

*Tulare County*

**BATTLE** of the **BOOKS**



*Battle of the Books*

*2012*



# Battle of the Books

Battle of the Books is an exciting competition competed around the United States and the World. For the Battle of the Books, students read a common list of books (selected for each level by a national committee) and come together to demonstrate their abilities and test their knowledge of the books they have read in four exciting battles. School teams should ideally be composed of 6 members, with an alternate in case a student is unable to participate on the Battle Day. Sometimes circumstances are such that a school may need to send a team of as few as 4 individuals; smaller teams are not accepted. Schools are encouraged to hold their own mock battles prior to the countywide competition.

## Answers and Points

The answer to every question is the Title of the Book. It is always worth **2 points**.

If a team correctly answers the Title, they are eligible to earn a bonus point for Author. Teams may never receive a point for an author without answering Title. **1 point**.

## Sample Questions

**1. In what book does a main character find out that Peter likes her?**

Title: Maddie Takes the Ice

Author: Nicolette House

**2. In what book does Reverend Bingham bury a girl's mother and her baby brother?**

Title: Out of the Dust

Author: Karen Hesse

**3. In what book does Maria live in convent?**

Title: The House of the Scorpion

Author: Nancy Farmer

**4. In what book did King wander to Shale Mountain?**

Title: Gentle Ben

Author: Walt Morey

**5. In what book does Anvo Noorvik own the store in a small village?**

Title: Black Star, Bright Dawn

Author: Scott O'Dell

**6. In what book does the main character have a great-grandmother called Gambo?**

Title: A Solitary Blue

Author: Cynthia Voigt

**7. In what book is the main character's sister, Donna, pregnant?**

Title: Other Side of Dark

Author: Joan Lowery Nixon

**8. In what book does a character describe listening as the heart of the democratic process?**

Title: Firegirl

Author: Tony Abbot

**9. In what book does a father explain that Handclap exaggerates a lot when he speaks?**

Title: Dragonwings

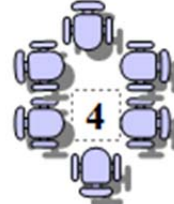
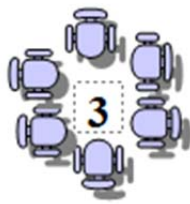
Author: Laurence Yep

