



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 5: Module 2A: Unit 3:

Recommended Texts



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Unit 3 builds students' knowledge about how scientists communicate their findings, with a particular focus on field journals and field guides. Students also conduct research on arthropods of the rainforest. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures on these topics. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge and become interested in scientific writing. Note that districts and schools should consider their own community standards when reviewing this list. Some texts in particular units or modules address emotionally difficult content.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency that the CCLS demand.

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile measures that correspond to Common Core Bands: below-grade band, within band, and above-grade band. Note however that Lexile measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grade 2–3: 420–820L
- Grade 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grade 6–8: 925–1185L

| Title | Author And Illustrator | Text Type | Lexile Measure |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Lexile text measures below band level (under 740L) | | | |
| <i>Insects</i> | Shelley Underwood (author) | Informational | 460 |
| <i>Ant Cities</i> | Arthur Dorros (author/illustrator) | Informational | 600 |
| <i>Centipedes</i> | Rebecca Rissman (author) | Informational | 630 |
| <i>Goliath Bird-Eating Tarantula: The World's Biggest Spider</i> | Meish Goldish (author) | Informational | 710 |



| Title | Author And Illustrator | Text Type | Lexile Measure |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Lexile text measures within band level (740–1010L) | | | |
| <i>Bugs! Ants</i> | Kristin Petrie (author) | Informational | 760* |
| <i>Bugs! Centipedes</i> | Kristin Petrie (author) | Informational | 780* |
| <i>Secret of the Plant-Killing Ants and More!</i> | Ana María Rodríguez (author) | Informational | 800* |
| <i>It's a Butterfly's Life</i> | Irene Kelly (author) | Informational | 800 |
| <i>Insects in Danger (World of Insects)</i> | Kathryn Smithyman (author) | Informational | 810 |
| <i>Goliath Bird-Eating Spiders and Other Extreme Bugs</i> | Deirdre A. Prischmann (author) | Informational | 830 |
| <i>Deadly Praying Mantis</i> | Meish Goldish (author) | Informational | 830 |
| <i>Bizarre Bugs</i> | Doug Wechsler (author) | Informational | 830* |
| <i>Dirty Rotten Bugs? Arthropods Unite to Tell Their Side of the Story</i> | Gilles Bonotaux (author/illustrator) | Informational | 840* |
| <i>Fabulous Fluttering Tropical Butterflies</i> | Dorothy Hinshaw Patent (author) | Informational | 860* |
| <i>The Field Guide to Rain Forest Animals: Explore the Amazon Jungle</i> | Nancy Honovich (author) | Informational | 870* |

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level



| Title | Author And Illustrator | Text Type | Lexile Measure |
|---|--|---------------|----------------|
| <i>One Day in the Tropical Rainforest</i> | Jean Craighead George (author) | Literature | 880 |
| <i>Rain Forest</i> | Elinor Greenwood (author) DK Eye Wonder | Informational | 880* |
| <i>Butterfly and Moths</i> | Nic Bishop (author) | Informational | 890 |
| <i>Life in the Rain Forests</i> | Lucy Baker (author) | Informational | 910* |
| <i>Tree of Life: The Incredible Biodiversity of Life on Earth</i> | Rochelle Strauss (author) | Informational | 910 |
| <i>Butterflies</i> | Seymour Simon | Informational | 920* |
| <i>What is an Arthropod?!</i> | Bobbie Kalman (author) | Informational | 930 |
| <i>The Life and Times of the Ant</i> | Charles Micucci (author) | Informational | 950 |

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level



| Title | Author And Illustrator | Text Type | Lexile Measure |
|---|--|---------------|----------------|
| Lexile text measures within Grade 6–8 band level (925–1185L) | | | |
| <i>A Butterfly Is Patient</i> | Dianna Hutts Aston (author) | Informational | 1040 |
| <i>Life in a Rain Forest</i> | Anne Welsbacher (author) | Informational | 1040* |
| <i>DK Insect</i> | Laurence A. Mound (author) | Informational | 1050* |
| <i>Paleo Bugs: Survival of the Creepiest</i> | Timothy Bradley (author/illustrator) | Informational | 1160 |
| <i>The Bug Scientists</i> | Donna M. Jackson (author) | Informational | 1200 |
| <i>The Case of the Monkeys That Fell From the Trees</i> | Susan Quinlan (author) | Informational | 1210 |
| <i>Rainforests</i> | Andrew Langley (author) | Informational | No Lexile |
| <i>World of Animals: Insects and Other Invertebrates</i> | Grolier (publisher) (10 volume set) | Informational | No Lexile |

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*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level

*This title is also available in French (as Les Arthropodes). See http://www.crabtreebooks.com/Store/item_detail.aspx?ItemCode=F0266