

2016-17 Adams 12 Elementary Battle of the Books List

	Title and author	Genre/ Topic	Reading Lexile Level, Page Length. Awards/ Reviews	Summary
1.	The BFG by Roald Dahl	Fantasy/ Giants/ Orphans	Lexile: 720, 219 pages. Federation of Children's Book Groups Award, Books for Young People Award. Roald Dahl's 100th birthday is in 2016!	Kidsnatched from her orphanage by a BFG (Big Friendly Giant), who spends his life blowing happy dreams to children, Sophie concocts with him a plan to save the world from nine other man-gobbling cannybull giants.
2.	Crenshaw by Katherine Applegate	Diversity/ Social Issues/ Homelessness/ Friendship	Lexile: 540, 245 pages. School Library Journal starred review; 2017 Colorado Children's Book Award Nominee; Newbery award winning author. Hornbook Starred Review: "Paints a convincing and compassionate portrait of the working poor."	Ten year old Jackson and his family have fallen on hard times and have no money for rent. Crenshaw is a large, outspoken, imaginary cat who is helping Jackson cope with things. This touching story proves that friends matter, whether real or imaginary.
3.	Disney After Dark (Kingdom Keepers Book One) by Ridley Pearson	Science Fiction/Fantasy/ Mystery/ Humor	Lexile: 640, 324 pages. 2008 Sunshine State Young Readers Award, Pulitzer Prize winning author; Publisher's Weekly Review: "With Finn and friends traversing tunnels and battling the creepy Audio-Animatronic characters, readers will likely line up for this ride."	Finn and several of his friends become holograms at Florida's Disney World and then find themselves literally pulled into nighttime adventures in the theme park. A world of danger awaits and the clock ticks as the children work to solve strange mysteries.
4.	Every Soul a Star by Wendy Mass	Friendship/ Solar Eclipses/ Growing Up	Lexile: 740, 322 pages. Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award, Blue Spruce Book Award, Iowa Children's Choice Award; School Library Journal Review: "A compelling and thought-provoking story."	Ally, Bree, and Jack meet at the one place the Great Eclipse can be seen in totality, each carrying the burden of different personal problems, which diminish when compared to the task they embark upon and the friendship they find. (Fun fact: There will be a total solar eclipse on August 21, 2017.)
5.	Floors by Patrick Carman	Adventure/ Mystery /Puzzles/ Hotels/ Eccentricities	Lexile: 870, 261 pages. Rhode Island Children's Book Award Nominee, School Library Journal Review: "Even reluctant readers will delight in Leo's escapades."	Ten-year-old Leo's future and the fate of the extraordinary Whippet Hotel, where his father is the maintenance man, are at stake when a series of cryptic boxes leads Leo to hidden floors, strange puzzles, and unexpected alliances.

6.	Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry	Classic/ Horses	Lexile: 750, 173 pages. Newbery Honor Award; San Francisco Chronicle Review: "A thrilling and long-to-be remembered tale."	Paul and his sister Maureen's determination to own a pony from the herd on Chincoteague Island, Virginia, is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among the ponies rounded up for the yearly auction.
7.	A Night Divided by Jennifer A. Nielsen	Historical Fiction/ Berlin/ Germany	Lexile: 810, 317 pages. Whitney Award Winner, Utah Book Award Nominee, School Library Journal Starred Review: "This novel's strong setting and tense climax will keep readers engrossed and holding their breath until the last page."	When the Berlin Wall went up, Gerta, her mother, and her brother Fritz were trapped on the eastern side where they were living, while her father, and her other brother Dominic were in the West. Gerta sees her father four years later and realizes he wants her to try to tunnel her way to freedom.
8.	Peak by Roland Smith	Adventure/ Survival/ Mount Everest	Lexile: 760, 246 pages. 2007 National Outdoor Book Award, School Library Journal Review: School Library Journal Starred Review: "A well-crafted plot and exotic setting give the novel great appeal to survival adventure fans."	Teenager Peak Marcello is sent to juvenile detention after scaling and spray-painting a skyscraper. The judge agrees to release him if Peak is willing to live with his estranged father abroad. Peak's father secretly arranges for the two of them to climb Mount Everest together.
9.	Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper	Historical Fiction/ Segregation/ Civil Rights	Lexile: 740, 320 pages. Charlotte Huck Award for Outstanding Fiction for Children, Kirkus Starred Review, School Library Journal Starred Review, Publisher's Weekly Review: "This compelling story brims with courage, compassion, creativity, and resilience."	When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.
10.	The Thing About Georgie by Lisa Graff	Diversity/ Dwarfism/ Growing Up	Lexile: 770, 220 pages. Georgia Children's Book Award Nominee, Nutmeg Book Award Nominee, Booklist Review: "An upbeat and sensitive look at what it's like to be different, this novel will spark discussion."	Georgie's dwarfism causes problems, but he could always rely on his parents, his best friend, and classmate Jeanie the Meanie's teasing, until a surprising announcement, a new boy in school, and a class project shake things up.