**10. In what book does a character save her cut hair in a wooden bowl for the birds looking for nest material?**

Title: Stargirl

Author: Jerry Spinelli

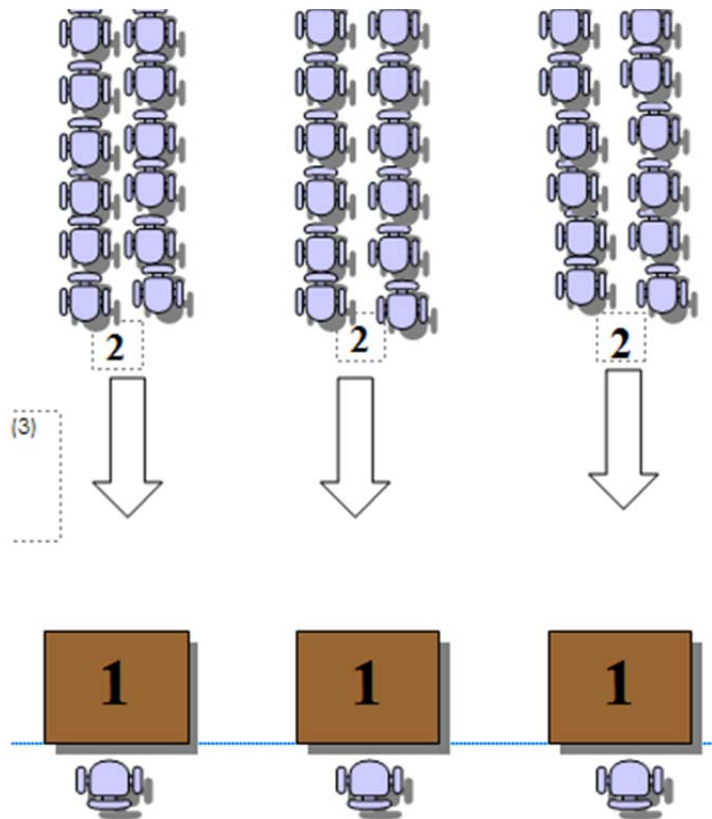
# Family Feud



## Rules

- Two teams compete during this round.
- Each team picks a captain; the captain responds for the group after group deliberation.
- Each team has up to 30 seconds to confer about the question and then the team captain will provide the team's answer.
- If the question is answered correctly the team will receive 2 points; an additional 1 point is available to the team as a bonus if they can also give the author's name. Teams may have an additional 10 seconds, if needed, to confer about the author's name.
- If the answer is incorrect, then the opposing team has a chance to receive the same points for answering correctly. They have 10 seconds total following the other team's incorrect answer to answer the title and to attempt the author for a bonus point if they choose. (The opposing team may not provide the author for a bonus point if the first team answers the title correctly, but misses the author bonus.)
- If neither team answers the question correctly, the judges move on to the next question.

## Whiz Kid



## Rules

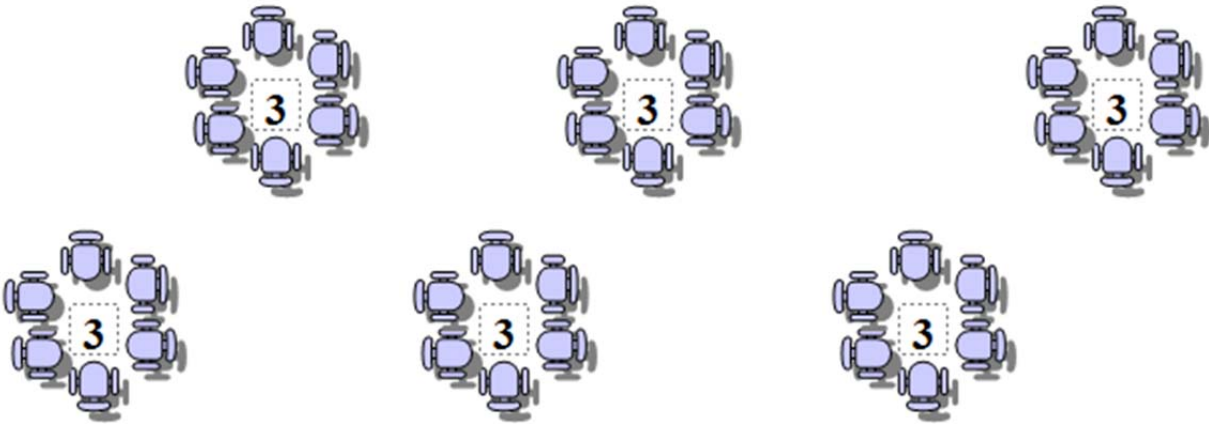
*There is no talking aloud during this round.*

- The teams line up, seated on one side of the room.
- One student from each team will go to the judges' table to write the answer to one or more questions on a team answer sheet.
- Book title answers count for 2 points each, 1 bonus point is available if the student also provides the author.
- When the student returns to their team, their next teammate advances to the table and adds to the answers on their team answer sheet.
- All team members must attempt at least one question.

- Each team member may only go to the answer table once during the round.
- Team members may not erase their teammates answer, but they may add authors for bonus points if they know them.
- Once all the members have answered at least one question and returned to their seats, the totals for each team are tallied.
- There is no time limit for each team member to write their answers for this round.

Tips: Have a strong team member compete later in this battle, one who may struggle earlier. If a student doesn't know any answers, guess a title or add an author on a question that others' are less likely to get.

