# Hosting a 100% Virtual Battle of the Books



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Librarian in the Chicagoland area.

## Technology Competent

From e-books, to Google Sheets, and Zoom breakout rooms!

#### **Technology We Used**

**E-BOOKS** Overdrive and Hoopla

**WEBSITE PROMOTION** Evanced and Library Website

**SOCIAL MEDIA** Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, and Instagram

GOOGLE OFFICE SUITE Google Docs and Google Sheets.

VIDEO CONFERENCING SOFTWARE

Zoom + Zoom Breakout Rooms (there's a Google workaround if you use Google Classroom)

## Building the Program

Book selection, writing questions, registration, teams, scoring, and more!

#### **Book Selection Considerations**

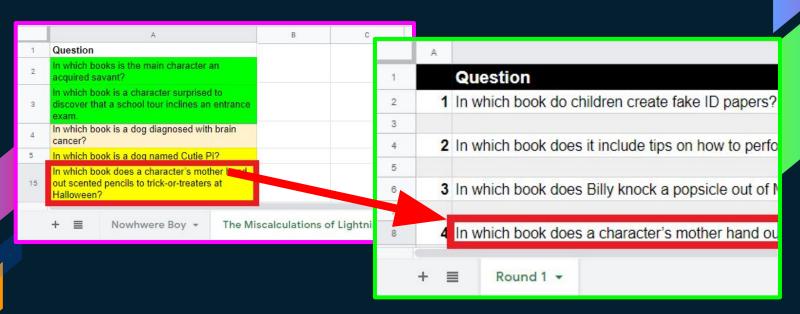
- Quality, popularity, overlap with other reading lists?
- Overdrive vs. Hoopla copies.
- > Availability (we wound up removing one title).
- Can student obtain a physical copy instead of an e-book?

#### **Registration & Building Teams**

- Direct registration for each library.
- > Teams register in (parentheses).
- > Teams assigned post registration.
- > Correspondence via email and Zoom meetings.
- Battle of the Books Guidelines document.

#### **Writing Questions & Scoring**

- Staff shared Google Sheet.
- > Page numbers and e-books, don't go together.



#### **Writing Questions & Scoring**

Team Google Sheets as answer sheets.

- Google Sheets scoreboard.
  - Formulas to remember
    - =SUM( cells to add )
    - = click on the cell (in another tab) whose value you want to show on the scoreboard.



#### How We Ran The Show on Battle Day

#### One BIG Zoom Meeting!

We required registration and everyone joined via their emailed Zoom Link.

#### **Breakout Rooms + Sheets!**

Team answer sheets were direct messages to team captains. The host put everyone into their preassigned breakout rooms, and the Battle began!

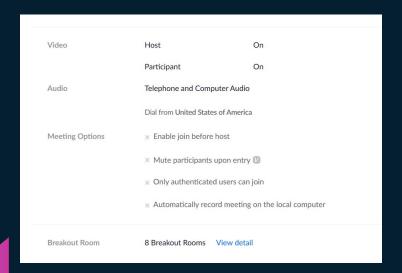
#### **Practice Session!**

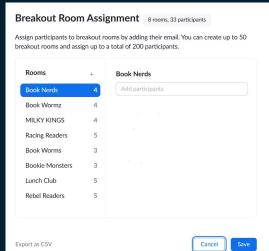
We went over the rules and spent some time practicing so student could get familiar with the setup.

#### **Breaks Between Rounds**

Three minute breaks were given between rounds, so that staff could score and cut & paste next round's questions.

#### **Zoom Setup**





#### Co-host



Allow the host to add co-hosts. Co-hosts have the same in-meeting controls as the host.

## Hindsight is 2020



#### **But Honestly: What We Learned**

- Make sure you have enough copies for any situation. You don't know what the future will hold.
- Mandatory Practice Session before Battle Day!
- Length of the program should be shortened.
- Cheating can be easier when virtual. Be flexible and be ready to make changes on the spot!
- > This program was our most popular of the summer!





#### **Any questions?**

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