a classes guide from
Howard County Library System

A+ CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENTS
2011 - 2012

STEM

- CTE Expo

RESEARCH

- HCLS Spelling Bee

Hi

- College Fair

- social studies

- language arts

- academic competitions

- career exploration

- Kindergarten visits
The A+ Partners in Education 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 SHOULD YOUR PTA OR PTSA BOOK AN A+ CLASS FROM THE LIBRARY?

available October 2011 - May 2012

To schedule a class for a PTA-sponsored evening or meeting, or for more information, contact Rita Snyder three weeks in advance at 410.880.5910 or rita.snyder@hclibrary.org.

✔ Assist your PTA/PTSA in communicating with parents.

✔ Provide classes relevant to parents of elementary, middle, and high school students.

✔ Increase parental awareness of Howard County Library System (HCLS) resources designed to assist students academically.

✔ Familiarize parents with HCLS’ specialized research tools and online homework help resources.

✔ Strengthen the connection among school, parents, students, and HCLS.

✔ All HCLS classes are free.

✔ Classes appropriate for PTA/PTSA representatives to schedule are marked with an asterisk (*) within this guide.

Invite HCLS instructors to provide classes, book displays, library card applications, and other relevant resources at your school’s next special event, such as:

Reading night  Math night
Science fair orientation  Back to school night
Parent/child evenings  Middle school orientation
Freshman orientation  Mid-term mania
PTA presentations  College night
FOR TEACHERS SCHEDULING A CLASS FOR ANY GRADE:

Please provide the following:

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

Please call with the above information or use the online form available at hclibrary.org on the Teachers’ page.

• Request all classes at least three weeks in advance.
• Classes available October through April.
• When scheduling summer reading promotions: high school dates are available in early May, and middle and elementary promotions run from mid-May through the first full week of June.
• A faculty member must be present during the class.
• Classes may be adapted for the needs of English Language Learners (ELL) and special education students and groups.
• Classes are intended for one pod or classroom group.
• See page 4 for whom to contact for planning for elementary classes, and page 9 for middle and high schools. Or, invite an HCLS instructor to a staff meeting.
## Designated Library Branches for Elementary Schools

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

### Central Branch

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Supervisor Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bryant Woods</td>
<td>Elisabeth Proffen</td>
<td>410.313.7880</td>
<td><a href="mailto:elisabeth.proffen@hclibrary.org">elisabeth.proffen@hclibrary.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarksville</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clemens Crossing</td>
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### East Columbia Branch

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<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Supervisor Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atholton</td>
<td>Irva Gabin</td>
<td>410.313.7730</td>
<td><a href="mailto:irva.gabin@hclibrary.org">irva.gabin@hclibrary.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cradlerock</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Guilford</td>
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### Elkridge Branch

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<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Supervisor Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bellows Spring</td>
<td>Kim Ha</td>
<td>410.313.5083</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kim.ha@hclibrary.org">kim.ha@hclibrary.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep Run</td>
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### Glenwood Branch

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<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Supervisor Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bushy Park</td>
<td>Tanya Malveaux</td>
<td>410.313.5580</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tanya.malveaux@hclibrary.org">tanya.malveaux@hclibrary.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Dayton Oaks</td>
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### Miller Branch

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<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Supervisor Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centennial Lane</td>
<td>Stacey Freedman</td>
<td>410.313.1955</td>
<td><a href="mailto:stacey.freedman@hclibrary.org">stacey.freedman@hclibrary.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollifield Station</td>
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<td>Manor Woods</td>
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### Savage Branch

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<th>Branch</th>
<th>Supervisor Name</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bollman Bridge</td>
<td>Amber Haslinger</td>
<td>410.880.5978</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amber.haslinger@hclibrary.org">amber.haslinger@hclibrary.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Ridge</td>
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STORIES GALORE - GUEST READERS * (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. Alternatively, choose one of the following topics: Africa, Native America, South America, Asia, Australia, Europe. 45 min.; grades K-5.

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.

FAMILY EVENT VISITS
Library instructors visit schools to promote books and HCLS resources at a school event, including homework and research support. Families, grades pre-K-5.

BOOKS GALORE * (LANGUAGE ARTS)
Give your students a shot of reading inspiration with tempting talks on books, authors, and series. Emphasis placed on newly published books. 30 min.; grades 3-5.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (SCIENCE)
Explore science resources representing elements or nature. 30, 45, or 60 min.; grades 3-5.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA events.
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HOMEWORK & PROJECT HELP * (TECHNOLOGY)
Students and parents are introduced to online tools to become more savvy HCLS users, including topics of accessing HCLS’ specialized online research tools, searching the Library’s catalog, and using AskUsNow, Online Homework Assistance, and LearningExpress. PTAs or teachers may request information on choosing credible web sites and accessing science fair or history day resources. 45 min.; parents, teachers, or grades 4-5.

