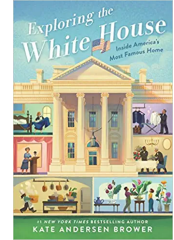
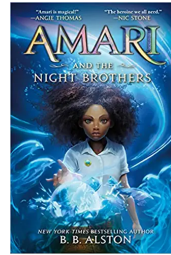
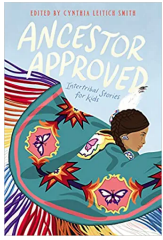


2022-2023

Rogers Battle of the Books

Parent Newsletter



Welcome to Rogers' eleventh annual Battle of the Books! The Battle of the Books is a reading challenge for all 4th and 5th grade students in which students are placed on a team, read from a selected list of books, and then compete against other teams by answering questions about those books. The Battle encourages students to read various genres of books to enhance their reading. Families are encouraged to read with our students and to help prepare them for the Battle! The Battle is a reading challenge above and beyond the regular school work and curriculum. Because of this, **both the parents and students are required to sign a permission slip in order to participate.** In the accompanying pages, you will find professional book summaries of each of the titles. Please check the important dates located below. The Battle is an enriching and challenging opportunity for students. If your student is unsure about his or her ability to participate, please speak with me, so we can see what we can do to make this a successful activity for all students. Of course, feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns!

-Daniel Duffey, daniel.duffey@berkleyschools.org

Book Access

- Rogers Media Center
- Public libraries
- Bookstores: Toadvine in Berkley, BookBeat in Oak Park, and Books-A-Million in Beverly Hills (Also online)

Important Dates

- Friday, December 16th - Permission slips due
- ***THURSDAY, December 22ND- Teams Announced at **LUNCH MEETING**
- Wednesday, January 25th- **LUNCH MEETING**
- Wednesday, Feb. 15th - **LUNCH MEETING**
- Tuesday, March 21st -**FINAL LUNCH MEETING**

Wednesday, March 22nd

10:00am BATTLE

Student Participation Responsibilities

- Turn in permission slip by Friday 12/16
- Read at least 4 books
- Become an expert on at least two books
- Take notes while reading your books
- Attend team meetings (4 total)
- Work and communicate with teammates and coach
- Do your personal best

Title	Author	Genre	# of Pages
The Elephant in the Room	Holly Goldberg Sloan	Realistic Fiction	272
Exploring the White House	Kate Andersen Brower	Non-fiction	240
Amari and the Night Brothers	B. B. Alston	Fantasy	432
Invisible	Christina Diaz Gonzalez	Graphic Novel	208
Ancestor Approved	Cynthia L. Smith	Short Stories	320
A Place to Hang the Moon	Kate Albus	Historical Fiction	320

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Battle Book Summaries

(From Amazon)



Ancestor Approved: Native families from Nations across the continent gather at the Dance for Mother Earth Powwow in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

In a high school gym full of color and song, people dance, sell beadwork and books, and celebrate friendship and heritage. Young protagonists will meet relatives from faraway, mysterious strangers, and sometimes one another (plus one scrappy rez dog).

They are the heroes of their own stories.



A Place to Hang the Moon: It is 1940 and William, 12, Edmund, 11, and Anna, 9, aren't terribly upset by the death of the not-so-grandmotherly grandmother who has taken care of them since their parents died.

But the children do need a guardian, and in the dark days of World War II London, those are in short supply, especially if they hope to stay together. Could the mass wartime evacuation of children from London to the countryside be the answer?

It's a preposterous plan, but off they go-- keeping their predicament a secret, and hoping to be placed in a temporary home that ends up lasting forever. Moving from one billet to another, the children suffer the cruel trickery of foster brothers, the cold realities of outdoor toilets and the hollowness of empty stomachs.

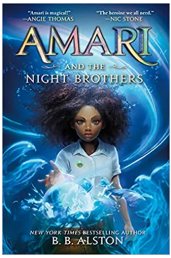


Invisible: For fans of New Kid and Allergic, a must-have graphic novel about five very different students who are forced together by their school to complete community service... and may just have more in common than they thought. Can five overlooked kids make one big difference?

There's George: the brain, Sara: the loner, Dayara: the tough kid, Nico: the rich kid And Miguel: the athlete

And they're stuck together when they're forced to complete their school's community service hours. Although they're sure they have nothing in common with one another, some people see them as all the same . . . just five Spanish-speaking kids.

Then they meet someone who truly needs their help, and they must decide whether they are each willing to expose their own secrets to help . . . or if remaining invisible is the only way to survive middle school.

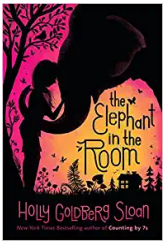


Amari and the Night Brothers: Amari Peters has never stopped believing her missing brother, Quinton, is alive. Not even when the police told her otherwise, or when she got in trouble for standing up to bullies who said he was gone for good.

So when she finds a ticking briefcase in his closet, containing a nomination for a summer tryout at the Bureau of Supernatural Affairs, she's certain the secretive organization holds the key to locating Quinton—if only she can wrap her head around the idea of magicians, fairies, aliens, and other supernatural creatures all

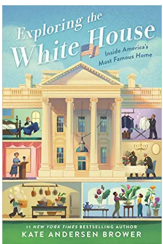
being real.

Now she must compete for a spot against kids who've known about magic their whole lives. No matter how hard she tries, Amari can't seem to escape their intense doubt and scrutiny—especially once her supernaturally enhanced talent is deemed “illegal.” With an evil magician threatening the supernatural world, and her own classmates thinking she's an enemy, Amari has never felt more alone. But if she doesn't stick it out and pass the tryouts, she may never find out what happened to Quinton.



The Elephant in the Room: It's been almost a year since Sila's mother traveled halfway around the world to Turkey, hoping to secure the immigration paperwork that would allow her to return to her family in the United States.

The long separation is almost impossible for Sila to withstand. But things change when Sila accompanies her father (who is a mechanic) outside their Oregon town to fix a truck. There, behind an enormous stone wall, she meets a grandfatherly man who only months before won the state lottery. Their new alliance leads to the rescue of a circus elephant named Veda, and then to a friendship with an unusual boy named Mateo, proving that comfort and hope come in the most unlikely of places.



Exploring the White House: Have you ever wondered what exactly goes on inside 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue? Sure, the president of the United States works and resides there, but do you know who helps keep this historic house running?

It's no simple task, especially when there are important state events and foreign dignitaries—in addition to presidential pups, mischievous children, and even a couple of ghosts. And its Residence workers and first ladies make sure everything is in check and running smoothly.

Featuring fascinating photos, fun facts, and memorable quotes from the residents and first ladies of the White House.

We Need Coaches!

We rely on parents of Battle participants to be our team coaches. Each team will have one parent who helps them stay organized and practice. As a coach, you would be responsible for attending lunch meetings with your team, as well as the final Battle. All lunch meetings will take place on Wednesdays from 11:10-12:05. Coaches help students decide who will be reading which books, quiz students over practice questions, and discuss Battle Day strategy.

****Please note that coaches will be assigned on a first come, first served, as-needed basis.***