

2020-2021 Oregon Battle of the Books

3-5 Division Annotated Booklist

Note: The elementary division is designed for 4th and 5th graders. 3rd grade participants are welcome. Please review the title list with your reader to make sure the titles will be interesting and engaging for their reading level.

Before They Were Authors by Elizabeth Haidle 2019

Profiles the childhoods of ten authors, including Maya Angelou, Roald Dahl, and J.K. Rowling, emphasizing what makes a writer and what inspires them.

Biographies 64 pages

Bob by Wendy Mass & Rebecca Stead 2018

While visiting her grandmother in Australia, ten-year-old Livy is reminded of the promise she made five years earlier to Bob, a strange, green creature who cannot recall who or what he is.

Fantasy 224 pages 590L AR 3.9 (4 Pts.)

A Boy Called Bat by Elana K. Arnold 2017

Bat's mom, a veterinarian, has brought home a baby skunk, which she needs to take care of until she can hand him over to a wild-animal shelter. But the minute Bat (Bixby Alexander Tam) meets the kit, he knows they belong together.

Realistic Fiction 208 pages 760L AR 4.6 (3 Pts.)

Changeling by William Ritter 2019

Twelve-year-olds Tinn and Cole, raised as human twins in sleepy Endsborough, risk their lives in the Wild Wood, Oddmire Swamp, and the Deep Dark to learn which is a goblin changeling with an important mission.

Fantasy 272 pages 710L AR 4.9 (7 Pts.)

The Dragonet Prophecy by Tui T. Sutherland 2012

The seven dragon tribes have been at war for generations, locked in an endless battle over an ancient, lost treasure. A secret movement called the Talons of Peace is determined to bring an end to the fighting.

Fantasy 304 pages 740L AR 5.0 (10 Pts.)

El Deafo by Cece Bell 2014

In this graphic-novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful and very awkward hearing aid.

Biographies 248 pages AR 2.7 (2 Pts.)

Fatty Legs by Christy Jordan-Fenton & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton 2010

Desperate to learn to read, eight-year-old Olemaun badgers her father to let her go to the school for Inuit children in Canada's far north. There, she encounters a particularly mean nun who renames her Margaret but cannot "educate" her into submission.

Biographies 112 pages AR 5.5 (2 Pts.)

Front Desk by Kelly Yang 2018

Ten-year-old Mia Tang's parents are recent immigrants from China and desperate for work and money. When they take a job managing a rundown motel in Southern California, Mia works the front desk and tries to cope with demanding customers.

Realistic Fiction 320 pages 640L AR 4.5 (9 Pts.)

The Night Fairy by Laura Amy Schlitz 2010

When Flory the night fairy's wings are accidentally broken and she cannot fly, she has to learn to do everything differently.

Fantasy 117 pages 630L AR 4.2 (2 Pts.)

Nine, Ten: A September 11 Story by Nora Raleigh Baskin 2016

Four children living in different parts of the country and in different circumstances find their lives intersecting as the events of September 11, 2001, unfold.

Historical Fiction 208 pages 730L AR 4.8 (5 Pts.)

Power Forward by Hena Khan 2018

Fourth-grader Zayd yearns to play basketball on the Gold Team. When he skips orchestra rehearsal to practice, his parents forbid anything basketball-related, and tryouts are coming soon.

Sports Fiction 144 pages 600L AR 3.8 (2 Pts.)

Small Spaces by Katherine Arden 2018

After eleven-year-old Ollie's school bus mysteriously breaks down on a field trip, she has to take a trip through the scary woods. She must use all her wits to survive and she must stick to small spaces.

Horror 218 pages 570L AR 4.1 (6 Pts.)

Space Case by Stuart Gibbs 2014

Dashiell Gibson, who lives on Moon Base Alpha, has to solve a murder of one of the moon's most prominent doctors.

Science Fiction Mystery 368 pages 750L AR 5.3 (11 Pts.)

Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer by Kelly Jones 2015

Through a series of letters, twelve-year-old Sophie Brown tells of her family's move to Great-Uncle Jim's farm, where she begins taking care of some unusual chickens with help from neighbors and friends.

Fantasy 240 pages 880L AR 5.2 (5 Pts.)

The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street by Karina Yan Glaser 2017

Told that they will have to move out of their Harlem brownstone just after Christmas, the five Vanderbeeker children, ages four to twelve, decide to change their reclusive landlord's mind.

Realistic Fiction 320 pages 810L AR 5.3 (7 Pts.)

A Wolf Called Wander by Rosanne Parry 2019

A young wolf separated from his pack journeys 1,000 miles across the Pacific Northwest, dealing with forest fires, hunters, highways and hunger before finding a new home.

Animal Tales 256 pages 670L AR 4.3 (4 Pts.)