

Battle of the Books Rules: Grades 3/4

Each team will consist of up to five players, plus one alternate who may be substituted in case of illness. Each school may only be represented by one or two teams. Teams may consist of only 3rd graders, only 4th graders or mixed grade teams must be entered into the higher grade division.

IN THE FIRST TWO ROUNDS, each team will have a chance to answer 10 questions per round. Each room will have a questioner/judge, scorekeeper, and a timekeeper. Two or three teams will compete in each room.

The questioner/judge will determine the order of the teams. The questioner/judge will read each question twice. Timing will begin after the second time the question has been read.

Each team may have only one spokesperson, who will give the answers for the team. Only the spokesperson's response will be considered by the questioner/judge. The spokesperson may change between rounds, but not within the round.

Each team will have 30 seconds to answer a question. A 10-second warning will be given before the time period is up. If the student begins to give the answer and time is called, the student will have the chance to complete the answer.

There are no opportunities to steal points. If a team answers a question incorrectly, no points are awarded and the next team receives a new question.

Scores at the end of each of the first two rounds may be tied. There are no tiebreakers in the first two rounds.

After the first round, the teams may take a brief break before beginning the second round. If a team would like to put an alternate player in for the second round they just need to let the judge know this. **TEAMS REMAIN IN THE SAME ROOM FOR THE FIRST TWO ROUNDS.**

At the end of the second round, teams will convene in the dining hall to eat. The top teams with the highest combined points will proceed to the third round. The number of teams going to round 3 will be based on the number of total teams in the bracket (approx. half will move on). The remaining teams may stay if they wish to watch the finals. The scores from the third round will be combined with the first two rounds to determine which teams will go on to the finals.

Should a team wish to challenge during any round, the spokesperson for that time must ask for a time-out immediately. The questioner/judge will halt the round and hear the challenge. The challenging team has three minutes to prove its answer is correct. **THE JUDGE'S DECISION IS FINAL.** Once the judge has decided, the round will resume. (Each room will have access to all 10 books on the reading list.) No more than 2 challenges per team per round.

The fourth and final round will be played by the teams with the highest combined totals (from Rounds 1, 2 & 3) from each bracket. The top two (or three teams in the event of a tie) from each bracket will compete in the finals. Point totals reset for the finals. Each team in the finals will be given 10-15 questions depending on the number of teams competing. The team with the highest point total will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie in the final round, a tiebreaker will be held. Each team will have the opportunity to answer one more question. **TEAMS MUST RESPOND WITHIN 10 SECONDS TO TIEBREAKER QUESTIONS.** If the score is still tied after each team has answered, the tie breaker questions will continue until one team has a higher score.