

7th Grade ELA Summer Reading Project

Dear Parents/Caretakers,

First off, congratulations on your children reaching 7th Grade! I'm looking forward to working with them as they develop into young adults, and being there to present and guide them through quality academic material which helps expand and hone their written and critical thinking skills.

As learning isn't just confined to the classroom, but instead is a continuous, year-long process, I've prepared a summer reading and writing project which will both develop students' critical analysis skills and content knowledge. The intent for this project is to help ease students into the expectations of 7th grade level work, while also providing them an engaging learning experience to help keep their minds active during the summer break.

For this project, students will need to acquire a copy of *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen, and will also be provided a work packet to complete which corresponds to the novel. *Hatchet* is widely available at all public libraries, and for purchase online (both new, used, and as an ebook). These worksheets will be due the first day of our 2022-2023 school year, and material from the book will be discussed in class.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at your convenience. Thank you for your time, and have a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Mr. Metzinger, 7th & 8th Grade ELA
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Part Two: Short Response- While reading *Hatchet*, respond to the following questions in 1-2 complete sentences.

- 1. How old is Brian at the beginning of the novel, and why is he traveling to Canada?**
- 2. Why is Brian stuck in the woods, and what tools does he have to help him survive?**
- 3. What was "the secret" to which Brian's thoughts often wander?**
- 4. When Brian has to fly the plane himself after the pilot's heart attack, what prior experience helps him?**
- 5. Give two examples of dangers Brian encounters while surviving alone in the forest. How does he overcome them?**
- 6. Give two examples of tools Brian creates on his own in the forest. How do they help him survive?**
- 7. What are the consequences of the tornado destroying Brian's shelter and fire?**
- 8. What survival tools does Brian find in the wreckage of the plane towards the end of the novel, and how does he react to them?**

- 2. What do you think would have happened if Brian had found the survival pack much earlier? Would he be the same person he became under the book's circumstances?**