

A⁺
Partners
IN Education

A⁺

2015 - 2016

CURRICULUM

for elementary &
secondary classes



Howard
COUNTY Library
SYSTEM



Inform + instruct + interact = educate

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The A+ Partners in EducationSM initiative between Howard County Library System and the Howard County Public School System is designed to promote scholarship, eliminate student achievement gaps, and expand academic opportunities for students.

Why invite HCLS to your classes, meetings, and events?

All HCLS classes are free and:

- ✓ Promote Howard County Library System (HCLS) curriculum components that benefit students.
- ✓ Support curricula for every grade.
- ✓ Introduce students to research tools.
- ✓ Familiarize teachers, students, and parents with HCLS' online research and homework help tools.
- ✓ Assist with communication with parents.
- ✓ Provide classes of interest to parents of elementary, middle, and high school students.
- ✓ Strengthen the connection between and among school, parents, students, and HCLS.

Classes appropriate for PTA/PTSA/homeschool representatives to schedule are marked with an asterisk.

FOR TEACHERS & PARAEDUCATORS: HOW TO SCHEDULE A⁺ CLASSES

available October - April
Mondays - Thursdays

Please provide the following:

1. Title of A+ class
2. School name
3. Grade and number of students
4. Preferred dates (three choices)
5. Preferred times
6. Your name and title
7. Phone number and email address
8. Any special considerations or requests

Please call with the above information or complete form at hclibrary.org/teachers. After the A+ class, please complete an online evaluation form.

- May and June are reserved for summer reading promotions.
- Request all classes **at least three weeks** in advance.
- A **faculty member must be present** for the purpose of classroom management.
- Please inform HCLS instructors two weeks in advance if classes need to be adapted for the needs of English Language Learners (ELL) and/or special education students and groups.
- Classes are intended for one pod or classroom group.
- See page 5 for whom to contact for scheduling elementary classes, and page 10 for middle and high school classes.
- Invite an HCLS instructor to a staff meeting.

WHY BOOK AN A⁺ CLASS FROM HCLS FOR PTA/PTSA EVENTS?

available October - April

Invite HCLS instructors to teach A+ classes, provide library card applications and books for borrowing, and discuss research tools at your school's next special event. Classes appropriate for PTA/PTSA/homeschool representatives to schedule are marked with an asterisk.

Opportunities include:

Back to school night

Reading night

Science or STEM fair orientation

Math night

Parent/child evenings

Middle school orientation

Freshman orientation

Mid-term mania

PTA presentations

College night

*To schedule a class for a PT(S)A-sponsored event or meeting,
please contact Rita Snyder three weeks in advance at 410.313.0760
or rita.snyder@hclibrary.org.*

DESIGNATED A⁺ BRANCHES FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

If you have questions or want to schedule a class, please call or email the appropriate person listed below.

HCLS CENTRAL BRANCH

Elisabeth Proffen 410.313.7880 elisabeth.proffen@hclibrary.org

Bryant Woods	Clemens Crossing	Pointers Run
Cedar Lane	Fulton	Running Brook
Clarksville	Longfellow	Swansfield

HCLS EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH

Chris Mancini 410.313.7738 christine.mancini@hclibrary.org

Atholton	Jeffers Hill	Talbott Springs
Cradlerock	Phelps Luck	Thunder Hill
Guilford	Stevens Forest	

HCLS ELKRIDGE BRANCH

Carol Lundell 410.313.5083 carol.lundell@hclibrary.org

Bellows Spring	Ducketts Lane	Ilchester
Deep Run	Elkridge	Rockburn

HCLS GLENWOOD BRANCH

Tanya Malveaux 410.313.5580 tanya.malveaux@hclibrary.org

Bushy Park	Lisbon	West Friendship
Dayton Oaks	Triadelphia Ridge	

HCLS MILLER BRANCH

Stacey Freedman 410.313.1980 stacey.freedman@hclibrary.org

Centennial Lane	Northfield	Waterloo
Hollifield Station	St. Johns Lane	Waverly
Manor Woods	Veterans	Worthington

HCLS SAVAGE BRANCH

Amber Wilson 410.313.0760 amber.wilson@hclibrary.org

Bollman Bridge	Gorman Crossing	Laurel Woods
Forest Ridge	Hammond	

ELEMENTARY A⁺ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

available October - April
Mondays - Thursdays

STORIES GALORE*

(LANGUAGE ARTS)

Students learn that reading is fun as HCLS instructors read new tales and old favorites. Teachers may request a particular theme. 30 min.; grades pre-K-3.

MULTICULTURAL MEDLEY

(LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES)

Students sample cultures of the world through stories, songs, and activities. 45 min.; grades K-5.

IT ALL ADDS UP

(MATH)

Students have fun practicing math skills in everyday life with math concept books, stories, and other activities. 30-45 min.; grades 1-2.

TELL ME A TALE

(LANGUAGE ARTS)

Students identify and discuss characteristics of both **traditional and fractured fairy tales** (grade 2) or **tall tales** (grade 3), through stories and activities. 45-60 min.

