



# BATTLE OF THE BOOKS OVERVIEW

Battle of the Books is a program designed to encourage and reward fourth and fifth grade readers. Grace A. Dow Librarians choose twenty books which encompass a variety of interests and introduce students to a wide range of literature. During Battle season, students discuss the books with their teammates, team manager and other adults, so that reading becomes a shared activity. While reaping the rewards of reading and team building, the students also discover that they are having a lot of FUN!

The Battle season kicks off in November with a program featuring a Battle of the Books author as a guest speaker. The unveiling of the book list follows, and multiple copies of the books are then available to check out.

Soon after the kickoff, students interested in participating in Battle of the Books must form teams of six to eight readers, have an adult team manager, and choose a name for their team. Team managers should accompany their students to a Battle Briefing in January. By mid-January, teams must be registered with Youth Services. The battles begin in February and conclude with the championship battle in March. **See “Battle of the Books Schedule” for more specific information.**

All registered teams will be assigned to a specific location for the First Written Battle. At that time, each team member will receive a T-shirt for participating in the Battle of the Books. No spectators will be admitted at Written Battles. Teams will be notified of their scores within three days. Those that qualify will move on to the Second Written Battle which will follow the same format. The top 16 teams from the Second Written Battle will participate in the Oral Battle Day at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library. **See “Written Battle Guidelines” for more specific information.**

On Oral Battle Day each team will participate in four battles at various locations throughout the library. Eight teams will be assigned morning sessions, and eight teams will be assigned afternoon sessions. The team with the highest ranking in the morning will battle the highest ranking afternoon team at the Championship Battle. **See “Oral Battle Day Guidelines” and “Championship Battle Guidelines” for more specific information.**

The Championship Battle will take place the following week in the library auditorium with a reception in the lounge following the Battle. All registered teams are invited to attend and celebrate teamwork and reading!