathian Mountains; *Jackaby* (p. 13)
2. In which book does a character wear half-moon glasses?
Answer: *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling (p. 8)
3. In which book is there a Lieutenant with the first name Boyd?
Answer: *Michael Vey: Prisoner of Cell 25* by Richard Paul Evans
4. What is Olly's email address?
Answer: genericuser033@gmail.com; *Everything, Everything* (p. 42)
5. In which book did the main character's father die of a heart attack when the character was eight years old?
Answer: *Michael Vey: Prisoner of Cell 25* by Richard Paul Evans

QUESTIONS? Email the coaches or advisors listed at the beginning of this document!