

WGMS Summer 7th Grade PreAP Reading
Online Discussion Forum Directions
(NiceNet)

This online discussion forum is to be used to monitor required summer reading and allow students and teachers to interact with each other in a safe virtual learning environment. We will begin the summer with a class site on www.nicenet.org, with the following expectations in place.

- To set up your account:
 - Go online to www.nicenet.org.
 - Below you will find the two novels you will be reading this summer. Please use the class key below to log in to each account.
 - Click on “Join a Class.”
 - Class Name: Old Yeller Class Key: R237674O45
 - Class Name: Hatchet Class Key: T237676H3
 - Set up an account name and password. Your username must be your **first and last name**. *Do not give out an email account.*
 - My username is _____ and my password is _____ . (Write it down so you don’t forget it. ☺)
 - You are now ready to log in and participate!

- We will use the following tools:
 - **“Conferencing”**- This is where topics will be posted directly for discussion by the teachers. You will respond to questions and to each other’s postings. This section will be where you will do most of your communication.
 - When you want to post a message, you need to go to the start of the topic and click ***Post Message to ...*** Then enter the Subject and Message Text; end and save with Post Message to add the item).
 - You will be able to edit it afterwards if you want to.
 - To respond to a message previously posted, use the Reply option. Don’t post a new message if you are just answering someone else’s question or commenting on their post.
 - **“Link Sharing”**- Teachers may post important links (Websites) here which relate to the book for you to review and discuss. You may also post related and appropriate sites as well as they relate to the novels. Examples would be author Websites, etc.

REMEMBER: This is summer vacation for everyone (including teachers!). Comments may not receive an immediate response or each comment/question may not be answered individually. Please use the Meadows Public Library located at MHS if you need Internet access.

- Discussion forum expectations:
 - All postings **must** be respectful in tone and content. It is an **academic forum, and academic language should be maintained at all times.** Educational discussion forums require a more professional tone than chat rooms, blogs, or Instant Messaging. **Spell all words out COMPLETELY!** Write clearly and in complete sentences with appropriate grammar and language. Disagree with ideas, not people. **NO DISRESPECTFUL OR INAPPROPRIATE POSTINGS WILL BE ALLOWED**
 - To fulfill the basic requirement, you must *begin at least two thoughtful topic discussions per novel.* You must also *respond at least one other classmate's comment* in a thoughtful manner.

Have fun! Mrs. Adamson (Library Media Specialist), Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Benesch will be monitoring all of these discussions throughout the summer and discussing the books with you.