

# Getting Started...

## ***1. What are “Book Battles”?***

Book Battle programs are competitions similar to jeopardy or quiz games, but questions come from a controlled list of books that participants read in preparation for the matches. Book Battle programs are a great way to get students to read.

It should be noted that PSE will NOT be battling other schools at this time. Our battles will take place between teams here at PSE. As the program continues, we will look at battling other schools in the district.

## ***2. How does it work?***

Teams will be made up of 4<sup>th</sup> grade PSE students. Team members can be from the same class or mixed classes. All team members should be active and cooperative participants on their team. Six or more teams is an optimum number, but as few as four teams will work. Our goal is to have 4 students on each team. After all participants have turned in their parent permission slips, teams will be formed. Once a team has been formed, changes cannot be made.

## ***3. Who makes sure the team members are reading?***

Parents and the PSE Staff “coaches” (Mrs. Rider, Mrs. Branson and Mrs. Ikoku), but it is ultimately up to the kids to make sure that they read the books on the list. A team captain will also be necessary for each team. Team captains will be selected after teams are formed. Only one person can give the answers during the actual match. The team can confer with each other, but it is the captain that gives the answer. Teams may decide to split up the reading list instead of everyone reading all the titles. It will be very important that all team members show up for all the matches if they choose to do this.

## ***4. When does the “Elementary Battle of the Books” start?***

In general, promotion begins in the fall, is intensified during the winter, and the battles take place in late spring.

## ***5. How are books selected for the book list?***

Books are chosen by the North Carolina School Library Media Association. Considerations when selecting titles for the list include reading level, popularity, awards received, cross gender interest, promotion of excellent titles that may not be well known, titles that frequently appear on Accelerated Reader or other reading lists, and availability of in-print or paperback copies.

## ***6. Will there be enough copies of the titles to go around?***

The PSE Library has at least one copy of each title available for checkout. Mrs. Ikoku also has multiple copies of some titles that may be borrowed. Students are also encouraged to utilize the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County.



October 2012

Dear Parents,

Your child has indicated an interest in participating in the PSE Elementary Battle of the Books Program for the **2012-2013** school year. This is an optional program, which will take place at school, but involves reading books at home. The reading portion of this program should begin now. Your child will be given a bookmark listing the books which will be part of the Elementary Battle of the Books program this school year. Our library has a limited number of copies of each book. The attached permission slip needs to be signed and returned to the library if your child wishes to participate in the program.

If a student wants to participate in the program, he/she is expected to come to the first meeting (Thursday, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:45 am in the Media Center) with the knowledge that they will be asked to form a team with other student participants. Practice battles will begin in the month of January. Our final school battle(s) will take place in May or June.

The Battle of the Books is a fun and constructive program where the students enjoy both the reading and the competition. We do emphasize that any student who signs up to participate needs to make a commitment to their team and stay with the program until its end.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Rider, Mrs. Branson, Mrs. Ikoku or Mrs. Miller.

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Battle of the Books  
Parent Permission Form

\_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the 2012-2013 PSE Elementary Battle of the Books Program. I will support and encourage him/her in this program.

Grade\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

**PERMISSION FORM IS DUE TO MRS. RIDER BY FRIDAY,  
OCTOBER 26<sup>th</sup>!**