

# Battle of the Books

is hosted by



Whitby Public Library

## Key Dates

<b>Registration:</b>	September 26, 2025
<b>Semi-Final:</b>	April 23, 2026
<b>Final Battle:</b>	April 28, 2026
<b>Regional Final:</b>	April 30, 2026
	— Hosted by Whitby Public Library

**Battle Coordinators may register teams by doing the following:**

- Visit the Battle website at [bookbattle.ca](http://bookbattle.ca).
- Click on the Register tab.

Contact us if you do not receive a response within five business days.

Please remember to register separately for the Junior division (Grades 4, 5 and 6) and the Senior division Battles (Grades 7 and 8).

**Contact Information:**

**2026**  
**BATTLE OF  
THE BOOKS**

**Durham Region Public Libraries**

**Intermediate Division**

Official Rules & Booklist

[bookbattle.ca](http://bookbattle.ca)

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# OFFICIAL RULES

1. One team of **six students from grades 7 or 8** will represent each school. Method of selection of team members is decided by the team coordinator at each school.

NOTE: Up to **four substitutes** may rotate between the rounds of play.

**No team shall have more than ten players in total** (six regular team members and four substitutes).

2. **Each team will have a spokesperson** designated by the team coordinator. While the team is encouraged to discuss possible answers, **team answers will only be accepted from the spokesperson**.
3. The Semi-Finals will consist of three rounds of play. The Finals will have one round. Each round features a Regular Battle and a Lightning Battle.
4. **Regular Battle questions will be addressed to teams alternately**, regardless of the last correct answer. There will be 10 Regular Battle questions per round. When asked a question teams will have **20 seconds** to provide the book's title and author (see booklist).
5. During this 20-second time period, the team to which a question is addressed may have the question repeated as many times as they wish but this **will** cut into the allotted time to provide an answer. The team may give a **maximum of three title and three author guesses per question** via the spokesperson.
6. **Three points** will be given if the team correctly identifies the **exact title** and **three points** will be awarded for correctly identifying the **author's surname**. The author's first name does not need to be identified.
7. The **Lightning Battles** will be at the end of each round. They consist of a **2 min., 30 sec. time period** during which each team is asked up to 10 questions about details of the books and will not require teams to identify titles or authors. Each correctly answered Lightning Battle question will be worth **five points**. In the Lightning Battles, teams submit as many guesses as they wish to each question but this **will** use up time. Lightning Battle and Regular Battle scores will be added together.
8. If a team disagrees with the moderator's initial ruling on an answer, the team may **challenge** the ruling immediately after the Regular question or immediately after the end of the Lightning Battle. A team may only challenge rulings on its own answers. Moderators will either confirm their original ruling or may provide a **randomly selected alternative question** as a substitution.
9. When a **tie-breaker** is necessary, each team in the tie-breaker will be asked extra Lightning Battle questions. **The spokesperson must provide one correct answer within 20 seconds**. No guesses will be allowed and an incorrect answer will result in elimination. The last team standing wins the tie-breaker round.
10. The **top three** teams from the Semi-Finals in each municipality will go on to play in their municipal Finals. The gold medal teams from the Finals competitions will go on to represent their municipalities in the Durham Regional Championship.

# 2026 BOOKLIST

## ADVENTURE

**The Bellwoods Game**  
by Celia Krampien

**Blood in the Water**  
by Tiffany D. Jackson

**If We Tell You** by Nicola Dahlin

**Impossible Creatures**  
by Katherine Rundell

**The Inheritance Games**  
by Jennifer Lynn Barnes

**The Liars Society**  
by Alyson Gerber

## FAVOURITES

**Blackthorn Key** by Kevin Sands

**Forever Birchwood**  
by Danielle Daniel

**Nimona** [Graphic Novel]  
by N.D. Stevenson

**The Red Palace** by June Hur

**Refugee** by Alan Gratz  
**Show Me a Sign**  
by Ann Clare LeZotte

## RED MAPLE

*To Be Announced*  
*October 27, 2025*

## FANTASY/SCI-FI

**Amari & the Night Brothers**  
by B.B. Alston

**Boy 2.0** by Tracey Baptiste

**The Factory** by Catherine Egan

**Something's Up with Arlo**  
by Matteo L. Cerilli

**The Sun and the Star**  
by Rick Riordan and Mark Oshiro

**Zachary Ying and the Dragon Emperor**  
by Ziran Jay Zhao

## REALISTIC

**Fresh Start** [Graphic Novel]  
by Gale Galligan

**How to Be a Goldfish**  
by Jane Baird Warren

**Is There a Boy Like Me?**  
by Kern Carter

**No Purchase Necessary**  
by Maria Marianayagam

**Rabbit Rabbit**  
by Dori Hillstead Butler and  
Sunshine Bacon

**Tegan and Sara: Junior High**  
[Graphic Novel] by Tegan  
and Sara Quin

For the full set of rules, please go to  
<http://www.bookbattle.ca/downloads/JrSrRules.pdf>