



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 4: Module 2B: Unit 1: Recommended Texts



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The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about various animals and their physical attributes, behaviors, and how they survive. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge about the topic. 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 in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCLS

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile levels that correspond to Common Core Bands: below grade band, within band, and above 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 420L)			
<i>Hungry, Hungry Sharks</i>	Joanna Cole (author)	Informational	410
<i>High, Higher, Highest: Animals That Go to Great Heights</i>	Michael Dahl (author)	Informational	490
<i>Sloths</i>	Mari Schuh (author)	Informational	560
<i>Animal Characteristics</i>	Sue Barraclough (author)	Informational	620*
<i>Komodo Dragons on the Hunt</i>	Janet Riehecky (author)	Informational	660
<i>The Best Camouflaged Animals</i>	Megan Cooley Peterson (author)	Informational	670
<i>Camouflage and Mimicry: Animal Weapons and Defenses</i>	Janet Riehecky (author)	Informational	690

* Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
<i>The Case of the Missing Arctic Fox</i>	Heather Montgomery (author)	Informational	700
Lexile text measures within band level (420–820L)			
<i>Freaky Faces</i>	David Armentrout (author)	Informational	780
<i>Animal Champions</i>	John Bonnett Wexo (author)	Informational	780*
<i>Animal Defenses</i>	Etta Kaner (author), Pat Stephens (illustrator)	Informational	790
<i>Biggest, Strongest, Fastest</i>	Steve Jenkins (author)	Informational	840
Lexile text measures above band level (over 820L)			
<i>Deadly! The Truth About the Most Dangerous Creatures on Earth</i>	Nicola Davies (author)	Informational	1230
<i>Jungle Bugs: Masters of Camouflage and Mimicry</i>	Bruce Purser (author)	Informational	No LXL

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level

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EXPEDITIONARY
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Grade 4: Module 2B: Unit 2: Recommended Texts



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The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about animal defenses. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge about the topic. 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 in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCLS.

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 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.

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Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile measures below band level (under 740L)			
<i>Gazelles</i>	Megan Borgert-Spaniol (author)	Informational	275*
<i>It's a Baby Gazelle</i>	Kelly Doudna (author)	Informational	400*
<i>Armadillos</i>	Steve Potts (author)	Informational	580
<i>Deadly Blue-Ringed Octopuses</i>	Daisy Allyn (author)	Informational	720
<i>Gazelles</i>	Lynette Robbins (author)	Informational	710*
<i>Armadillos</i>	Sheila Griffin Llanas (author)	Informational	710

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
<i>National Geographic Great Migrations: Butterflies</i>	Laura Marsh (author)	Informational	710
<i>An Octopus Is Amazing</i>	Patricia Lauber (author)	Informational	730
Lexile measures within band level (740L–1010L)			
<i>Octopuses</i>	Deborah Coldiron (author)	Informational	740
<i>Sea Anemone</i>	Meryl Magby (author)	Informational	750*
<i>Migrating with the Monarch Butterfly</i>	Thessaly Catt (author)	Informational	830*
<i>Armadillo’s Burrow</i>	Dee Phillips (author)	Informational	850
<i>The Australian Spotted Jellyfish</i>	Susan Heinrichs Gray (author)	Informational	850*
<i>Octopuses</i>	Sandra Markle (author)	Informational	920
<i>Giant Pacific Octopus: The World’s Largest Octopus</i>	Leon Gray (author)	Informational	920
<i>Butterflies</i>	Seymour Simon (author)	Informational	925*
<i>Box Jellyfish: Killer Tentacles</i>	Natalie Lunis (author)	Informational	950
<i>Octopuses</i>	Anna Claybourne (author)	Informational	990
Lexile measures above band level (over 1010L)			
<i>DK Eyewitness Books: Fish</i>	Steve Parker (author)	Informational	1010*
<i>The Astonishing Armadillo</i>	Dee Stuart (author)	Informational	1170

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.

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EXPEDITIONARY
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Grade 4: Module 2B: Unit 3: Recommended Texts



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The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about animal survival. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge about the topic. 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.

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- Grades 6–8: 925–1185L

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile measures below band level (under 740L)			
<i>Monsters of the Deep</i>	R. A. Montgomery (author)	Literature	550*
<i>Jackie’s Wild Seattle</i>	Will Hobbs (author)	Literature	660
<i>Charlotte’s Web</i>	E. B. White (author)	Literature	680
<i>Unlikely Friendships</i>	Jennifer Holland (author)	Informational	680*
<i>Lost on the Amazon</i>	R. A. Montgomery (author) Jason Millet (illustrator)	Literature	725

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile measures within band level (740L–1010L)			
<i>Into the Wild (Warrior Series #1)</i>	Erin Hunter (author)	Literature	790
<i>Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival</i>	Kirby Larson (author)	Informational	810
<i>Aye-Aye: An Evil Omen</i>	Miriam Aronin (author)	Informational	830
<i>Tracker</i>	Gary Paulsen (author)	Literature	875*
<i>Big Al</i>	Andrew Clements (author)	Literature	880
<i>Beardance</i>	Will Hobbs (author)	Literature	890
<i>Jangles</i>	David Shannon (author)	Literature	900
<i>Journey under the Sea</i>	R. A. Montgomery (author)	Literature	900*
<i>Collared Peccary: Cactus Eater</i>	Stephen Person (author)	Informational	950
Lexile measures above band level (over 1010L)			
<i>Cougar: A Cat with Many Names</i>	Stephen Person (author)	Informational	1010
<i>The Call of the Wild</i>	Jack London (author)	Literature	1110
<i>Animal Poems</i>	Valerie Worth (author)	Poetry	NP
<i>What's for Dinner? Quirky, Squirmy Poems from the Animal World</i>	Katherine Hauth (author) David Clark (illustrator)	Poetry	NP

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