

Greenwich Public Schools Battle of the Books 2023-2024



How it works

READ! Read as many of the 10 titles between now and November.

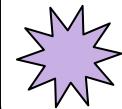
READ CLOSELY! Pay attention as you read to unique lines of text, a-ha moments, repeating lines, description of characters and setting, key events, and dialogue.

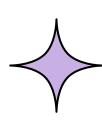
REMEMBER! Memorize the title and author of each book.

What does a question look like?

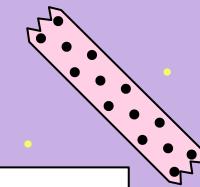
Each question is a line or two or three of text - you need to tell us what book the line is from.

"Ah, there you are," the man said. "I can see that you are listening now. Your head was broken. I fixed it. I brought you back from the world of the dead."





Timeline





3rd Week in November

All 5th graders will take a quiz. The top five highest scorers become the team that will represent the homeroom.



3rd Week in December

The homeroom teams compete in a live school-level competition. The winning team is crowned the 2023-2024 Battle of the Books School Champion and will move on to the district championship.



3rd Week in January

Participating schools send their school champion team to a district competition in which one team will be crowned the 2023-2024 District Battle of the Books Champions!

2023-2024 Battle of the Books Selections

The Accidental Apprentice by Amanda Foody

The Canyon's Edge by Dusti Bowling

Finally Seen by Kelly Yang

<u>Greetings from Witness Protection</u> by Jake Burt

The Last Mapmaker by Christina Soontornuat

Odder by Katherine Applegate

Swim Team by Johnnie Christmas

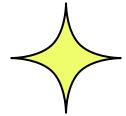
The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle by Leslie Connor

Unplugged by Gordon Korman

You Are Here: Connecting Flights by Ellen Oh

You may want to keep A JOURNAL while you're reading.

Keeping a Battle of the Books journal



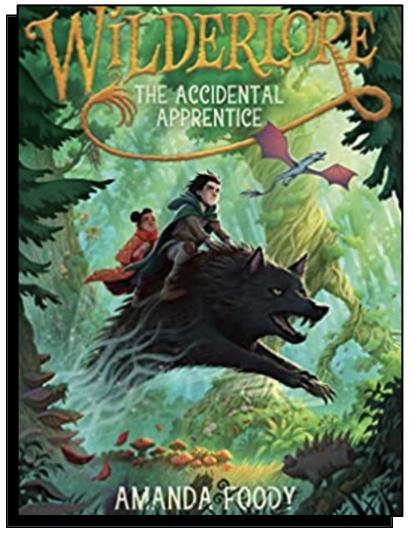
Some students find it helpful to keep a journal to keep track of the books they read and significant lines in the text. Click on the pink box above to watch a video about keeping a journal for the Battle of the Books competition.

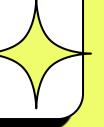
Want to know more about these books?

Click on the Book Link button on each of the following slides to see a book trailer about the book!

Overview: "Eleven-year-old Barclay Thorne yearns for the quiet life of a mushroom farmer, but after unwittingly bonding with a beast in the forbidden woods, he must seek Lore Keepers to break the bond and return home."

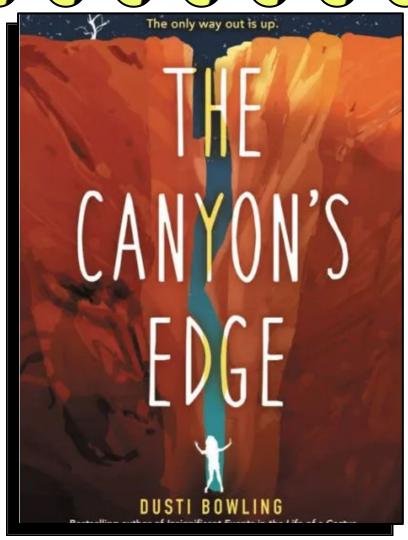






Overview: "Life can change in an instant, a fact that Nora knows all too well. It's a year since the tragedy that stole her mother, and, like clockwork, another accident strikes, this time while hiking in a remote Sonoran Desert canyon with her father. A flash storm sends a deluge of water down the canyon's dry riverbed, carrying away Nora's father in its strong current. As Nora fights waves of panic, her harrowing tale of survival unfolds through a mix of free-verse and concrete poetry."

