How Does My Team Register?

Registration begins on Friday, December 7th 2018. Each team should submit one registration form found on the Library’s website at www.baldwinlib.org/battle-of-the-books/. All registrations must be submitted online. The last day for registration and team changes is Wednesday, January 9th 2019. Each team must have an adult coach.

Who Can Be a Coach and What are their Responsibilities?
The coach may be a parent or other interested adult who will serve as the contact person between the team and the Baldwin Public Library. Coaches will help the teams stay on track and come up with strategies for Battle preparation. Coaches are responsible for arranging transportation for their team to and from Groves High School on the day of Battle. Coaches should plan to attend one Coaches Meeting at the Baldwin Public Library on either Thursday, December 6th 2018 or Wednesday, December 12th 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

What if I Cannot Find a Team?

Students who have not found a team by Friday, December 21st 2018 can fill out the Need a Team form on the Library’s website. This form will close on Wednesday, January 9th. Library staff will do their best to help students find a team but cannot guarantee team placement.

When is the Battle?

BOOK TITLES WILL BE ANNOUNCED AND AVAILABLE FOR CHECK OUT ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018

THE BATTLE WILL TAKE PLACE AT GROVES HIGH SCHOOL ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019

TEAMS MUST BE AT GROVES BY 9:15 A.M. AND THE BATTLE WILL COMMENCE AT 10 A.M. ENDING BY NOON

Important Dates!

KICKOFF: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2018

REGISTRATION BEGINS: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2018

COACHES MEETING: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018 OR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2018

LAST DAY FOR REGISTRATION: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2019

BATTLE DAY: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2019

If you have further questions, please contact the Youth Services Department at 248-554-4670 Youth.Reference@baldwinlib.org
**WHAT IS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS?**

It is a program designed to foster a love of reading and encourage students to read books outside their comfort zone. Fourth and fifth graders form teams with an adult coach, read the Battle books, and compete against other teams by answering questions based on the selected titles. Battle books will be announced and available for check out on Friday, November 9th 2018.

**WHO MAY PARTICIPATE?**

All fourth and fifth graders who attend a Birmingham Public School are eligible to participate. Each team must have 4 to 6 students and one adult team coach. It is not necessary for team members to attend the same school or be in the same grade. Students are responsible for forming their own teams.

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**TEAM MEMBERS** sit together on the floor of the gym. Small blankets to sit on are allowed. All other items, including food, drinks, coats, books, notes, and other personal items must be left with families in the stands. Pencils and answer sheets will be provided. Spirit wear is encouraged as long as it does not contain titles, authors, or any other information about this year’s Battle books.

**COACHES** should check in their team, find their seats, and ensure the team has everything they need. Coaches then head to the stands where they can cheer their team. Coaches do not sit with their teams during the Battle.

**THE MODERATOR** will read the question twice and students will have 20 seconds to write down the answer and the correctly spelled first and last name of the author of the book. Each answer sheet has the team number and question number. Make sure to use the correct answer sheet.

**WHEN TIME** is called, all pencils must be put down. A runner will collect the answers from each team, give them to the judges who will score each answer. The judges’ decision is final.

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**SCORING - TOTAL OF 5 POSSIBLE POINTS**

- **4 POINTS** - CORRECT ANSWER
- **1 POINT** - CORRECT FIRST AND LAST NAME OF THE AUTHOR
- **NO POINTS** - FOR PARTIALLY CORRECT ANSWERS. IF THE FIRST OR LAST NAME OF THE AUTHOR IS MISSING OR INCORRECT, NO POINT WILL BE AWARDED.

**ONCE** all the answers have been collected, the moderator will read the correct answer out loud and move on to the next question.

**IF, FOR ANY REASON**, an audience member is seen communicating with a team member or announces the answer before the 20 second answering period is done, the question will be discarded and a new question will be asked. A team risks disqualification if they are found cheating.

**AT THE END OF THE BATTLE**, the judges will tally up the scores. Thank you for being patient while we calculate the winners!

**FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD PLACE WINNERS WILL RECEIVE A PRIZE.** In case of a tie, there will be multiple winners.

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**GO TEAM!**