



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 5: Module 2A: Unit 1: Recommended Texts



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Unit 1 builds students background about rainforests around the world, with a particular focus on biodiversity. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures on this topic. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge. 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>A Rainforest Habitat</i>	Molly Aloian and Bobby Kalman (authors)	Informational	470
<i>The Magic School Bus in the Rain Forest</i>	Scholastic Publishers	Informational	550 ¹
<i>Rain Forests</i>	Nancy Smiler Levinson (author), Diane Dawson Hearn (illustrator)	Informational	570
<i>El Soñador</i>	Pam Muñoz Ryan	Literature	650
<i>The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest</i>	Lynne Cherry (author/illustrator)	Literature	670
<i>El gran capoquero: Un cuento de la selva Amazonica</i>	Lynne Cherry (author/illustrator), Alma Flor Ada (translator)	Literature	NP
<i>Tropical Rain Forests</i>	Peter Benoit (author)	Informational	730



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within band level (740–1010L)			
<i>Rain Forests: Garden of Green</i>	Laura Purdie Salas (author), Jeff Yesh (illustrator)	Informational	770
<i>Rain Forest Explorer</i>	Greg Pyers (author)	Informational	830
<i>One Day in the Tropical Rain Forest</i>	Jean Craighead George (author)	Informational	880
<i>Natures Green Umbrella: Tropical Rain Forests</i>	Gail Gibbons (author/illustrator)	Informational	880
<i>Hands of the Rain Forest: The Emberá People of Panama</i>	Rachel Crandell (author/photographer)	Informational	890
<i>Discover the Amazon: The World's Largest Rainforest</i>	Lauri Berkenkamp (author), Blair Shedd (illustrator)	Informational	900*
<i>Tree of Life: The Incredible Biodiversity of Life on Earth</i>	Rochelle Strauss (author), Margot Thompson (illustrator)	Informational	910
<i>Protecting Earth's Rain Forests</i>	Anne Welsbacher (author)	Informational	920
<i>Bats, Bugs and Biodiversity: Adventures in the Amazonian Rain Forest</i>	Susan E. Goodman (author), Michael J. Doolittle (photographer)	Informational	920*
<i>The Rainforest Grew All Around</i>	Susan K. Mitchell (author), Connie McLennan (illustrator)	Verse	980
<i>La Selva Creció y Creció</i>	Susan K. Mitchell (author), Connie McLennan (illustrator)	Verse	NP ²

*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>The Dreamer</i>	Pam Muñoz Ryan	Literature	NP
<i>Chatter, Sing, Roar, Buzz: Poems about the Rain Forest</i>	Laura Purdie Salas (author)	Poetry	NP
<i>Biodiversity of Rain Forests</i>	Greg Pyers (author)	Informational	1020*

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¹Available as an ebook through <http://store.scholastic.com/webapp/wcs/stores>.

²Available as an ebook with Bi Lingo, LLC (translator).



EXPEDITIONARY
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Grade 5: Module 2A: Unit 2: Recommended Texts



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In Unit 2, students explore a specific scientific researcher who studies rainforest ecosystems. The list below includes a wide range of texts to read about rainforest flora and fauna, as well as about how scientists research the natural world. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures on this topic. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge. 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 ranges 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:

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- Grade 2–3: 420–820L
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Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below band level (under 740L)			
<i>Rain Forest Plants</i>	Pamela Dell (author)	Informational	640
<i>Rain Forest Animals</i>	Francine Galko (author)	Informational	660
Lexile text measures within band level (740–1010L)			
<i>Morpha: A Rain Forest Story</i>	Michael Tennyson (author), Jennifer H. Yoswa (illustrator)	Literature	750*
<i>Encantado: Pink Dolphin of the Amazon</i>	Sy Montgomery (author), Dianne Taylor-Snow (photographer)	Informational	870*
<i>Up a Rainforest Tree</i>	Carole Telford and Rod Theodorou (authors)	Informational	870
<i>The Tarantula Scientist</i>	Sy Montgomery (author), Nic Bishop (photographer)	Informational	890

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within band level (740–1010L)			
<i>Rain Forest Animals</i>	Carolyn Franklin (author)	Informational	960
Lexile text measures within Grade 6–8 band level (925–1185L)			
<i>Young Charles Darwin and the Voyage of the BEAGLE</i>	Ruth Ashby (author)	Informational	1020
<i>The Search for Cures from the Rainforest</i>	Carol Ballard (author)	Informational	1075*
<i>How Monkeys Make Chocolate: Unlocking the Mysteries of the Rainforest</i>	Adrian Forsyth (author)	Informational	1120
<i>The Case of the Monkeys That Fell from the Trees: And Other Mysteries in Tropical Nature</i>	Susan E. Quinlan (author)	Informational	1210

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EXPEDITIONARY
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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?¹</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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†This title is also available in French (as *Les Arthropodes*). See http://www.crabtreebooks.com/Store/item_detail.aspx?ItemCode=F0266