



## Coach's Information

### Thank You for being a Battle Coach!

#### Coach responsibilities:

- Assist students in naming team.
- Assure the team is registered between September 3rd – January 10th.
- Submit any final changes to registration information to [battleinfo@carr.org](mailto:battleinfo@carr.org) no later than January 31st.
- Ensure each team member understands which books on the reading list s/he is expected to read. Coaches may assign a certain student to be an "expert" on certain books.
- Meet with the team regularly to offer encouragement, check on reading progress, foster team cohesiveness, and reinforce that team members learn authors' names and other facts from the books. Teams will need to identify the title and author of the book for every answer.
- Model good sportsmanlike behavior and encourage your team to do the same at all times.
- Encourage team spirit. Students should name their teams and are encouraged to dress in team shirts or other spirit wear on the competition day. Team members and coaches may not include the titles of books or authors anywhere on their attire.

Suggestions for facilitating meeting: Have snacks 😊 Keep the atmosphere fun. Give kids time to socialize and share a bit before "getting serious". Check-In with the kids. Ask them how they are doing with the reading.

#### In the beginning- Nov-Jan

- Plan games to help children get to know the title and authors of books. For example matching games, memory games, show book covers to team members with title and author covered up. Challenge students to write the title and the author down.
- Assign books. Who will read what books? You will want to have more than one child assigned to each book. Please remember to be flexible with the children.

#### Getting into Things

- By January your team should be meeting on a regular basis as a book discussion group.
- Ask kids to share a favorite part of a book/least favorite part of a book.
- Create a book discussion Jenga game, or something like it. We bought a cheap Jenga Game and wrote book discussion questions on the blocks. Like name the main character in one of the books you are reading.
- Use a ball to facilitate discussion. When you throw the ball to a team member they need to share something about the book they are reading.

- Create a matching game with titles and authors, characters and titles, characters and setting.
- Challenge kids to write questions from the books they are reading and exchange questions with other students.
- Ask out of the box questions to facilitate discussions like: What type of food would the main character like and why? If you could take the main character anywhere where would you go together and why?

#### Month Before

- Make T-Shirts or plan team spirit wear.
- Be sure to practice answering questions in the Battle format. You may want to use the answer sheet found online as a guide.
- Appoint one or two recorders for the group. Give recorders an opportunity to practice.

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