



Battle of the Books

Dear *Battle of the Book* participant and parent(s):

You have chosen, voluntarily, to participate in the *Battle of the Books* competition. We will have a total of three competitions at Basha Elementary. The winning Basha team, with a compiled score from all three competitions, will proceed to compete in a semi-final contest at the Chandler Public Library.

All school-based competitions will be held after school, approximately 3-4 pm, in the Basha Media Center. The following list is the grouping of books and the possible dates of school-based competitions. Students MUST participate in all competitions. A schedule of discussions and mock battles is provided to the teams when the dates have been confirmed.

Battle I – October 22, 2009

Coville, Bruce	<u>Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher</u>
George, Jean Craighead	<u>My Side of the Mountain</u>
Haddix, Margaret Peterson	<u>Running Out of Time</u>
Lord, Cynthia	<u>Rules</u>

Battle II – January 7, 2010

DiCamillo, Kate	<u>Because of Winn-Dixie</u>
DuPrau, Jeanne	<u>City of Ember</u>
Kehret, Peg	<u>Earthquake Terror</u>
Spinelli, Jerry	<u>Maniac Magee</u>

Battle III – April 1, 2010

Avi	<u>Poppy</u>
Bailliet, Blue	<u>Chasing Vermeer</u>
Curtis, Christopher Paul	<u>The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963</u>
Ryan, Pam Munoz	<u>Riding Freedom</u>

During the contest each team will answer a total of eight questions. The first five questions will describe an event or specific detail in one of the books. The team will be required to name the correct title and author of the book in which that event took place. These types of questions are each worth a total of 8 points, 5 points for the correct title and 3 points for the correct author. Points for the correct author are only given if the correct title has already been provided. The last three questions will begin with the title of the book and proceed with a detailed question about the story. These questions are each worth 10 points. If a question is declared incorrect, the next team is presented with a new question.

When a question is presented, the team members quietly discuss the answer for a time frame of 20 to 30 seconds depending on which type of question has been posed. Only the team spokesperson can recite the answer. The team will determine their spokesperson prior to the start of the competition. No answers to any questions will be revealed to teams during or after competitions.

The team with the highest number of cumulative points at the end of the third contest will be declared the winning team from Basha and will qualify for the Semi-Final competition in April/May. At no point will the specific points each teamed earned be revealed. The outcome to all three competitions combined will be declared in a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

- It is the responsibility of each team member to read all 12 books. A website that is helpful for review can be found at www.bookadventure.org. If you are unable to answer the questions provided on this website, it is a good idea to re-read that book before the competition.
- There will be at least one open discussion time and one scheduled mock battle for each segment (6 total) which are voluntary, but strongly recommended. There will be teacher mentors available for student teams if they have questions on individual books.
- Team members do not need to read the same book at the same time. The goal is to have all four books read before the contest date in any order each individual student desires.
- A student is not allowed to withdraw from the contest unless **all** team members agree to the withdraw. In addition, Mrs. Gutierrez requires a written parent permission from **all three** team members' parents before withdrawing the team from further competitions.
- Remembering that this contest is voluntary and run at a regional level, complaints about the titles, questions, rules, contest dates, or other team members will not be directed to or answered by Mrs. Gutierrez.
- All books are available at Basha, but in the event that we run out of copies to check out, please go to the Chandler Public Library's Main Branch for extra copies. Also, Barnes and Noble at Chandler Fashion Square supports this program and typically carries extra copies of these titles.
- You may visit Chandler Public Library in person or go to their website for further Battle of the Books information.
<http://chandlerlibrary.org/battleofthebooks.htm>

Thank you!
Mrs. Gutierrez