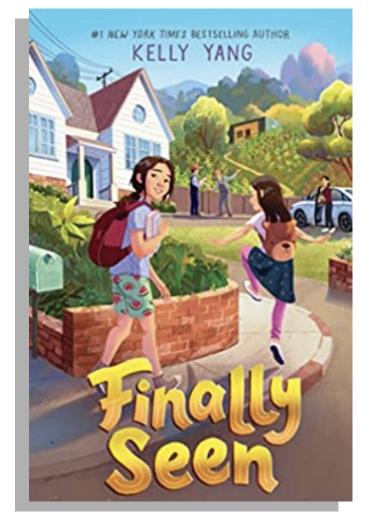


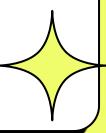




Overview: "Lina was five years old when her parents and two-year-old sister moved from China to America, leaving Lina with her beloved grandmother. For five years, Lina has wondered why she was left behind. Now she is flying to Los Angeles to grow up with her sister and her parents. Confused by the disconnect between her dreams of America and the reality of her family's poverty, she helps her mother make and sell items in hopes of avoiding eviction from their small apartment."

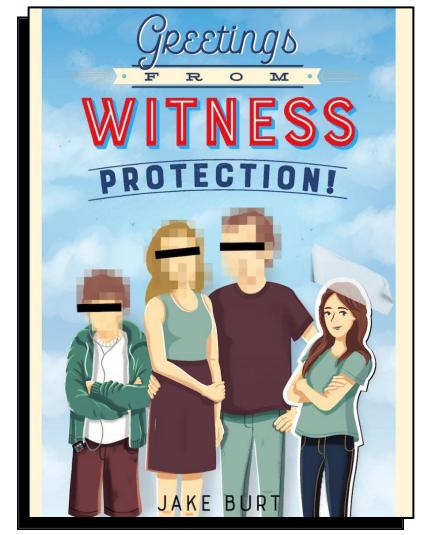


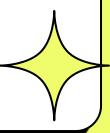




Overview: "Thirteen-year-old Nikki Demere is an orphan and a kleptomaniac, making her the perfect girl to portray the Trevors' daughter in witness protection, but she soon learns that the biggest threat to her new family's security comes from her own past."

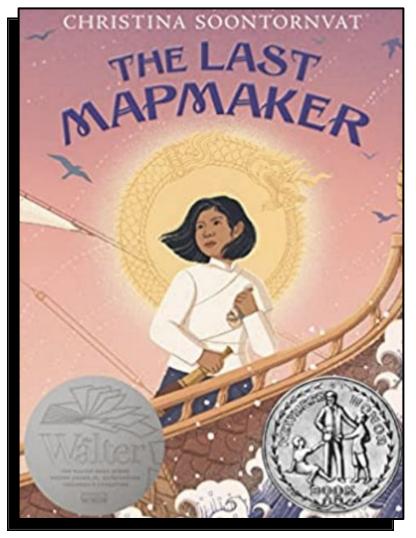


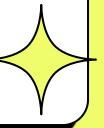




Overview: "Joining an expedition to chart the southern seas, twelve-year-old mapmaker's assistant sai, posing as a well-bred young lady with a glittering future, realizes she's not the only one on board harboring secrets when she discovers the ship's true destination."



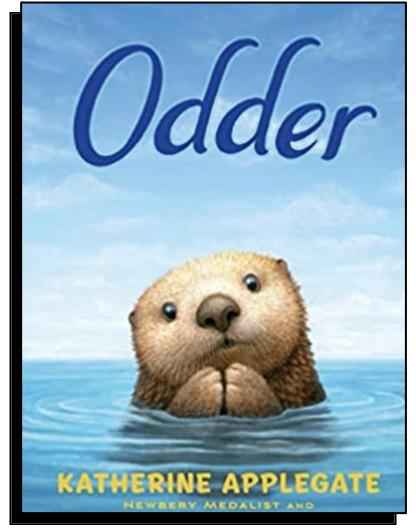




Overview: "Odder spends her days off the coast of central California, practicing her underwater acrobatics and spinning the quirky stories for which she's known. She's a fearless daredevil, curious to a fault. But when Odder comes face-to-face with a hungry great white shark, her life takes a dramatic turn, one that will challenge everything she believes about herself—and about the humans who hope to save her.

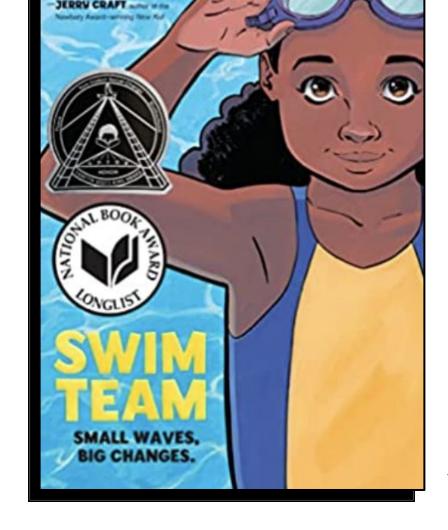
Inspired by the true story of a Monterey Bay Aquarium program that pairs orphaned ofter pups with surrogate mothers, this poignant and humorous tale told in free verse examines bravery and healing through the eyes of one of nature's most beloved and charming animals."







