

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

WHAT IS BATTLE OF THE BOOKS?

A reading competition for all sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, designed to foster a love of reading and encourage students to read books outside of their comfort zone. Students read books and compete against other teams in a battle of trivia questions. Battle books will be announced and available for checkout on Kickoff Day: Tuesday, October 7, 2025. The Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County and Allegany County Library System have multiple copies in print, audio, and electronic formats for students to check out.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

Sixth, seventh, and eighth graders are eligible to participate. Each team must have no more than five students and one volunteer team coach. It is not necessary for team members to attend the same school, but team members must be in the same grade. Students are responsible for forming their own teams.

HOW DO THE TEAMS REGISTER?

Registration is available from October 7, 2025 through January 6, 2026. The team coach should submit one registration form for the team. Register by scanning the QR code, calling your local library, or contacting your school librarian



WHAT DOES THE COACH DO?

The coach is the contact person between the Battle team and the Battle of the Books organizers. Coaches help their team create a name and build team spirit, register their team for Battle, and make sure their team knows what to expect on Battle Day. A coach may be any interested parents, teachers, older students, family members, or community members. Transportation will not be provided, and coaches are responsible for confirming transportation arrangements.

WHAT IF I CANNOT FIND A TEAM?

Students who have not found a team can contact Shea Morse via phone at 301-777-1200 ext. 1016 or via email at smorse@alleganycountylibrary.info.

PREPARE FOR BATTLE

IN-PERSON INFO SESSIONS FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

Main Library (Oakland)

Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 2025 from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Accident Library

Oct. 22, Nov. 19, Dec. 17, 2025 from 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

These informational sessions will review: timeline, expectations, and book lists, and answer any questions from students and parents

VIRTUAL INFO SESSION FOR STUDENTS & PARENTS

on Zoom on Nov. 18, 2025 at 4:30 PM

This informational session will review: timeline, expectations, and book lists, and answer any questions from students and parents

VIRTUAL INFO SESSION FOR COACHES

on Zoom on Nov. 19, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Any interested parents, teachers, older students, family members, or community members may be coaches. This informational session will review: timeline, expectations, and book lists, and answer any questions from coaches.

DAY OF COMPETITION

The battle will take place at Garrett County
Performing Arts Center at
687 Mosser Rd, McHenry, MD 21541
Date TBD

