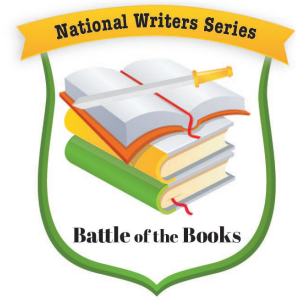


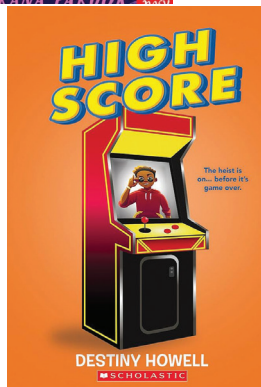
# Battle of the Books Grand Traverse Book List 2025



## **The Girl Who Stole An Elephant** (Farook) Lexile 630L

Chaya, a nobleman’s daughter, has developed a dangerous habit of stealing shiny things from the palace to benefit poor people in her community. Chaya finds out that playing Robin Hood comes with risks. When Chaya steals the queen’s jewels from a bedside table, a messy getaway jeopardizes the life of a close friend. After an equally haphazard prison break, Chaya barely escapes...on the king’s prized elephant! With leeches and revolution lurking in the jungle, Chaya leads her companions on a daring escapade. After leaving as a thief, is there any way that she can return to her home village as a hero?

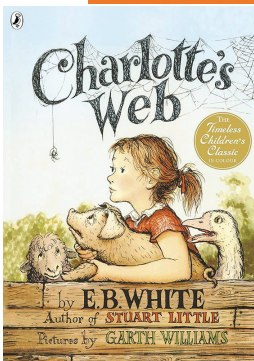
\*Listen in Hoopla. Read/listen in Libby.



## **High Score** (Howell) Lexile 640L

Darius James is his full name, but everyone calls him DJ. At DJ’s old school, he was the go-to guy for all kinds of tricky problems that needed “creative” solutions. But at his new school, Ella Fitzgerald Middle, Darius is just trying to blend in. Well, he was, anyway, until his best friend Conor got himself transferred to Fitz Middle School too. Now Conor owes 100,000 arcade tickets to the biggest bully of the school, and he only has two weeks to make it happen. Impossible? Not if DJ gets back in the game.

\*Read in Hoopla. Read in Libby.



## **Charlotte’s Web** (White) Lexile 680L

*Some Pig. Humble. Radiant.* These are the words in Charlotte’s web -- showing high up in the corner of Zuckerman’s barn. Charlotte’s spiderweb tells of her feelings for a little pig named Wilbur, who simply wants a friend. This classic book allows you to share in the highs and lows of barn life -- from pigs to geese to Templeton the Rat -- and think about what it means to be a friend.

\* Read/listen in Libby.



## **Grounded** (Saeed, Ali, Bigelow, & Al-Marashi) Lexile N/A

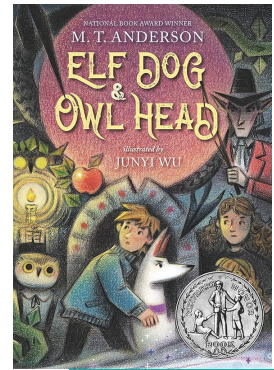
When a thunderstorm grounds all flights following a huge Muslim convention, four unlikely kids are thrown together at the airport terminal. Feek is stuck babysitting his younger sister, but he’d rather be writing a poem. Hanna is intent on finding a lost cat—and also on avoiding a conversation with her dad about him getting remarried. Sami is struggling with his anxiety and worried that he’ll miss the karate tournament that he’s trained so hard for. And Nora has to deal with the pressure of being the daughter of a congresswoman, when all she really wants to do is make fun NokNok videos. These kids don’t seem to have much in common—yet. Told from each kid’s points of view, Grounded tells the story of one unexpected night that will change them forever.

\*Read/listen in Hoopla. Read in Libby.

