The K-5 Academic Bowl: A Blueprint for Competition

From Classroom Curiosity to District Champion



Engaging Young Minds Through Spirited, Standards-Aligned Competition

The purpose of the K–5 Academic Bowl is to engage students in collaborative problem-solving through a fun, competitive event that aligns with academic standards. The entire program is structured as a **three-phase journey**, taking students from their own classrooms to a district-wide championship.



Phase 1: The Classroom Competition

Identifying Your School's Brightest Sparks



Goal

To find the top two representatives from every K–5 classroom.



Questions

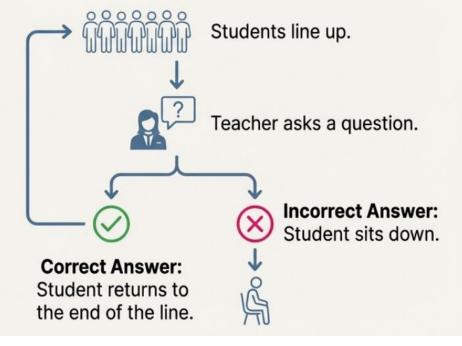
Grade-level Tier 1 questions, directly aligned with classroom standards.



Outcome

The process will continue until the top 2 or 4 students remain based on location.

Procedure



Phase 2: The School Academic Bowl



Participants

Winners from all classroom competitions.



Equipment

Buzzers (or digital system), a score recorder, and a timer.



Structure

3 rounds, featuring 10 questions per round.



Question Design

Questions cover a mixture of subjects and are designed to increase in complexity, measured by Depth of Knowledge (DOK) levels.

School Bowl: Rules of Engagement

Round 1

DOK 1-2 Questions

1 Point

per question

Round 2

DOK 1-2 Questions

1 Point

per question

Round 3

DOK 3 Questions

2 Points

per question

- Answering: The first student to buzz in gets the first chance to answer.
- Incorrect Answers: If the answer is incorrect, the next student who buzzed in may answer.
- Tie-Breaker: A pre-planned, applicationbased challenge (either hands-on or a problem-solving task) is used to determine a definitive winner.

The Winners' Circle and The Path Forward

K-4 Grade Champions



Outcome

The competition concludes at this stage, recognizing a **1st Place Winner** and a **Runner-Up** for each grade.

5th Grade Advancement



Outcome

The journey continues.

5th-grade students advance to form their school's team for the district championship.

Phase 3: The District Academic Bowl

The 5th Grade Team Championship



Team-Based Model

Students compete as a single, collaborative team.



Collaborative Answering

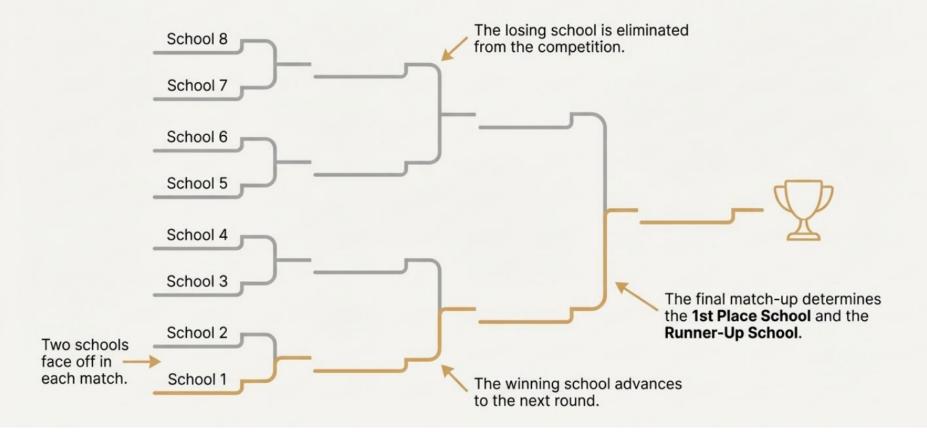
Students are encouraged to confer with their teammates before buzzing in to provide an answer.



Consistent Structure

The competition maintains the familiar **3-round structure** and scoring system from the School Bowl, ensuring continuity and fairness.

The Path to the Championship: A Head-to-Head Tournament



Your Implementation Toolkit: Assembling the Team and Materials

The Event Team (Roles Needed)



Moderator: Reads questions, manages the flow.



Scorekeeper: Records points each round.



Timekeeper: Ensures pacing and time limits.



Judges (Optional): Resolve disputes or clarify answers.

Essential Equipment (Materials Needed)



Buzzers (Physical or Digital)



Score Sheets / Digital Scoreboard



Tie-Breaker Challenge Materials



Question Sets

Fueling the Competition: A Breakdown of the Question Sets

Phase 1: Classroom Competitions

Phase 2: School Bowl

Phase 3: District Bowl

450

900

1770

Questions per grade-level set to allow for rotation.

Questions (in four complete sets) to rotate through grade-level competitions.

Questions are needed to support the full 14-match tournament bracket.

From a Single Classroom Question to a District Trophy



Fostering Academic Excellence and School Spirit.



STAGE 3: DISTRICT

Key Fact: 1 Champion School Team

STAGE 2: SCHOOL

Key Fact: 3 Rounds, Increasing DOK Levels





STAGE 1: CLASSROOM

Key Fact: Top 2 Students Per Class Advance