

HMH Paper Sourcing & Usage Policy

2023–2024



Introduction and Values Statement

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt® (HMH) is committed to making environmentally responsible choices to serve students and educators for years to come, and we are expanding our sustainability programs to meet the challenges of today’s world. As a company focused on creating a better world for all children, we feel a responsibility to minimize our own impact on the environment, including but not limited to how we source and use paper in our products. In recent years, we have made great progress against our sustainability goals—surpassing all paper sourcing targets—and we strive to continually improve our efforts moving forward.



Between 2019 and 2022, our sustainable paper practices resulted in saving approximately **1,133,182 trees.**

Recent Accomplishments

We are proud to have surpassed the goals and actions outlined in our 2019–2022 paper policy. During that timeframe, our sustainable paper practices resulted in saving approximately 1,133,182 trees¹.

2022 Target Surpassed



Target of 90% of HMH purchased paper for education products to be manufactured with at least 10% recycled fiber—achieved: 97%.

2019–2022 Achievements



On average, between 2019 and 2022, 98% of HMH purchased paper for education products was manufactured with at least 10% recycled fiber.

¹ Environmental savings provided by paper suppliers Bulkley Dunton and New Leaf Paper.

2023–2024 Targets

As a content provider, we recognize that paper procurement and usage is one of the most significant environmental issues to our business. At HMH, we have embraced a **digital first, connected strategy** to best serve our customers, who have a growing need for dynamic, connected digital products and solutions. As schools shift to digital resources and a 1:1 student to device ratio becomes universal, print materials, while still important, have become increasingly supplemental.

As our customers use fewer print products, we use fewer natural resources and reduce our reliance on transportation to deliver print materials, which benefits the environment. But even as the demand for digital products grows, we know that some print materials are still essential. As such, we still need to utilize paper in many of our products. We are committed to making the most responsible choices possible about the types of paper we procure.

Recycled Paper



We commit to 90% of HMH purchased paper to be manufactured with at least 10% recycled fiber².

² In previous versions of this paper policy, prior to the divestiture of HMH Books & Media in 2021, we included targets around procurement of FSC-certified paper in our trade products. Since we no longer have the Books & Media business these targets are no longer necessary.



We have embraced a **digital first, connected strategy.**

Selecting and Influencing Suppliers

HMH recognizes that our supply chain partners are critical to our ability to achieve the goals laid out in this policy. We can only successfully implement this policy if our suppliers offer us the products we seek in sufficient quantities while meeting our requirements for both quality and price. We also rely on our suppliers to provide us with sufficient information to track our progress against our objectives.

To ensure that we are partnering with suppliers who can help us achieve our objectives, HMH will only engage with suppliers who support sound environmental practices and responsible sourcing. This information is confirmed by documentation that we have received or that is readily available on the vendor websites. We will only procure domestic paper from mills

that are FSC or SFI certified and have strict environmental policies. HMH will not work with suppliers who are unwilling to partner with us to achieve the goals laid out in this policy.

We also recognize our role in influencing our suppliers to use paper more responsibly.

We share our updated paper policy with our suppliers. We also ask our suppliers to provide their own environmental goals and outcomes, including any existing paper policies, to ensure our commitments are aligned. If they do not have these policies or information otherwise available, we strongly encourage them to develop such documents within an agreed-upon timeframe. If suppliers are unwilling to engage in this process, then we will consider doing business with alternative suppliers.



HMH will only engage with suppliers who support sound environmental practices and responsible sourcing.

Commitments

Supplier Sourced Paper

We require our suppliers to avoid any controversial fiber, such as Acacia or mixed tropical hardwoods that are sourced from high conservation-value forests and protected areas.

We utilize an independent laboratory to conduct periodic testing to ensure there are no traces of controversial fiber in our products. Additionally, for printer supplied paper, we encourage the use of paper with recycled fiber.

Monitoring and Reporting

We will report on our paper sourcing and usage progress annually, via HMH's Environmental, Social and Governance Annual Report.

HMH is committed to improving, innovating and accelerating our company-wide sustainability efforts in all areas of our business, while serving students and teachers.

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