**Elf Dog & Owl Head** (Anderson) Lexile 660L

Clay is bored. A global pandemic has brought the world to a halt. With little to look forward to, he heads off to the nearby woods. From the moment the elegant little dog appears among the trees, Clay sees something unique in her. With Elphinore as guide, he'll glimpse ancient secrets hidden in the forest. Each day the dog leads Clay down paths he never knew existed -- deeper into the unknown. But they aren't alone in their strange adventures. There are traps in the woods too, and, if Clay isn't careful, he might stray off the path and lose his way forever.

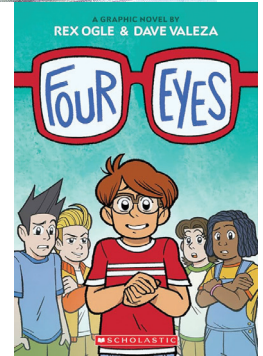
\* Listen in Hoopla and read in Libby.



**Four Eyes** (Ogle & Valeza) Lexile GN280L

Sixth grade isn't as great as Rex thought it would be. He is the only kid who hasn't had a growth spurt, and the bullies won't let him forget it. His closest friend is unreliable, at best. With so much going on, everything is a blur -- including Rex's vision! So when he discovers that he needs glasses, and his family can only afford the ugliest pair in the store, any hope Rex had of fitting in goes completely out of focus. In this story, Rex has his sights set on surviving sixth grade, but now he's got to find a way to do it with glasses, no friends, and a family that just doesn't get it!

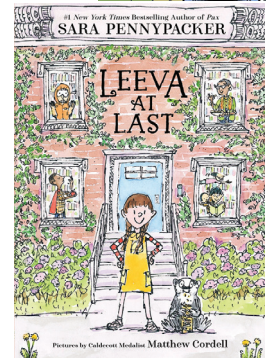
\*Listen in Hoopla and read in Libby.



**Leeva At Last** (Pennypacker) Lexile N/A

What are people for? That's the burning question on the mind of Leeva Spayce Thornblossom. Fame! says Leeva's mom, the mayor of Nutsmore. Money! says her dad, the town treasurer. With the help of an orphaned badger, a risk-averse boy in a hazmat suit, and the town's librarians, Leeva sets off to discover her own answer -- setting off a chain of events that will change Nutsmore forever..

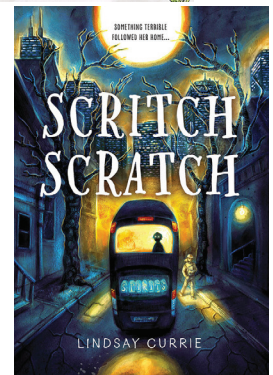
\*Read/listen in Hoopla and read in Libby.



**Scratch Scratch** (Currie) Lexile 610L

Claire can't think of anything worse than having to help out her dad on one of his ghost-themed Chicago bus tours. She made it through the tour when she sees a boy with a sad face at the back of the bus. There's something odd about his presence...especially because, when he disappears at the end of the tour. Claire tries to brush it off. But then the scratching starts. Voices whisper in the dark. The number 396 appears everywhere she turns. And the boy starts following her. Claire is being haunted. The boy from the bus wants something...and Claire needs to find out what it is.

\*Read/listen in Hoopla and read in Libby.



Alternative formats available through Traverse Area District Library.

If individual readers need additional support, email Audrey at [education@nwstc.org](mailto:education@nwstc.org).

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**Book Handout & Battle Kickoff**

January 10, 2025

Traverse Area District Library ~ Woodmere

**Battle of the Books Tournament**

April 12, 2025

Traverse City West High School

*(Not a TCAPS sponsored event)*

**Battle of the Books  
Grand Traverse**

A National Writers Series program  
in partnership with  
Traverse Area District Library

[www.battleofthebooksgt.org](http://www.battleofthebooksgt.org)