

Name: _____

5th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

For summer reading, you will:

1. Read "*Hatchet*", by Gary Paulsen
2. Annotate the text (see notes below)
3. Write down at least 2 discussion questions on a separate sheet of looseleaf paper

Annotation Coding Symbols

Some examples of symbols you may use to help you code are below.

Also, feel free to create your own!

P	When you have a prediction of what will happen next.
?	When you have a question, need clarification, or are unsure.
!	When you discover something new, surprising, exciting, or fun.
©	When you have a connection between the text and your life, the world, or other things you've read.
✓	When you read something that makes you say, "Yeah, I knew that" or "I predicted that" or "I saw that coming."
☆	When you read something that seems important, vital, key, memorable, or powerful.

Bring your book with annotations and discussion questions for the 1st day of school!

We look forward to hearing your questions and responses to the summer reading book!

-Your 5th Grade Teachers

A Checklist on the Qualities of Good

Discussion Questions

1. **CLARITY:** A clear question says what it means so that no one has to guess what the questioner has in mind. A question that is not clear is like asking someone to find something but not telling him/her what to look for. If a question has to be explained or if it cannot be rephrased, it is not clear.
2. **INTERPRETIVE:** Since the primary aim of small-group discussion is to increase the whole group's understanding of the reading, we focus on questions of interpretation. Factual (right there) questions do not generate discussions since they only have one correct answer. Always think about the types of question you are writing and how they will help build your group's discussion and comprehension.
3. **SPECIFIC:** A good discussion question must be specific to the particular reading assignment of that day. Additionally, the question should help the group talk about precise themes/problems/events from the reading and interpret the reading's meaning.
4. **DOUBT:** There must be doubt in the mind of the person who writes the question for deeper discussion. In order to gain insight and understanding, the writer of the question must have some doubt about the answer. This means the questioner isn't sure of an exact answer or he/she can think of more than one answer but isn't quite sure about any of them.
5. **CARE or CONCERN** about the answer. The best questions are those that truly interest the questioner. This personal curiosity adds to the intensity of the discussion.