

2023-24 Oregon Battle of the Books

Grades 3-5

Annotated Booklist



Note to Parents: The Oregon Battle of the Books is a voluntary program. OBOB welcomes students in 3rd, 4th and 5th grades. The titles are selected with the reading level and maturity of 4th and 5th graders in mind. You may feel that the content and/or theme of one or two of these titles are inappropriate for your child. We recommend that you read and discuss these books with your child. A book that stretches a child's thinking is a great opportunity to discuss world events and your family's values.

Allergic by Megan Wagner Lloyd and Michelle Mee Nutter(2021).

AR 2.5, GN230L, 240 pages.

Hoping to adopt a pet to find a sense of belonging in her busy family, Maggie is disappointed to discover she is severely allergic to anything with fur, and tries to find a pet to love anyway. Graphic novel.

Flor and Miranda Steal the Show by Jennier Torres (2019).

AR 4.3, 680L, 192 pages.

When Flor finds out that Miranda and her band could potentially put her family's petting zoo out of business, she forms a plan to keep Miranda from an important performance that night.

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler by E. L. Konigsburg (1967).

AR 4.7, 700L, 172 pages. Newbery Award winner,1968.

Claudia and her brother Jamie run away from home and take up residence in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The official OBOB edition of From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler is the 1998 edition from Atheneum Books for Young Readers (9780689711817). You may read another edition, but page numbers and content will be taken from this edition. No questions will be created from any prefaces, introductions, afterwards, etc.

The Jumbies by Tracey Baptiste (2015).

AR 4.6, 680L, 234 pages.

Eleven-year-old Corinne must call on her courage and ancient magic to stop an evil spirit and save her island home.

The List of Things that Will Not Change by Rebecca Stead (2020).

AR 4.2, 680L, 224 pages.

Despite her parents' divorce, her father's coming out as gay, and his plans to marry his boyfriend, ten-year-old Bea is reassured by her parents' unconditional love, excited about getting a stepsister, and haunted by something she did last summer.

The Lion of Mars by Jennifer L. Holm (2021).

AR 4.0, 530L, 272 pages.

Bell has spent his whole life, all eleven years of it, on Mars. But he's still just a regular kid who loves cats, any kind of cake, and is curious about the secrets the adults in the US colony are keeping.

The Midnight Children by Dan Gemeinhart (2023).

AR 4.3, 590L, 352 pages.

When lonely Ravani Foster discovers his new friend Virginia and her six mysterious runaway companions are in danger, he must fight to keep them safe or lose the only person who has ever understood him. Book has bullying and disturbing imagery.

Molly and the Twin Towers: A 9/11 Survival Story by Jessika Fleck (2021).

AR 4.2 600L, 112 pages.

When the Twin Towers fall on September 11, 2001, twelve-year-old Molly is unable to reach her dads or Gran. She must get herself and her sister safely home.

New From Here by Kelly Yang (2022).

AR4.1, 630L, 368 pages.

Knox works to keep his family together as they move from Hong Kong back to northern California during the initial outbreak of a pandemic. Text contains a racial slur, violence, criminal activity and bullying. Themes include racism.

Rez Dogs by Joseph Bruchac (2021).

AR 5.1, 820L, 192 pages.

When the COVID-19 pandemic starts, Malian, a young Wabanaki girl, is quarantined with her grandparents on the reservation, where she befriends a local dog and learns about her people's history. Text contains disturbing imagery and examples of racism. Novel in verse.

Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas (2022).

AR 2.6, 240 pages.

Bree can't wait for her first day at her new middle school, Enith Brigitha, home to the Mighty Manatees--until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101. Text has bullying. Themes include racism. Graphic novel.

The Trouble with Chickens by Doreen Cronin (2011).

AR 3.8, 570L, 128 pages.

A hard-bitten former search-and-rescue dog helps solve a complicated missing chicken case.

A True Home by Kallie George (2017).

AR 4.5, 650L, 164 pages.

When Mona the Mouse stumbles across the wondrous world of the Heartwood Hotel in the middle of a storm, she desperately hopes they will let her stay. As it turns out, Mona is precisely the maid they need at the grandest hotel in Fernwood Forest.

Ways to Make Sunshine by Renée Watson (2020).

AR 4.5, 760L, 192 pages.

The Hart family of Portland, Oregon, faces many setbacks after Ryan's father loses his job. No matter what, Ryan tries to bring sunshine to her loved ones.

When You Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller (2020).

AR 4.1, 590L, 304 pages.

When Lily, her sister Sam, and their mother move in with her sick grandmother, Lily meets a tiger and makes a deal with her to heal Halmoni.

Zeus and the Thunderbolt of Doom by Joan Holub and Suzanne Williams (2012). **Not the graphic novel version.**

AR 3.8, 570L, 112 pages.

After pulling a magical thunderbolt from a stone, ten-year-old Zeus goes on the adventure of a lifetime.