SPIRIT OF AMERICA

(SOCIAL STUDIES)

Students test their knowledge of people, places, and events as they play a game. Students are also inspired with short talks on related fiction and nonfiction books. Teachers may choose Maryland, Colonial America, or the American Revolution. 60 min.; grades 4-5.

BOOKS GALORE *

(LANGUAGE ARTS)

Give your students a shot of reading inspiration with tempting talks on the latest and greatest fiction and non-fiction titles, including narrative non-fiction. 30 min.; grades 3-5.

ELEMENTARY A⁺ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

available October - April
Mondays - Thursdays

FAMILY EVENT VISITS

HCLS instructors visit schools to promote homework and research tools. Families, grades pre-K-5.

HOMEWORK & PROJECT HELP *

(TECHNOLOGY)

Students and parents are introduced to online tools to become more savvy users, including accessing HCLS' online research tools, searching the catalog, and using AskUsNow, Online Homework Assistance, and LearningExpress. PTAs, homeschool organizations, or teachers may request HCLS instructors address how to choose credible web sites and access science fair resources. 45 min.; parents, teachers, or grades 4-5.

ALL ACCESS PASS

Ensure every student has the tools to succeed. HCLS instructors can visit your class to provide students with library card applications.

FIELD TRIP

Arrange to bring your students to any HCLS branch for a guided tour of research tools and to receive library cards. Arrange for card applications before a visit.

STUDENT CONTESTS

Check *source*, visit hclibrary.org/students, or call a branch for details.

BUMBLEBEE

Grades 1 - 3

BumbleBees prepare **first, second, and third graders** for the Howard County Library System Spelling Bee through classroom and/or school spelling bees. Students build vocabularies, learn spelling tips, and gain confidence in front of an audience. HCLS provides suggested guidelines, lists of suggested words, and book lists. Register* by Oct 30.

Sponsored by Sunrise Rotary Club of Ellcott City and Rotary Club of Columbia-Patuxent.

HCLS RUBE GOLDBERG CHALLENGE

Grades 4 - 5

Teams of **fourth and fifth grade students** in Howard County incorporate at least three simple machines into a more complicated contraption that will erase a chalkboard. Submissions include video of the machine accomplishing this task and written documentation of how the machine was developed. Register* by November 20.

Sponsored by Friends of Howard County Library System.

Coordinated by HCLS and the Howard County Public School System.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Grade 5

This fun, innovative academic competition for **fifth grade students** improves reading comprehension, builds vocabulary, and teaches teamwork. Teams of five contestants answer questions about 16 pre-assigned books.

Information meetings take place at HCLS Miller Branch on Wednesday, October 14 and Thursday, October 15 at 7 pm.

Register* at hclibrary.org/battleofthebooks from Oct 19 through Nov 2.

Battle of the Books is presented by Josephine B. Scheffenacker Education Trust. Also sponsored by Friends of Howard County Library System, Howard County Public School System, and Frank and Yolanda Bruno Fund.

STUDENT CONTESTS

Check *source*, visit hclibrary.org/students, or call a branch for details.

HCLS SPELLING BEE

Grades 4 - 8

Students in **grades 4 through 8** learn standard English spelling, increase vocabulary, and recognize the meaning, form, and function of words as they compete in classroom and school bees. Winners of school bees advance to HCLS' regional bee on March 11, 2016.

The winner of the regional bee competes in the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC. The HCLS Spelling Bee is organized under the rules of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Register* by September 30.

Sponsored by Friends of Howard County Library System and Howard County Public School System.

SHERLOCK HOLMES ESSAY CONTEST

Grade 7

Seventh grade students increase their understanding of the literary forms of mystery and suspense as they read and respond to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Adventure of the Speckled Band." Entries due by May 31, 2016.

In partnership with Watson's Tin Box and Howard County Public School System.

***All Intent to Participate forms available online.**

DESIGNATED A⁺ BRANCHES FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLS

If you have questions or want to schedule a class, please call or email the appropriate person listed below.

HCLS CENTRAL BRANCH

Maggie Smith 410.313.7870 margaret.smith@hclibrary.org

Atholton HS	Harpers Choice MS	River Hill HS
Cedar Lane	Homewood School	Wilde Lake HS
Clarksville MS	Lime Kiln MS	Wilde Lake MS

HCLS EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH

Mark Bizokas 410.313.7711 mark.bizokas@hclibrary.org

Lake Elkhorn MS	Oakland Mills HS	Oakland Mills MS
Applications & Research Lab		

HCLS ELKRIDGE BRANCH

Deborah Bosilovich 410.313.5085 deborah.bosilovich@hclibrary.org

Bonnie Branch MS	Howard HS	Mayfield Woods MS
Elkridge Landing MS	Long Reach HS	Thomas Viaduct MS

HCLS GLENWOOD BRANCH

Lori Conforti 410.313.5583 lori.conforti@hclibrary.org

Folly Quarter MS	Glenwood MS	Mount View MS
Glenelg HS	Marriotts Ridge HS	

HCLS MILLER BRANCH

Courtney Gardinier 410.313.1964 courtney.gardinier@hclibrary.org

Burleigh Manor MS	Dunloggin MS	Mt. Hebron HS
Centennial HS	Ellicott Mills MS	Patapsco MS

HCLS SAVAGE BRANCH

Sarah Cooke 410.313.0760 sarah.cooke@hclibrary.org

Hammond MS	Murray Hill MS	Reservoir HS
Hammond HS	Patuxent Valley MS	

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL A⁺ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

HCLS classes for middle and high school students are designed to promote critical and selective use of sources, including HCLS' online research tools. These classes expose students to essential 21st century skills, challenging students to consider the source and format of the information that they are using, to be thoughtful participants in the research process, and to select the most appropriate source for given assignments. Review the class descriptions that follow, and invite an HCLS instructor to visit your classroom today.

