

Literary T(w)een Contests & Smackdowns

Why offer contests??

1. Opportunity to offer t(w)een activities even when librarians or teen staff are not present
2. Great way to offer something ongoing, visual and interactive to tween and teens
3. Do not require significant program space & are portable (can be done offsite)
4. Great use of volunteer time
5. Why not report participants among library statistics of teens served?



Wrong Guesses Left: 6

Choose a letter:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Book Title Hangman

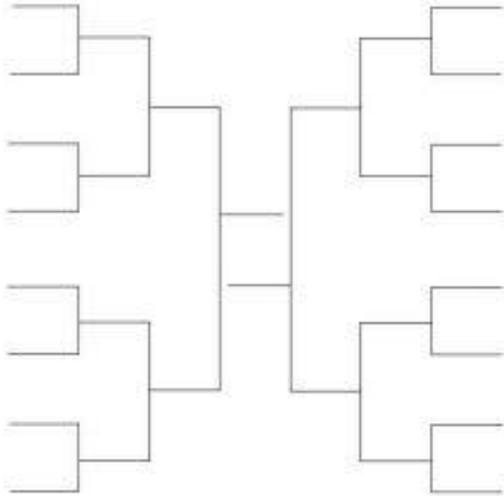
Book title hangman can be run on an ongoing basis (new title every week) and advertised as a large game on a wall, or on a small piece of paper near computers or on desks. Start with a list of book titles you think your t(w)eens will be familiar with. Make up an answer key for staff and a worksheet with appropriate number of blank spaces for participants. Also on answer sheets put spaces for incorrect guesses and a gallows. Participants have 6 wrong guesses until hanged. Change titles/offer as staffing permits.

Six Word Memoirs

“Smoke detectors taught me to cook.” - Ivy V.

“Everything is gone but the song.” -Chris M.

Based on *I Can't Keep My Own Secrets: Six Word Memoirs by Teens Famous and Obscure*, create worksheets with six blank spaces & encourage teens to share their own memoirs. Write six words to capture their lives overall, or a portion, a moment that was important to them. Memoirs can be displayed in the library and staff can vote on favorites.

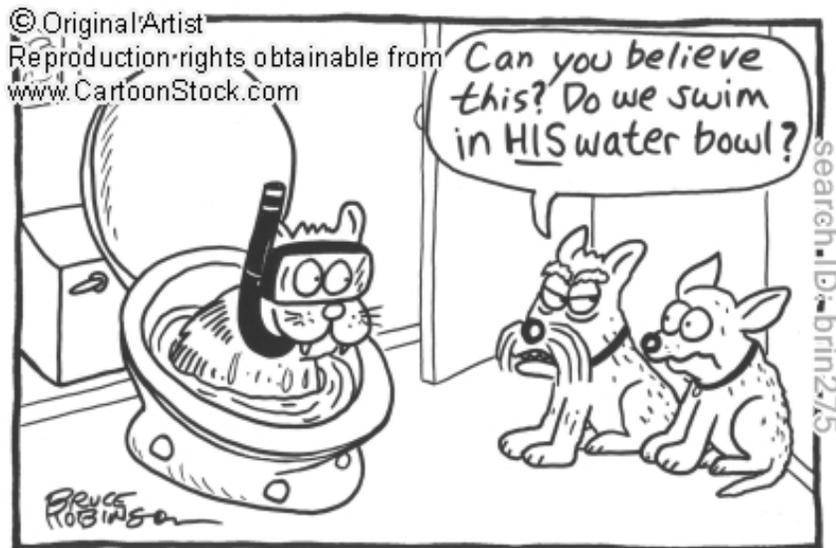


Book Character Smackdown

Who's the champion in your library? Greg Heffley or Fashion Kitty? Goku or Wolverine? Start with a list of book characters and list them on a bracket style tournament grid. Total characters will need to number 8, 16, 32 or 64 to fit this format. Then make voting sheets for each round. Hold first round the first week, then second round second week and so on. This requires making ballots on a weekly basis based on winners so it's more ongoing work. A large bracket can be displayed in the library to attract and inform voters of results.

Cartoon Caption Contests

Gather comics from newspapers or online and eliminate captions. Use single or multi-panel examples. Create worksheets of the art (credit artist) where t(w)eens can fill in their own dialogue and captions. T(w)eens vote on their fave of the previous week and display the best. Run a new caption contest every week as staff allows.



Ideas from VOYA Oct 2012 "From Fantasy Smackdowns to Choose Your Own Adventures" by Rebecca C. Moore. See article for more contests.