## Super Challenge

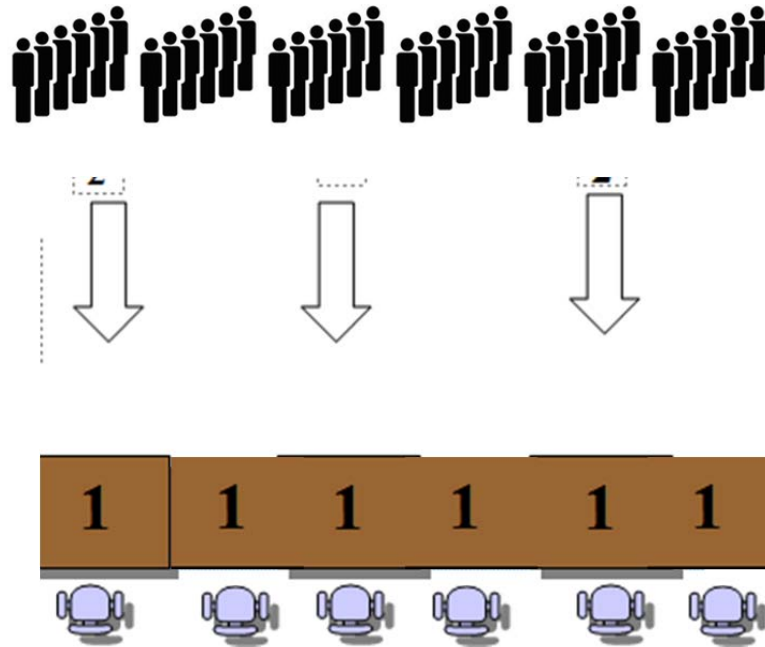


### Rules

- Several teams compete against one another in this round.
- Teams may confer if they choose, but time is of the essence.
- Teams answer questions by having one team member stand to give the answer as soon as the team is ready. Any team may answer any question. Only one member from any team may stand for any given question. The first individual standing will be recognized and then have the first opportunity to answer the given question once it has been read in entirety. Once a team member is standing, the team may not confer further about the question.
- If more than one person on the team stands, one should sit down, to clarify who is speaking for the team. If more than one student speaks for the team, the answer will be disqualified.
- If a team answers incorrectly, other teams have the opportunity to answer that question in the order that they stood when the question was read. They will be recognized in order.

- The first team to give the correct title gets 2 points and has the option of providing the name of the author for a bonus point.
- When a team gives an incorrect answer, they must wait for all other teams to have the opportunity to provide an answer for that question before they will be allowed to attempt to answer again.
- Teams have up to 30 seconds from the time the question is read to come up with the answer. At the end of this time, the judges will move on to the next question.

## Grand Battle Relay



### Rules

- Several teams compete against one another in this round.
- Teams line up behind a line across from the answer table.
- The first team member from each team will run to the judges' table and read a question and write the answer.
- Then, they run back and tag the next person who runs up to answer the next question.
- If the previous student answered incorrectly, the next student will be asked the same question. (Each team may have up to 2 tries on each question.)
- If the previous student answered correctly (or if theirs was the second wrong answer), the next teammate will receive the next question.
- The round ends with the first team answering all the questions right or wrong.
- The team with the most correct responses wins the round.
- As in other rounds, the answer is the title for 2 points and the author for one point.

## General Rules

1. Students may not refer to the books during the course of competition; students will not bring any copies of the competition books into the competition room.
2. Students may not have cell phones or other electronic devices (except those preapproved as needed assistive devices) during competition.
3. There will be no “unsportsmanlike” behavior.
4. Students will not break the rules of specific competition events during those events (see individual battle rules).

General Tip: A few strong team members may be able to carry their teams through the Family Feud and Super Challenge Rounds, but unless ALL team members know ALL the books, they will do poorly on the Whiz Kid and Grand Battle Rounds, and thus, do poorly in the overall standings. It is important for students to support one another in preparing for the Battle of the Books so that all team members share a strong knowledge base about the books.