

# HMS Summer Reading

June 2023

Dear Hereford families:

## **What: Summer Reading!**

What should students read? HMS students read ONE SELF-SELECTED book. Whichever book they choose, it should be a book that is appropriate for middle-grade readers, a book that is fiction, non-fiction, or graphic novel.

## **When:**

ELA teachers will begin collecting dialectical journals at the end of the first week of school for a minor assessment grade. During the first quarter of instruction, students will use their journals to complete an in class assessment for a major grade.

**How:** Read and complete 10 dialectical journals. (*Directions for completing successful dialectical journals are located on the back of this paper*).

**Not sure what book to read?** To help students select a book, we encourage exploring the Maryland Association of School Librarians Black-Eyed Susan [2023 nominees](#). The nominees are divided into choices for Grades 6-8.

Baltimore County Public Library also offers reading recommendations [here](#). Beginning June 3, Students may also visit the Baltimore County Public Library to sign up for their summer program: "[All Together Now](#)."

We hope that every Hereford student enjoys a life made richer through reading. We wish them a summer filled with fun memory-making and hope that they seek and find adventure between the pages of some very good books! Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Julie Dellone  
Principal

Timothy Thomas  
Media Specialist

Brian Fitzgerald  
ELA Department Chair

**Exemplary Sample:** Dialectical Journal Entries (Quotes and Notes)



Artwork Courtesy of Zoey Dickerson

## HMS Summer Reading 2023

**Student Name:** Bea Smart

**Book Title/Author:** Hatchet, Gary Paulsen

**Date:** July 2023

**Total pages:** 195

<b>(Quotes) From Text</b>	<b>Pg#</b>	<b>(Notes) From Me</b>
<p>“ ‘Thanks. It’s really nice.’ But the words sounded hollow, even to Brian.”            “No roads, no trails, no clearings. Just the lakes, and it came to him that he would have to use a lake for landing. If he went down into the trees he was certain to die.”</p>	p.8	<p>“Why does Brian feel that way about getting a hatchet from his Mom? If the words sound hollow to Brian, he must not mean it. Why is he mad at his Mom? <b>Asking questions</b></p>
<p>“Now, with the thought of the burger, the emptiness roared at him. He could not believe the hunger, had never felt this way. The lake water had filled his stomach, but left it hungry, and not it demanded food, screamed for food.”</p>	p.23	<p>I can’t imagine keeping my cool in a situation like this. I’d be on my cell phone, freaking out &amp; he’s trying to land the plane! I guess it’s important to keep your cool in a crisis. Reaction to text It’s weird how Brian’s stomach is like a character now, driving his behavior. I’ve been hungry before, but never like that. Is he going to start eating things that are poison because he is so hungry? <b>Observation of author craft and connections</b></p>
<p>At least 7 additional entries would continue on for a minimum of 10 entries. Page numbers will indicate selections from beginning, middle and end of book.</p>	p.48	

### An Exemplary Dialectical Journal Contains The Following:

- 10 or more entries for the entire book.
- “From Text” entries are at least 1 complete sentence.
- “From Text” entries are from the entire book (beginning, middle, and end). This is indicated by page numbers.
- “From Text” entries demonstrate strong academic writing, CUPS (capitalization, usage, punctuation, and spelling.)
- “From Me” entries have 2 or more complete sentences and demonstrate fully developed thoughts or connections about the text.
- **Some** ideas for the types of “From Me” entries include: reaction, theory or prediction, comparison, explanation, questioning, thematic discussion, and discussion of the author’s craft.