BOOK CLUB

(LANGUAGE ARTS)

HCLS instructors provide up to eight copies of books for your book club, or facilitate the discussion with your students. Students demonstrate the ability to identify and explain an author's use of literary devices, such as plot, setting, and characterization, as they determine the critical or central ideas of a text. Length, text selections and content determined by need.

Grades 6 & up.

CAREER & COLLEGE BOUND *

(LANGUAGE ARTS, STUDENT SERVICES)

Students learn to conduct effective research about colleges and/or careers. Career presentations include details on job descriptions, salary expectations, and required educational achievement or training, as well as information about choosing a career and occupational outlook.

College presentations discuss school selection and admission requirements. Students learn how to access details about colleges and financial aid, manage time during the application process, and understand the goal of an essay question in order to develop effective college essays.

Grades 6 & up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA and homeschool organization events.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

A⁺ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

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ELL EXPERIENCE

(ESOL)

Students develop listening, speaking, language, and literacy skills through exposure to high interest, English language materials. Students reinforce existing skills using HCLS materials in their home languages. Materials can be borrowed from the classroom, or arrange a tour of your designated A+ branch. Length determined by need; grades 6 & up.

HISTORY DAY PROJECT PREPARATION

(SOCIAL STUDIES)

Students identify resources to formulate historical questions; access historical data including primary source material, secondary source material, and graphic organizers; and learn to identify the author or source of an historical document or narrative. Includes introduction to HCLS online research tools. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

LIVE HOMEWORK HELP

(LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)

Students learn to access free homework support from trained educators via hclibrary.org. May be combined with another class. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

RAISING READERS:

MORE THAN JUST READING THE WORDS

(EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION)

HCLS children's instructors teach secondary students how to motivate emerging readers through the use of books and teaching tools. Students also learn about HCLS resources for children and educators. Learn how to engage a young audience from professionals who do it every day. 50 min.; grades 9 & up.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL A⁺ CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

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RECOMMENDED READS

(LANGUAGE ARTS)

Students develop a positive reading attitude and cultivate a personal interest in a variety of genres, as HCLS instructors promote the subject area of your choice, including some narrative nonfiction. Length determined by need. Grades 6 & up. Suggest a theme, or ask us to feature:

- ☞ BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIR
- ☞ BLACK EYED SUSAN NOMINEES
- ☞ FANTASY AND SCIENCE FICTION
- ☞ GREAT SUMMER READS
- ☞ HIGH-INTEREST TITLES FOR RELUCTANT READERS
- ☞ HISTORICAL NOVELS
- ☞ MATERIALS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS
- ☞ MULTICULTURAL TITLES
- ☞ MYSTERY FICTION
- ☞ NEW BOOKS
- ☞ REALISTIC FICTION

RELIABLE RESEARCH

(LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)

Students become familiar with methods for conducting reliable research as they develop skills to evaluate the quality and authority of sources and determine the most appropriate resources to meet an identified need. Includes an introduction to HCLS' online research tools. May be tailored to a specific class assignment. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

STEM FAIR STARTERS

(STEM)

Students identify appropriate books, periodicals, and online research tools to generate meaningful scientific questions, design experimental approaches, and compare new data with previously discovered results. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.



HiTECH

Howard County Library System

The Road to a STEM Career

Middle and high school students experience the latest technology and software in HCLS' HiTech STEM education initiative. Students explore science, technology, engineering, and math via hands-on video, music, game app, and eBook projects.

Visit helibrary.org/hitech_events for a calendar of classes.

Classes include:

- 3D Design
- Arduino
- Augmented Reality
- Bungee
- Carver Science
- Catapult
- Chemical Reactions
- Code Exploration
- Code-plosion
- Curie, Radiology & Pathology
- DNA
- Fashion Technology
- Fundamentals of Living Organisms
- H2O and You
- Hovercraft
- Histology
- Inspecting Gadgets
- Intro to Engineering
- Math Logic Games & Puzzles
- Middle School Robotics Challenge
- Music Technology
- Periodic Build
- Programming with Java
- Quadrotor Flight Controller
- SAT Prep
- Unity Game Designer
- Using JavaScript
- Wearable Technology
- Weather Balloons

SPECIAL EVENTS

HCLS instructors can teach A+ classes, provide library card applications and books for borrowing, and discuss research tools at your school's next special event, such as:

- Reading or Math night
- Science or STEM fair events
- Back to school night
- PTA presentations
- College night

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NOTES

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