

2016 Battle of the Books 4th Grade Books

Here is the list of books for this year's event. Depending on the size of your team, you will be reading 2-4 books. This is so we have at least two people on each team reading every book. This helps when it comes time for all those "pesky" questions at the tournament. You are welcome to read them all if you like!

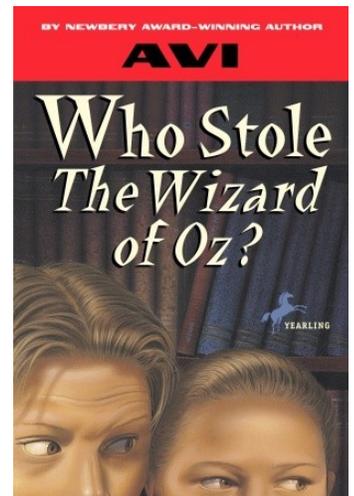
Our 4th grade readers are being offered books that range in Reading Level difficulty - P, Q, R, S, T & U. All of these books are well-known and most are award winners. We encourage you to make a list of the books you are most interested in reading. Since you are on a team, you may not get all of your top choices. It's important to make compromises when you are all working towards the same goal.

* Please note all summaries have been taken from www.goodreads.com

And the books are:

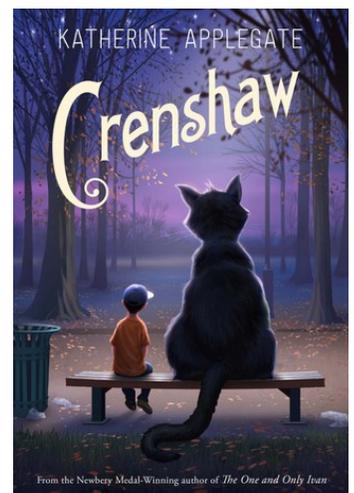
- 1) Who Stole the Wizard of Oz
By Avi
Book Length -128
Reading Level – P

One of Newbery Honor author Avi's most popular middle-grade mysteries. The mystery revolves around a rare edition of *The Wizard of Oz* missing from the local library. When Becky is accused of stealing it, she and her twin brother Toby set out to catch the *real* thief and prove her innocence. Clues cleverly hidden in four other books lead to a hidden treasure--and a gripping adventure.



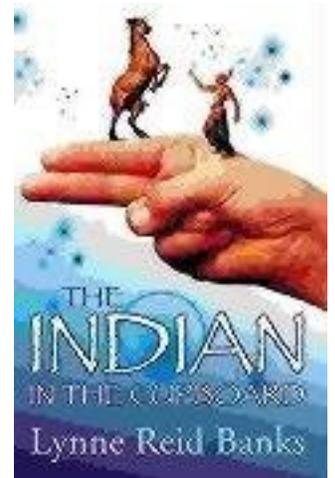
- 2) Crenshaw
By Katherine Applegate
Book Length – 256
Reading Level – Q

In her first novel since winning the Newbery Medal, Katherine Applegate delivers an unforgettable and magical story about family, friendship, and resilience. Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times. There's no more money for rent, and not much for food, either. His parents, his little sister, and their dog may have to live in their minivan - again. Crenshaw is a cat. He's large, he's outspoken, and he's imaginary. He has come back into Jackson's life to help him. But is an imaginary friend enough to save this family from losing everything?



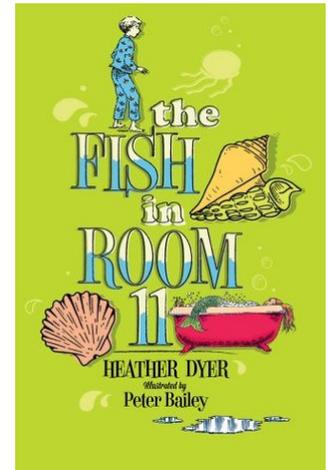
- 3) The Indian in the Cupboard
By Lynne Reid Banks
Book Length – 192
Reading Level – R

At first, Omri is unimpressed with the plastic Indian toy he is given for his birthday. But when he puts it in his old cupboard and turns the key, something extraordinary happens that will change Omri's life forever. For Little Bull, the Iroquois Indian brave, comes to life...



