

Battle of the Books 2017-18 Round Two Books

- Read at least four of these books before March 18 (last day of Spring Break)
- March 8—Book Preview
- May 3—In-School Battle
- May 21—Winning team competes at St. Croix Prep

Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt

Blessed with—or doomed to—eternal life after drinking from a magic spring, the Tuck family wanders about trying to live as inconspicuously and comfortably as they can. When ten-year-old Winnie Foster stumbles on their secret, the Tucks take her home and explain why living forever at one age is less of a blessing than it might seem. Complications arise when Winnie is followed by a stranger who wants to market the spring water for a fortune.

The Secrets of Eastcliff-by-the-Sea: The Story of Annaliese Easterling & Throckmorton, Her Simply Remarkable Sock Monkey by Eileen Beha

Nine-year-old Annaliese Easterling has temporarily forgotten about her childhood sock monkey, Throckmorton S. Monkey, until her rich, quirky, and elusive Great-Grandmama Easterling invites all the sock monkeys (which she crafted as gifts when each family member was born) and their keepers to her 90th birthday party. Since the aging matriarch's will states "no monkey, no money," relatives begin a mad search for all the sock monkeys they've abandoned. Annaliese, whose mother disappeared years earlier, cherishes Throckmorton's company once again as she sleuths for secrets about her family history in anticipation of the Valentine's Day party.

Lunch Money by Andrew Clements

As a young kid, Greg wanted to be rich. As a sixth-grader, Greg decides to make money at school selling his mini comic book. When his friend Maura introduces her own comic line, the friends bicker until the principal bans all comic books. The business rivals must find a way to succeed.

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis

Elijah is a free-born boy growing up in the real town of Buxton, Ontario, a place where former slaves lived in relative safety before the Civil War. Most people see a fragile boy who's scared of snakes and talks too much. When a thief steals the money intended to buy a slave family's freedom, Elijah sets off in pursuit to get the money back. On his journey, he must avoid bounty hunters looking for runaway slaves to take back to the US.

Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo

Ten-year-old Opal and her preacher father move to Florida, after Opal's mother abandons them. Wandering around town, Opal finds Winn-Dixie, a scrappy dog abandoned in the town grocery store. Together, Opal and Winn-Dixie meet the characters in their small town and deal with lessons of grief and tolerance.

The Vanishing Coin by Kate Egan, Mike Lane, Eric Wight

Fourth grade was supposed to be a fresh start, but Mike's already back in the principal's office. He's not a bad kid. He just can't sit still. And now, his parents won't let him play soccer anymore; instead he has to hang out with his new neighbor Nora, who is good at everything! Then, Mike and Nora discover the White Rabbit. It's an odd shop—with a special secret inside. Its owner, Mr. Zerlin, is a magician, and, amazingly, he believes Mike could be a magician, too. Has Mike finally found something he's good at?

Bo at Ballard Creek by Kirkpatrick Hill, LeUyen Pham

It's the 1920s, and Bo was headed for an Alaska orphanage when she won the hearts of two tough gold miners who set out to raise her, enthusiastically helped by all the kind people of the nearby Eskimo village. Bo learns Eskimo along with English, helps in the cookshack, learns to polka, and rides along with Big Annie and her dog team. There's always some kind of excitement: Bo sees her first airplane, has a run-in with a bear, and meets a mysterious lost little boy.

When the Circus Came to Town by Polly Horvath

How many circus families can a small town tolerate? At first, the townspeople are intrigued when circus families who crave normalcy move to placid Springfield. But then Elmira the Snake Lady starts leashing her snakes and taking them for walks around the block, and the Flying Gambinis start collecting garages for a backyard hobby. The town reluctantly accepts the newcomers, until they provide more competition for the church bake-off.

Clementine by Sara Pennypacker, Marla Frazee

Clementine is having not so good of a week.

- On Monday she's sent to the principal's office for cutting off Margaret's hair.
- Tuesday, Margaret's mother is mad at her.
- Wednesday, she's sent to the principal again.
- Thursday, Margaret stops speaking to her.
- Friday starts with yucky eggs and gets worse.
- And by Saturday, even her mother is mad at her.

Okay, fine. Clementine is having a DISASTROUS week. A new Ramona-type character for kids to enjoy and empathize with.

The Eighth Day by Dianne K. Salerni, David McClellan

When Jax wakes up to a world without any people, he assumes it's the zombie apocalypse. But when he runs into his eighteen-year-old guardian, Riley Pendare, he learns that he's really in the Eighth Day—an extra day sandwiched between Wednesday and Thursday. Some people—like Jax and Riley—are Transitioners, able to live in all eight days, while others, including Evangeline, the elusive teenage girl who's been hiding in the house next door, exist only on this special day. There's a reason Evangeline's hiding. As the descendant of the powerful wizard Merlin, her magic is highly sought by corrupt Transitioners who want to use her to destroy the seven-day world. Torn between protecting his new friend and saving the human race from destruction, Jax is faced with an impossible choice. Even with an eighth day, time is running out.

Beneath by Roland Smith

Pat O'Toole has always idolized his older brother, Coop. He's even helped Coop with some of his crazier plans -- such as risking his life to help his big brother dig a tunnel underneath their neighborhood in the suburbs of Washington, DC. Coop is . . . different. He doesn't talk on the phone, doesn't use email, and doesn't have friends. He's never really cared for anything but the thrill of being underground and Pat. So it's no surprise to anyone -- even Pat -- that after a huge fight with their parents, Coop runs away. Exactly one year later, Pat receives a package containing a digital voice recorder and a cryptic message from his brother. He follows the clues to New York City, and soon discovers that Coop has joined the Community, a self-sufficient society living beneath the streets. Now it's up to Pat to find his brother -- and bring him home.

Probuditi! by Chris Van Allsburg

For his birthday, Calvin's mother gives him two tickets to see Lomax the Magnificent (magician and hypnotist extraordinaire!). When Calvin is assigned to watch his little sister Trudy, Calvin decides to hypnotize Trudy, based what he learned from Lomax. But now, Trudy is stuck in her trance, convinced she is a dog—panting, drooling, and barking at squirrels. The only problem is, Calvin can't remember Lomax's magic word—Probuditi!—so Trudy won't snap out of it!