

# RATTLESNAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2023-2024

Dear 4th and 5th Grade Families:

Rattlesnake PTA, in conjunction with Missoula County Public Schools (MCPS), is bringing Battle of the Books (BOB) to Rattlesnake Elementary School again this school year.

What is Battle of the Books? BOB is a volunteer reading program for Rattlesnake Elementary 4th and 5th graders. The purpose of the program is to encourage students to read and help increase their reading comprehension. Participating students meet weekly and also participate in reading comprehension “Battles” in teams of three every two months. The program takes place during school hours. The goal is to make reading fun!

How Does a Student Sign Up? To participate, your student will need to complete the sign-up sheet and return it to their teacher by **September 22nd**.

When do Participating Students Meet? Students meet weekly, beginning the week of October 2nd and continuing through April. Meeting times will be during the school day, time and place TBD once we have coaches for each grade level. Typically, the participating students eat lunch together in the school’s atrium and will meet for the remainder of lunch and lunch recess. Parent volunteers facilitate discussion and book-related activities.

What is a “Battle”? A Battle will be held at the end of each two-month period (December, February, and April). Each Battle will take place during school and will last approximately 1 hour and 30 minutes. Student teams earn points by answering questions about the four books they have read during that two month period. The teams accumulate points as the year progresses. The team with the most points after the third Battle has the opportunity to compete in a Battle hosted by MCPS in April.

How are Teams Selected? Students are able to select their own teammates within their own grade level. We anticipate that not all students will have a “team” and, therefore, the volunteers will group students in teams of three, as needed. MCPS rules do not allow us to change the makeup of the teams after the first Battle, *so it is very important that students understand that this is a commitment to their respective team members*. If a student drops out, then a team will consist of one less person.

What Books are on the BOB List and Where Can We Get Them? This year’s reading list is set forth below. Families can purchase the books on their own and/or get them from the local library (the school library has limited copies available). Shakespeare and Co.

has ordered copies of the books. Please contact Robin Nygren ([rcnygren@mcpsmt.org](mailto:rcnygren@mcpsmt.org)) if you need financial assistance with obtaining books.

We ask that participating 4th grade students read *Amina's Voice* and 5th grade students read *Dinosaurs, Fossils and Feathers* for discussion at their first BOB meeting the week of October 2nd. Students will receive a calendar providing detailed information regarding when the books will be discussed at school.

Please contact Robin Nygren at [rcnygren@mcpsmt.org](mailto:rcnygren@mcpsmt.org) if you have questions.

## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2023-2024 READING LIST

### **Battle 1 Books (December 2023):**

Amina's Voice by Hena Khan  
Ban This Book by Alan Gratz  
Because of Mr. Terupt by Rob Buyea  
Dinosaurs, Fossils and Feathers by M.K. Reed

### **Battle 2 Books (February 2024):**

Fish in a Tree by Lynda Mullaly Hunt  
Front Desk by Kelly Yang  
The Strange Case of Origami Yoda by Tom Angleberger  
Real Friends by Shannon Hale

### **Battle 3 Books (April 2024):**

Space Case by Stuart Gibbs  
Enginerds by Jarrett Lerner  
Jake the Fake Keeps it Real by Craig Robinson  
Diamond Willow by Helen Frost