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

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA events.

ALL ACCESS PASS
Ensure every student has the tools to succeed. Library instructors can visit your class to provide students with library cards.

FIELD TRIP
Arrange to bring your students to any of HCLS’ six branches to tour resources and receive library cards.
STUDENT CONTESTS
Check source, visit hclibrary.org, or call a branch for details.

HOWARD COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM SPELLING BEE
Sponsored by BB&T and Friends of Howard County Library
Students in grades 4 though 8 apply standard English spelling, increase vocabulary, and recognize the meaning, form, and function of words as they compete in classroom and school bees. Winners advance to HCLS’ regional bee in March 2012. 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. Registration deadline is September 30, 2011.

BUMBLEBEE
BumbleBees prepare first, second, and third graders for the Howard County Library System Spelling Bee. 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.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS
Coordinated by Howard County Library System and the Howard County Public School System
Battle of the Books is a fun, innovative reading contest that engages fifth grade students who love to read in an academic quiz show style competition. Teams of five contestants answer questions about 16 books they have read from a preselected list. The Battle takes place April 20, 2012. Online registration begins October 24 and closes November 4.
STUDENT CONTESTS
Check source, visit hclibrary.org, or call a branch for details.

RUBE GOLDBERG CHALLENGE @ HCLS
Coordinated by Howard County Library System and the Howard County Public School System
Teams of fourth and fifth grade students in Howard County incorporate at least three simple machines into a more complicated contraption that will pop a balloon. Submissions (due March 28, 2012) include video of their machine accomplishing the task and written documentation of how the machine was developed. Registration open October 31 to November 11.

SHERLOCK HOLMES ESSAY CONTEST
Sponsored by Watson’s Tin Box and HCPSS
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.” Submission deadline is June 1, 2012.

WORD UP! POETRY CONTEST
Sponsored by Friends of Howard County Library
Students in grades 6 through 12 (competing in three categories) clarify, extend, or elaborate on ideas by using vivid language such as imagery, figurative language, and sound elements by creating and submitting original poetry. Online submission deadline is March 14, 2012.

TEACHER NOTES BLOG
This blog features Library System classes and events announcements. Learn about HCLS resources to assist you and your students with lessons and assignments.

hclibrary.org/teachernotes
Visit us regularly or subscribe to the RSS feed and have the blog posts delivered to you!
## DESIGNATED LIBRARY 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.

### CENTRAL BRANCH

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<tr>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maggie Smith</td>
<td>410.313.7870</td>
<td><a href="mailto:margaret.smith@hclibrary.org">margaret.smith@hclibrary.org</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atholton HS</td>
<td>Homewood School</td>
<td>Wilde Lake HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarksville MS</td>
<td>Lime Kiln MS</td>
<td>Wilde Lake MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harpers Choice MS</td>
<td>River Hill HS</td>
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### EAST COLUMBIA BRANCH

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<th>Branch</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Reznick</td>
<td>410.313.7711</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rachel.reznick@hclibrary.org">rachel.reznick@hclibrary.org</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Elkhorn MS</td>
<td>Oakland Mills HS</td>
<td>Oakland Mills MS</td>
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<td>Applications &amp; Research Lab</td>
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### ELKRIDGE BRANCH

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<tr>
<td>Sarah Russo</td>
<td>410.313.5088</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.russo@hclibrary.org">sarah.russo@hclibrary.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonnie Branch MS</td>
<td>Howard HS</td>
<td>Mayfield Woods MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elkridge Landing MS</td>
<td>Long Reach HS</td>
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### GLENWOOD BRANCH

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<th>Branch</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Stephens</td>
<td>410.313.5583</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amy.stephens@hclibrary.org">amy.stephens@hclibrary.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Folly Quarter MS</td>
<td>Glenwood MS</td>
<td>Mount View MS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glenelg HS</td>
<td>Marriotts Ridge HS</td>
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### MILLER BRANCH

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<tr>
<td>Courtney Gardinier</td>
<td>410.313.1964</td>
<td><a href="mailto:courtney.gardinier@hclibrary.org">courtney.gardinier@hclibrary.org</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Burleigh Manor MS</td>
<td>Dunloggin MS</td>
<td>Mt. Hebron HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centennial HS</td>
<td>Ellicott Mills MS</td>
<td>Patapsco MS</td>
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### SAVAGE BRANCH

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<tr>
<td>Brian Hart</td>
<td>410.880.5983</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brian.hart@hclibrary.org">brian.hart@hclibrary.org</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hammond MS</td>
<td>Murray Hill MS</td>
<td>Reservoir HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hammond HS</td>
<td>Patuxent Valley MS</td>
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BIG6™ INFORMATION SKILLS *
(LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES)
Library instructors and research specialists will introduce students to information literacy and the Big6™ research process model. Staff will introduce each stage of the process, with particular emphasis on Information Seeking Strategies and Location and Access. We can customize this class to focus on resources that support the particular assignment your students are researching. 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

BOOK CLUB (LANGUAGE ARTS)
Let us provide books for your book club, or facilitate the discussion for 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 and up.

