



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 3: Module 2A: Unit 3:

Recommended Texts



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Unit 3 focuses on students synthesizing their learning about “true frogs” and “freaky frogs.” Because students have been learning about adaptations throughout the module, the Unit 3 Recommended Texts lists broadens the topic a bit and includes texts about other animals and their adaptations to their environment. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build and extend their content knowledge about this broader topic of adaptations. 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 so that they can 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 groupings 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

Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below band level (below 420L)			
<i>Chameleon, Chameleon</i>	Joy Cowley (author), Nic Bishop (photographer)	Informational	310
<i>The Naked Mole-Rat</i>	Jody Sullivan Rake (author)	Informational	350
<i>The Frogfish</i>	Jody Sullivan Rake (author)	Informational	350
<i>The Magic School Bus Hops Home: A Book about Animal Habitats</i>	Joanna Cole (author), Nancy Stevenson (illustrator)	Informational	400
<i>Animal Camouflage in the Ocean</i>	Martha E. H. Rustad (author)	Informational	410



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within band level (420–820L)			
<i>How to Hide a Crocodile and Other Reptiles</i>	Ruth Heller (author/illustrator)	Informational	490
<i>The Werewolf Chase: A Mystery about Adaptations (Summer Camp Science Mysteries, #4)</i>	Gary Soto (author)	Informational/Literature	510
<i>Animal Adaptations</i>	Julie K. Lungren (author)	Informational	550*
<i>Ocean Animal Adaptations</i>	Julie Murphy (author)	Informational	640
<i>Andrew Lost with the Frogs</i>	J. C. Greenburg (author)	Literature	650*
<i>Rain Forest Animal Adaptations</i>	Lisa J. Amstutz (author)	Informational	680
<i>The War in Your Backyard: Life in an Ecosystem (Raintree Infusion)</i>	Louise A. and Richard Spilsbury	Informational	700*
<i>Bullfrog at Magnolia Circle</i>	Deborah Dennard (author), Kristen Kest (illustrator)	Informational	720*
<i>Animals with No Eyes: Cave Adaptations</i>	Kelly Regan Barnhill (author)	Informational	750
<i>What Do You Know about Animal Adaptations?</i>	Suzanne Slade (author)	Informational	750*
<i>Hard-to-See Animals (Rookie Read-About Science)</i>	Allan Fowler (author)	Informational	790

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band level (820L)			
<i>How Do Animals Adapt?</i>	Bobbie Kalman (author)	Informational	940
<i>Living Color</i>	Steve Jenkins (author/illustrator)	Informational	950
<i>See-Through Animals</i>	Natalie Lunis (author)	Informational	960
<i>Animals Under the Ground</i>	Phyllis Jean Perry (author)	Informational	990
<i>Color-Changing Animals</i>	Valerie Yaw (author)	Informational	1040