



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