Welcome to the Battle of the Books

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North Country Library System
What is The North Country Battle of the Books?

A book trivia program for students in grades 4-6, coordinated by public and school libraries in Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties.
Why Battle?

★ To provide a library program for middle school students that is both fun to participate in and fun to watch
★ To build/support/strengthen the relationship between middle school students and their public libraries
★ To foster a relationship between schools and public libraries
★ To introduce children to a booklist that encourages them to read widely and diversely
The Basics:

Quiz-style format

Controlled reading list of 16 books

Two rounds, local and regional

Double elimination bracket used in the regional battle

Regional battle for 2019 will be held on Saturday, May 4, at St. James School in Gouverneur.
Teams:

★ Are made up of 3 to 4 students from grades 4 through 6
★ Can be from the same grade or mixed grades, classes, scout troop, homeschool group, etc.
★ Should be comprised of active participants who are aware that they are signed up on a team
General Timeline

Fall: Buy books, release reading list

Winter: Plan and promote local battle, register teams

Spring: Hold local battle, attend regional battle

A more detailed timeline is included in the toolkit.
How Do I Get Involved?

You can be a:

Battle Coordinator
Battle Partner
Battle Volunteer
Team Coach
**Battle Coordinator**

The Battle Coordinator organizes and promotes the local battle, registers teams, and serves as the primary point of contact for the NCLS Youth Services Consultant. This is usually a staff member of the public library.
**Battle Partner**

Battle Partners work with the Battle Coordinator to organize and promote the local battle. These are usually school library staff or other teachers.
Battle Volunteer

An adult or teen who helps run the program on the day of the event. Battle Volunteers can set up the room, read questions, keep score, etc.
Team coach

An adult who helps prepare the team for the local and regional battle. Serves as the team’s contact for the Battle Coordinator.

More information on the Role of the Coach is included in the toolkit.
A BRIEF
DEMONSTRATION
What will I Need for this program?

Teams!

Battle volunteers to serve as timekeeper, scorekeeper and question reader

20 questions for each match (provided by NCLS)

Snacks and/or prizes are optional but recommended
Tools and Promotional Gear

Toolkit for Public and School Libraries (updated for 2019)
Guide for Parents and Coaches (new!)
FAQs for Teachers and School Librarians (new!)
Poster (18x24)
Customizable flyer for your local battle
Buttons

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2vv7al0wJ0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m2vv7al0wJ0)
...I only have one team?
...the public library isn’t able to participate?
...I don’t get my questions in time?
...I don’t know how to do a bracket?
If Your Library Only Has One Team...

No worries! You have options:

1. Partner with a nearby library and participate in their local battle.
2. Simply skip the local battle and use the extra time to practice for the regional.

Every public library may send one team to the regional battle, so regardless of how they do at another library’s local battle, your team may still represent your library at the regional.
If the public library is not involved...

If for some reason the public library is unable to participate in the program, the school library may coordinate the battle and serve as the contact point for the NCLS Youth Services Consultant.
Local Battle Questions...

Are distributed through the NCLS delivery system in early spring.

Only libraries who have notified the NCLS Youth Services Consultant in writing that they are participating in the program will receive questions.

Deadline for notification is February 1, 2019.
Double Elimination vs. Single Elimination

**Double Elimination**

Gives each team a chance to play at least twice

Takes longer than single elimination

Used in the regional battle

**Single Elimination**

Better if you have limited time

Simpler than double elimination

Printable template
Questions?