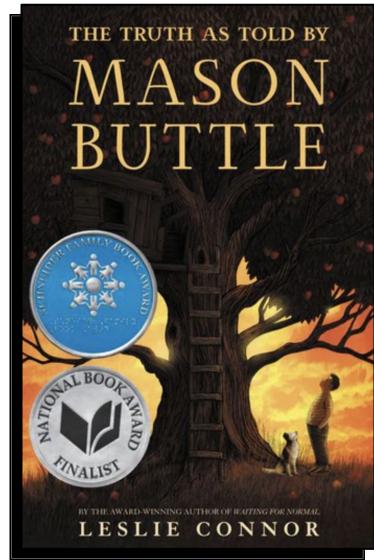
overview: "Bree can't wait for her first day at her new middle school, Enith Brigitha, home to the Mighty Manatees--until she's stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101. The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she's forced to dive headfirst into one of her greatest fears. Lucky for her, Etta, an elderly occupant of her apartment building and former swim team captain, is willing to help"

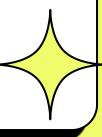




Overview: "Mason Buttle is the biggest, sweatiest kid in his grade, and everyone knows he can barely read or write. Mason's learning disabilities are compounded by grief. Fifteen months ago, mason's best friend, Benny Kilmartin, turned up dead in the Buttle family's orchard. An investigation drags on, and mason, honest as the day is long, can't understand why Lieutenant Baird won't believe the story mason has told about that day. Both mason and his new friend, tiny Calvin Chumsky, are relentlessly bullied by the other boys in their neighborhood, so they create an underground club space for themselves. When Calvin goes missing, mason finds himself in trouble again. He's desperate to figure out what happened to Calvin, and eventually, Benny. But will anyone believe him?"

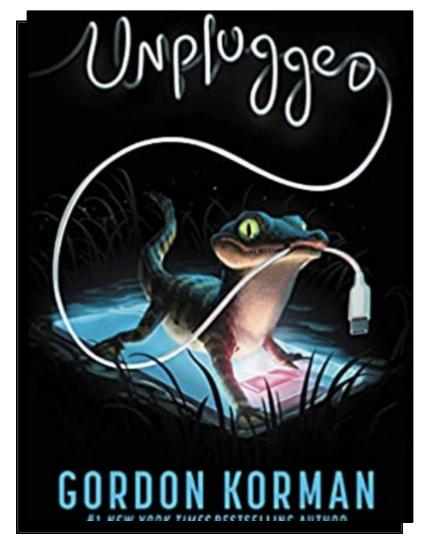
Book Link

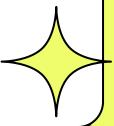




Overview: "Relates, in multiple voices, the adventures of a group of youngsters at an electronics-free wellness camp where wealthy, spoiled Jett, leads other campers in trying to stop a criminal."

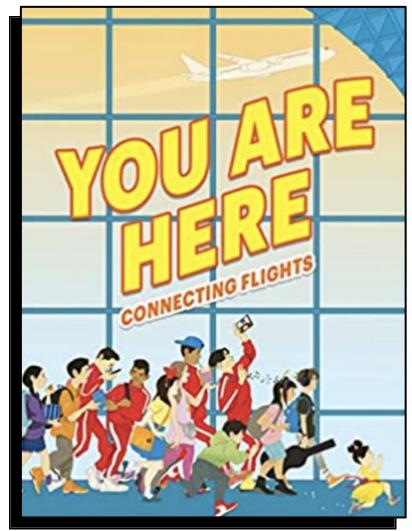
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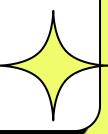




Overview: "A powerful and engaging exploration of contemporary Asian American identity through interwoven stories set in a teeming Chicago airport, written by award-winning and bestselling East and Southeast Asian American authors including Linda Sue Park, Grace Lin, Erin Entrada Kelly, Traci Chee, and Ellen Oh. Flying Lessons meets Black Boy Joy."

Book Link









THAT'S THE THING ABOUT BOOKS. THEY LET YOU TRAVEL WITHOUT MOVING YOUR FEET.

- Jhumpa Lahiri, The Namesake



Book Overviews by Common Sense Media

Battle of the Books Journal video by Jane Martellino

The Truth As Told By Mason Buttle Book trailer by Gaelyn Jenkins

Unplugged Book trailer created by Bethel Park Library staff

Accidental Apprentice book trailer by Simon and Schuster www.simonandschuster.com/kids

<u>Swim Team</u> review by Caroline, Hewlett-Woodmere Public Library YA Librarian

The Canyon's Edge created by Liz Friend, Wester Middle School, Frisco TX.

<u>Greetings From Witness Protection</u> trailer by Kim Moss at animoto.com

Finally Seen book talk by Kelly Yang

The Last Mapmaker by soontornuat.com/books/t

<u>Odder</u> book preview by middleschoolbookmarkers.com

You Are there - Connecting Flights book talk Book Talk

