



# IBOB Newsletter

It's like sports but with books!

Fall 2021

Howdy book fans!

Welcome back to school! Hopefully summer was restful and relaxing and full of good reads. As the weather starts to cool down, it is time to start thinking about Battle of the Books.

## IBOB Calendar

### September

- Start advertising for IBOB (posters, announcements, school website)
- Hold informational meetings
- Pass out permission slips (if you are using them)

### October

- Continue advertising
- Hold meetings for interested students
- Students start reading books
- [Register for IBOB](#) on website, pay \$25 fee for questions (sent in January)

### November

- Continue forming teams
- Students read books
- Have small meetings for members

### December

- [Dec 1- Registration closes](#)

More at:

<http://idahobattleofthebooks.org/about/ibob-calendar/>

## Getting books for IBOB

Several librarians have used Donor's Choose as a way to purchase sets for their schools. Vanessa Cornelius at Lake Hazel Middle School was able to get her grant fully funded. The grant is relatively easy to do and many donors are eager to help with reading projects. One donor left this message for her:

Hooray! (Name redacted) from South Windsor, CT just gave to [Idaho Battle of the Books - Books to Read](#) and wrote:

*"Book battles are fun because every reader is a winner."*

## 2021-22 Elementary Titles

### Elementary Book Spotlight

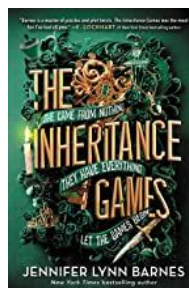


*Small Spaces* by Katherine Arden  
Genre: Horror

This one might make you petrified of corn fields and scarecrows. Just the right amount of creepy.

## 2021-22 Middle/Junior High Titles

### Middle/Junior High Book Spotlight



*Inheritance Games* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes  
Genre: Mystery

Thrilling twists, deadly stakes, and juicy secrets. Hard to put down!

Follow Us!



[idahobattleofthebooks.org](http://idahobattleofthebooks.org)

## IBOB Tips:

Holding an informational meeting for IBOB can be fun but also overwhelming due to the amount of kids interested in IBOB. Here are some ideas on how to be prepared for an information meeting to talk up the program.

1. Pick a time of day that will work best with your schedule. Lunch might be the best option, but you also might be able to do an advisory meeting or an after school option (can be hard with transportation).
2. Create posters to put up around the school a week before the meeting. You can download the [IBOB poster from the website](#) and add the dates and times of the meeting on the poster.
3. Putting in announcements to be read or putting it on your school website is a great way to reach more students.
4. If you have room, dedicate a small space in your library to IBOB. You can have posters with the book titles, a cart with the books to be checked out, team information, etc. Look for more information on a dedicated space in the next newsletter.
5. If you are using permission slips for students, have enough copies for them at your meetings. Making extras is a good idea.
6. At the meeting you can do a variety of things to highlight the IBOB program:
  - Show a short clip of students battling (found on the website)
  - Have the books on display
  - Explain the very basics like 4 students on a team, you have X amount of months to read the books, we will have meetings once a month, etc.
  - If you have students who have participated, ask them to model a battle.
7. Have a handout with pertinent information to give to interested students.
8. Enjoy the enthusiasm you will see!

## IBOB Spotlight:

Stephanie Cecil at Shadow Hills Elementary in Boise is one of the elementary book question writers.

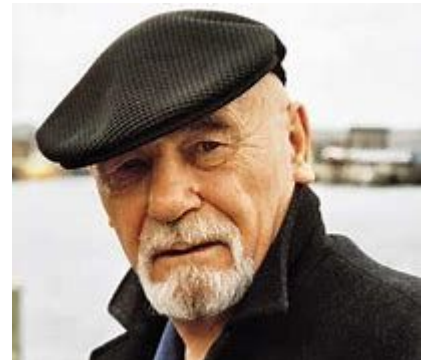
Her school program has been in place for a few years and the kids get so excited about IBOB. She said,

"I monitor the 4-6 grade playground before school and I had kids coming up to me on the 2nd day asking about IBOB...I was like "whoa whoa whoa!" But it made me so happy :)"



## Author Spotlight:

[Brian Jacques](#) (pronounced 'jakes') was born in Liverpool, England on June 15th, 1939. He wrote the Redwall series, 22 books in all. Redwall was written in 1986 and is on the middle school/junior high list.



**Idaho Battle of the Books**, or IBOB, is a statewide voluntary reading motivation and comprehension program open to all Idaho students in grades 4-9, regardless of ability. IBOB is meant to expose students to quality literature representing a variety of literary styles and viewpoints. The mission of the program is to encourage and recognize students who enjoy reading, share the love of reading with students who have not yet discovered that for themselves, broaden reading interests, increase reading comprehension, promote academic excellence, and promote cooperative learning and teamwork among students.