

**BALDWIN
PUBLIC LIBRARY
ANNOUNCES:**

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2026

WHAT IS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS?

A reading competition for all fourth and fifth graders in the Birmingham Public School District, designed to foster a love of reading and encourage students to read books outside their comfort zone. Students read six titles and compete against other teams in a battle of trivia questions. **Battle Books will be announced and available for checkout starting on Monday, December 8, 2025 - Kickoff Day.**

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

All fourth and fifth graders who attend a Birmingham Public School are eligible to participate. Each team must have 3 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. If you cannot find a team by **Sunday, February 1**, please contact Stephanie Klimmek at Stephanie.klimmek@baldwinlib.org.

HOW DO THE TEAMS REGISTER?

Registration begins on **Monday, January 12, 2026**. The team coach should submit one registration form for the team. The registration form is found on the Library's website at www.baldwinlib.org/battle-of-the-books. **The last day for registration is Sunday, March 1, 2026.**

WHAT DOES THE COACH DO?

The coach is the contact person between the Battle team and the Baldwin Public Library. Coaches help their team create a name and build team spirit, register their team for Battle, make sure their team has transportation to and from the Battle, and make sure their team knows what to expect on Battle Day. A coach may be any interested adult: parents, grandparents, teachers, babysitters, etc.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

There will be two 30-minute informational meetings via Zoom to talk about Battle and answer questions. These meetings are for parents, coaches, and students. **Thursday, December 11 or Monday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m.** Registration required at baldwinlib.org/calendar.



**GO
TEAM!**

BATTLE DAY

WHEN IS THE BATTLE?

THE BATTLE WILL TAKE PLACE AT GROVES HIGH SCHOOL ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and teams should be at Groves by 9:45 a.m. The Battle will start at 10:00 a.m. and end by 11:30 a.m.

- Students will use their BPS issued laptop and Google Forms to answer the Battle questions.
- Students sit with their teams together on the gym floor during Battle while the coaches sit in the stands with the other audience members.
- Small blankets to sit on, BPS laptop, and covered water bottles are allowed but all other items, including food, other mobile devices, and personal items must be left in the stands with coaches.
- We will read each question twice. Students have 15 seconds to choose the right answer and then the next question will be read.
- After all questions have been read and all Google Forms have been submitted, we will give the correct answers and announce the winners.
- First, second, and third place winners will receive a prize. There are also awards for Best Team Name and Best Team Spirit.
- Teams found cheating and/or communicating with audience members risk disqualification.

QUESTIONS

There are 25 multiple choice questions worth 1, 2, or 3 points. There is a total of 50 possible points. There are 3 fill-in-the blank tiebreaker questions that will be used in case of a tie for first, second, or third place. Tiebreaker scoring details are found on the Battle website. **The Battle questions will focus on the following:**

- A direct quote from a character in the book
- A question about something that happens in the book
- A passage taken directly from the book
- A question about something from an illustration or a picture
- A question about a title and/or author

If you have further questions, please visit the Battle website at baldwinlib.org/battle-of-the-books or contact Stephanie Klimmek at Stephanie.klimmek@baldwinlib.org.

IMPORTANT DATES!

KICKOFF:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2025

TEAM REGISTRATION:
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026

LAST DAY FOR REGISTRATION:
SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

BATTLE DAY: SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M.