

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade U.S. History

To 7<sup>th</sup> grade U.S. History students:

As part of your summer reading, you will be required to read My Brother Sam is Dead by James Lincoln Collier and answer the questions attached to this letter. My Brother Sam is Dead is a fictional story of one family torn apart by the Revolutionary War. This book is available at Barnes & Noble, Amazon.com, or you may purchase it for your E-Reader.

Please answer all the questions to the best of your ability and be prepared to discuss the content of the book in class. This is your first assignment for U.S. History and will count as a quiz grade. It will be due upon your return to school. If you have any questions regarding this assignment, you may email me at [bedwards@cardenarborview.org](mailto:bedwards@cardenarborview.org). Enjoy your summer, and I look forward to seeing each of you at the start of the school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Edwards

## **My Brother Sam is Dead**

**By James Lincoln Collier**

Read the story and answer the following questions. TYPE your answers on a separate sheet of paper.

- I. In the story, Sam joins the American Revolutionary Army because he feels that the colonists are taxed unfairly by the British. His father thinks that fighting over taxes is not worth the lives that will be lost. Sam claims he is standing up for a principle. Write about a time when you stood up for something you believe in. Describe what you did and how it made you feel.
  
- II. In the story, Tim Meeker watches a group of soldiers enter the Meeker tavern. Write a paragraph describing the scene Tim views when he sneaks in to see what the soldiers want. Discuss what the soldiers were looking for and why.
  
- III. Tim tells this story from his own point of view. What if Sam told this story instead of Tim? How would the story be different? And how would it be the same?
  
- IV. Draw illustrations of a Redcoat and a Continental soldier. Label the similarities and the differences in their clothes and their weapons.