



IBOB Newsletter

It's like sports but with books!

Winter
2021/2022

Cold weather means cuddling up with a warm blanket and a good book. Students are a few months into the program, so try and keep excitement going by celebrating their accomplishments.

IBOB Calendar

December

- [Dec 1- Registration closes](#)
- Meet with teams before the break to make sure everyone has a book to read

January

- Mid-January: Receive 40 sets of questions.
- Schedule practice battles so teams can learn how battles work
- Start building your school plan on how teams will battle
- Late January, after practice battles, if teams are ready, start school battles

February

- School battles

More at:

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

IBOB Practice Battle Tips:

- Have students watch a battle. On the IBOB website, there is a [video](#) that walks through it.
- Physically set up an area with two teams on either side and a judge chair or table in the middle. Students can sit on chairs, use desks, or long tables.
- Print out the set of questions you will be using and skim over the questions to be familiar with them and the wording.
- Use a phone as the timer- set it for 15 seconds and after you have read the question, hit the button.
- Oftentimes you may have to be the moderator, timer and point keeper. Printing the questions and marking down points helps if you don't want to put points on a whiteboard or chalkboard.
- Finding a staff member or student helper to run the timer is a benefit, so you can focus on the teams.
- Have teams make a little placard with their team name on it so when you ask questions, you can say the team name and then the question.
- Practice a few battles with each team before you start counting points. 15 seconds can feel like an eternity if no one knows the answer. It also helps them learn how to communicate with each other and the spokesperson.
- The spokesperson can rotate each battle to give all students a chance who want to be the spokesperson.

The biggest thing to remember is you have the power to run the program how it works for your students and your school. You get to decide when battles happen, how they happen, how teams advance, and if teams will go to a regional tournament or it is just an in-school program.

The battles are the fun part! Enjoy!



IBOB Spotlight:

Valley View Elementary in Bonners Ferry is participating in the elementary division for the first time this year. Melissa Bateman has been spreading the joy of reading and has over 20 students on teams.



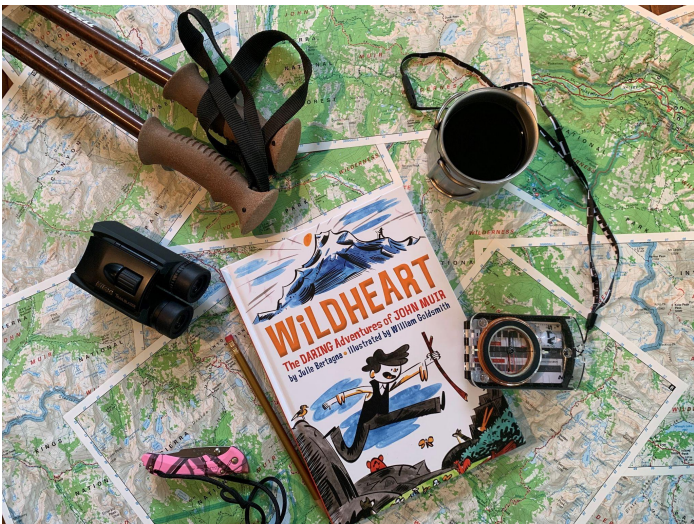
The Power of Reading

"My students picked out their first books yesterday at lunch and one of my students brought back *Wicked Nix* today saying she was finished and that it was now one of her all time favorite fantasy books!"

Christy Ulmen, Eagle Elementary School of the Arts

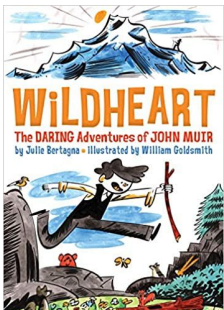
Aberdeen Elementary is starting IBOB this year. There were 46 students interested. The librarian said, "I am SUPER excited that so many want to do this! A few students can't quit talking about it as they are not into sports and this is right up their alley"

Chavonne Woods, Aberdeen Elementary



2021-22 Elementary Titles

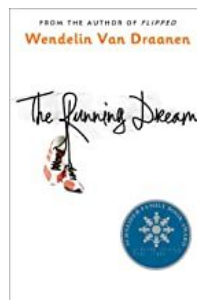
Elementary Book Spotlight



Wildheart by Julie Bertagna
Genre: Graphic novel, memoir
The exciting life story of John Muir—who sailed to America as a boy and ended up changing the world.

2021-22 Middle/Junior High Titles

Middle/Junior High Book Spotlight



The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen
Genre: Realistic Fiction
"Inspirational. The pace of the prose matches Jessica's at her swiftest. Readers will zoom through the book just as Jessica blazes around the track. A lively and lovely story." —Kirkus Reviews

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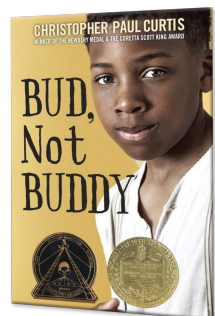
idahobattleofthebooks.org

A special thank you to the people who wrote questions for books for the first time this year: **Chelsea Johnson, Tracy Krichbaum, and Lisa Rakes**

If you are interested in helping with questions or book selection, please email idahobattleofthebooks@gmail.com

Author Spotlight:

[Christopher Paul Curtis](#) is an author of 6 books and lives in Michigan. His book, *Bud not Buddy* won the Newbery Award and the Coretta Scott King Award. In his free time, he likes to read, play basketball and collect music.



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.