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Oregon Battle of the Books

A voluntary, competitive state-wide reading program for 3rd – 12th grades designed to encourage a love of reading, build comprehension, critical thinking, and team building skills.

OBOB is partially funded by an LSTA grant, administered through the state library.

Additionally, schools pay a fee to participate.

Participation

Youth in 3rd-12th grades

Must be on a public school team or a private school team, with no more than 5 members (4 youth compete at a time).

Home-school and online school youth can join a team at the public school they would otherwise attend.

Schools participating must have a sponsor from the school (media specialist, library paraprofessional or school staff member).

Participation Statistics

2010: 339 schools across Oregon

2014: 559 teams from 441 schools across Oregon

2016: 771 teams from 607 schools across Oregon

2017: 802 teams from 626 schools across Oregon

The Battles

Division 3-5: Read the same 16 books and answer 8 “In Which Book” questions, and 8 “Content” questions.

Division 6-8: Read the same 16 books and answer 8 “In Which Book” questions, and 8 “Content” questions.

Division 9-12: Read the same 12 books and answer 8 “In Which Book” questions, and 8 “Content” questions.

Moderator reads each question, teams have 15 seconds to answer, answers are worth 2, 3 or 5 points. Team with the most points wins.

Battles: School, Regional, State

Schools may have an unlimited number of teams.

Only 1 team at each school, for each division, advances to Regionals.

Regionals

Pool Play, Sweet 16, Great 8, Fabulous 4, Final 2

(Number of teams advancing from Regionals depends on size of tournament.)

State Tournament

Pool Play, Sweet 16, Great 8, Fabulous 4, Final 2

Why OBOB?

“My son never thought he was good at anything until he started OBOB. He’s dyslexic so I read him the books or he listens to the audio. He’s an auditory learner so his recall is fantastic and his team has done really well. His self-confidence has improved so much. Can I be a testimony for OBOB?”

“My daughter doesn’t play sports so this has been a great way for her to learn how to work on a team.”

“My child is reading so many books she never would have picked up otherwise.”

Website: OregonBattleOfTheBooks.org

OBOB at Newberg Public Library

Summer

Extra copies of books: Rotary grant funding for books
for public school and the public library

Summer Elementary OBOB Book Clubs

Meet 4 times

Books are purchased using funds from Ready to Read

Questions are open-ended

School Year Programs

OBOB Meet-Ups

October-January

For any elementary students participating in OBOB

45 minutes long

Watch a battle (purchase from CCTV Salem),

Sit in group of 4 or 5 and answer questions practicing using a spokesperson

Talk about successes and challenges

Get to Know OBOB Presentation

(Held beginning of November)

Partner with a school mentor for event

Parents and coaches are invited

Go over OBOB basics

Watch an official battle (from CCTV Salem)

Answer questions

Library Sponsored

District-Wide Practice Elementary Battles

(Held in January on a Saturday)

Staff write 10 sets of questions following official OBOB question guidelines

We share our questions with other public libraries in December

Volunteers act as moderators, scorekeepers and timekeepers

Training for volunteers on Friday evening

Official OBOB rules are followed, except NO CHALLENGES (takes too long)

Score is kept in the room, but only for the battle practice purposes

2 rounds of Pool Play (teams play 4 times)



Everyone gets in the
“wagon” for “Rescue on the
Oregon Trail” book club.

10 OBOB programs
345 participants

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Presentation available at
Northwest Central