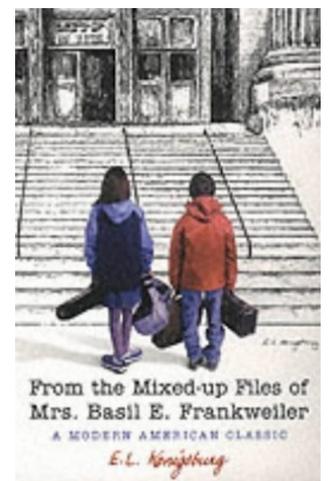
- 4) The Fish in Room 11
By Heather Dyer
Book Length – 160
Reading Level – R

Toby can't remember a time he didn't live at the seaside hotel. When he meets Eliza Flot down by the pier, he takes to her, well, like a fish to water. And when he meets her parents, that tips the scales even more. So what if they're mermaids?



- 5) From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler
By E.L. Konisberg
Book Length – 125
Reading Level – S

When suburban Claudia Kincaid decides to run away, she knows she doesn't just want to run from somewhere, she wants to run to somewhere — to a place that is comfortable, beautiful, and, preferably, elegant. She chooses the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Knowing her younger brother Jamie has money and thus can help her with a serious cash-flow problem, she invites him along.



Once settled into the museum, Claudia and Jamie find themselves caught up in the mystery of an angel statue that the museum purchased at auction for a bargain price of \$225. The statue is possibly an early work of the Renaissance master, Michelangelo, and therefore worth millions. Is it? Or isn't it? Claudia is determined to find out. Her quest leads her to Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, the remarkable old woman who sold the statue, and to some equally remarkable discoveries about herself.

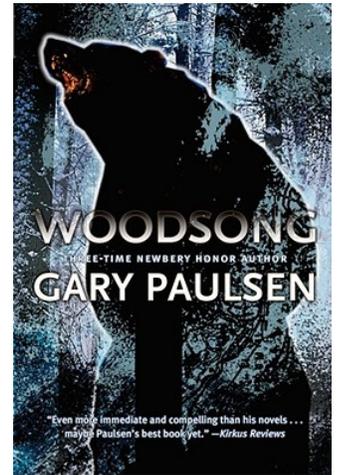
6) Woodsong

By Gary Paulsen

Book Length – 144

Reading Level – T

Gary Paulsen, three-time Newbery Honor author, is no stranger to adventure. He has flown off the back of a dogsled and down a frozen waterfall to near disaster, and waited for a giant bear to seal his fate with one slap of a claw. He has led a team of sled dogs toward the Alaskan Mountain Range in an Iditarod -- the grueling, 1,180-mile dogsled race -- hallucinating from lack of sleep, but he determined to finish. Here, in vivid detail, Paulsen recounts several of the remarkable experiences that shaped his life and inspired his award-winning writing.



7) Swindle

By Gordon Korman

Book Length – 256

Reading Level – T

Ocean's 11... with 11-year-olds, in a super stand-alone heist caper from Gordon Korman!

After a mean collector named Swindle cons him out of his most valuable baseball card, Griffin Bing must put together a band of misfits to break into Swindle's compound and recapture the card. There are many things standing in their way -- a menacing guard dog, a high-tech security system, a very secret hiding place, and their general inability to drive -- but Griffin and his team are going to get back what's rightfully his . . . even if hijinks ensue. This is Gordon Korman at his crowd-pleasing best, perfect for readers who like to hoot, howl, and heist.



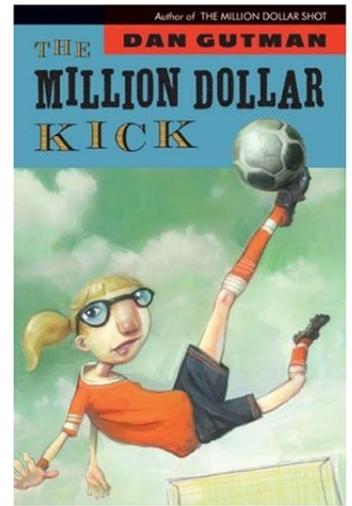
8) The Million Dollar Kick

By Dan Gutman

Book Length – 208

Reading Level – T

Whisper Nelson hates sports--all sports--with a passion! So when by a fluke she wins a chance to kick a goal past a professional soccer star for a million-dollar prize, she is torn. Should she try it and risk humiliation, or just forget the whole thing and save what dignity she has left? But the Million Dollar Kick might be Whisper's big chance not only to win a million dollars, but to regain confidence in herself.



My Top Picks for Battle of the Books:

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

Where can you find these books? Here are some options:

Oak Street School Library
Bernards Township Library
The Bookworm, Bernardsville
Amazon.com
Barnesandnoble.com
Scholastic.com