Attention: School Librarian or Head of English

Welcome to the 2017 American heats of the International Kids’ Lit Quiz™. This is a literary quiz which aims to broaden students’ knowledge and encourage a love of reading. It is open to students in Years six, seven and eight. Students however, must be under 14 years as of 1st July 2017 to participate.

The international success of the Kids’ Lit Quiz™ is supported by contemporary research. The quiz stimulates wide reading, improves vocabulary and content knowledge and importantly encourages students to read for pleasure. Research (2015 Sullivan & Brown, British Educational Research Journal Vol41, Issue 6, pp 971-991) showed that reading for pleasure was linked to substantial cognitive progress between the ages of 10-16 and that reading was strongly linked to progress in vocabulary acquisition. The Kids’ Lit Quiz certainly fosters reading for pleasure and has academic research to support it.

Because we understand that selecting a team can take time, a pre-test is made available that may assist you in your school’s selection. The pre-test is intended to be given to a team rather than an individual. All you really need, however, are a group of four students who read widely. The team then works collaboratively during the quiz to answer 100 questions in ten categories. The categories are diverse in order to cater for all reading tastes. Book prizes are awarded and there are prizes for the winning team. The event lasts for three hours, with a twenty-minute break at the halfway point.

Known as ‘the sport of reading’ the Kids’ Lit Quiz™ encourages students to broaden their reading and creates an awareness of genre, authors and titles. The competition is designed to be huge fun, with an element of competition, personal challenge and reward that is seldom available to children whose passion is reading. Just taking part in one of the regional heats provides important experiences that many children may not otherwise have.

This year the World Final of the Quiz will be held in Toronto, Canada during their 150th sesquicentennial celebrations. This will be Canada’s biggest ever birthday bash. We would like to offer this year’s winning team from the United States an invitation to attend this event in June/July from 30 June to 6 July 2017.

We look forward to receiving your entry.

Please do not hesitate to contact Dr Cathy Kurkjian, the USA National co-ordinator at: kurkjianc@ccsu.edu OR Ms Lisa Michaud at: lisa.michaud@ccsu.edu. If you need any further information the Kids’ Lit Quiz website is: www.kidslitquiz.com.

Good luck.
Cathy Kurkjian