CAREER EXPLORATIONS (LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students learn to locate and collect career information, including job descriptions, salary expectations, and required educational achievement or training. Students also learn to generate search terms and strategies, and identify the author or source of information. 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

CLASSIC LITERATURE (LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES)
Students develop a positive reading attitude and cultivate a personal interest in classic literature. Teachers may choose Chaucer & Dante or Shakespeare. 45 min.; grades 9 and up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA events.
DESCRIPTIONS FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

COLLEGE BOUND * (LANGUAGE ARTS, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students learn how to research colleges and financial aid, manage time during the application process, and understand the goal of an essay question in order to develop effective writing strategies. 45 min.; grades 9 and up.

ELL EXPERIENCE (ESOL)
Students develop listening, speaking, language, and literacy skills through high interest, English language HCLS materials. Students reinforce existing skills using HCLS materials in their home languages. Materials can be borrowed from the classroom, or you can arrange a tour of your designated Library branch. Length determined by need; grades 6 and up.

THE GAME IS AFOOT! (LANGUAGE ARTS)
Students become familiar with the literary forms of mystery and suspense as they explore a Sherlock Homes mystery. Students also receive an introduction to the Sherlock Holmes Essay Contest (see page 8). 45 min.; 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 specialized online research tools. 45 min.; grades 6 & up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA events.
LIFE STORIES (LANGUAGE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES)
Students learn the difference between biography, autobiography, and memoir as Library instructors promote a range of biographical materials and explore the lives of some unique individuals. Students also learn to access biographical details using HCLS’ specialized online research tools. 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

LITERARY CRITICISM: SUPPORTING YOUR ARGUMENT
Students learn to locate and collect information related to the critical study of published authors and their work. Includes introduction to HCLS specialized online research tools. 15 min.; grades 6 & up.

LIVE HOMEWORK HELP & AskUSNow * (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 and up.

RAISING READERS: MORE THAN JUST READING THE WORDS (EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION)
Howard County Library System’s children’s instructors teach secondary students how to motivate emerging readers through the use of props and music. 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 and up.

* denotes classes appropriate for PTA events.
RECOMMENDED READS* (LANGUAGE ARTS)

Students develop a positive reading attitude and cultivate a personal interest in a variety of genres, as HCLS instructors promote materials from the subject area of your choice. Length determined by need; grades 6 and up. Suggest a theme, or ask us to feature:

- Biography and Memoir
- Fantasy and Science Fiction
- High-Interest Titles for Reluctant Readers
- Multi-Cultural Titles
- New Books
- Realistic Fiction
- Black Eyed Susan Nominees
- Great Summer Reads
- Historical Novels
- Materials for English Language Learners
- Mystery Fiction

ALL ACCESS PASS

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FIELD TRIP

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DESCRIPTIONS FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

RELIABLE RESEARCH * (LANGUAGE ARTS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students become familiar with methods for locating reliable information as they develop skills to evaluate the quality and authority of information and determine the most appropriate resources to meet an identified need. Includes an introduction to HCLS’ specialized online research tools. May be tailored to a specific class assignment. 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

SCIENCE FAIR STARTERS *
Students identify information in books, periodicals, and specialized online research tools that can be used to generate meaningful scientific questions, design experimental approaches, and compare new data with previously discovered results. 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

STANDARDIZED TEST PREPARATION * (LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, STUDENT SERVICES)
Students identify resources for strengthening academic and test-taking skills needed to improve scores on familiar standardized tests such as the HSA, SAT, AP, and ASVAB. Introduces sample tests. 45 min.; grades 9 and up.

TAKE THE SPENDING CHALLENGE (SOCIAL STUDIES)
Students learn money management skills and understand how credit cards work as they practice making personal financial decisions during this interactive game. 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

WRITERS’ CAMP (LANGUAGE ARTS)
Students clarify, extend, or elaborate on ideas by using vivid language, such as imagery and figurative language, to create original poetry. Poems may be submitted to the Word Up! Poetry Contest (see page 8). 45 min.; grades 6 and up.

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Howard County Library System instructors can provide classes, book displays, library cards, and other relevant resources at your school’s next special event, such as:

- Reading or Math night
- Science fair orientation
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- College night

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