



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 4: Module 1B: Unit 3:

Recommended Texts



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Unit 3 focuses on biographies of poets and authors. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile® text measures about this topic. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge on this 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 to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCLS.

GRADE 4: MODULE 1B: UNIT 3: RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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 the Appendix 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)

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

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below-grade band level (below 740L)			
<i>Shel Silverstein</i>	Molly Kolpin (author)	Biography	650
<i>Who Was William Shakespeare?</i>	Celeste Davidson Mannis (author)	Biography	690
<i>Walt Whitman</i>	Sheila Griffin Llanas (author)	Biography	700
<i>Dav Pilkey</i>	Kelli L. Hicks (author)	Biography	710



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within band level (740–1010L)			
<i>Coming Home: From the Life of Langston Hughes</i>	Floyd Cooper (author)	Biography	770
<i>Maya Angelou: Journey of the Heart</i>	Jayne Pettit (author)	Biography	800*
<i>Who Was Dr. Seuss?</i>	Janet Pascal (author)	Biography	820
<i>Emily Dickinson</i>	Maurene Hinds (author)	Biography	830
<i>Isabel Allenda: Recuerdos Para Un Cuento (Memories for a Story)</i>	Raquel Benatar (author)	Biography	840*
<i>My Name Is Gabriela: The Life of Gabriela Mistral (Me Llamo Gabriela: La Vida de Gabriela Mistral)</i>	Monica Brown (author)	Biography	860
<i>My Papa Diego and Me: Memories</i>	Guadalupe Rivera Marin (author), Diego Rivera (illustrator)	Biography	900
<i>My Name Is Gabito: The Life of Gabriel García Márquez</i>	Monica Brown (author)	Biography	910
<i>The Abracadabra Kid: A Writer's Life</i>	Sid Fleischman (author)	Autobiography	940
<i>Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People</i>	Monica Brown (author)	Biography	970
<i>Walt Whitman: Words for America</i>	Barbara Kerley (author)	Biography	970

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above-grade band level (over 1010L)			
<i>Papa Is a Poet: A Story about Robert Frost</i>	Natalie S. Bober (author)	Biography	1010
<i>Under the Royal Palms: A Childhood in Cuba</i>	Alma Flor Ada (author)	Autobiography	1070
<i>Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave</i>	Laban Carick Hill (author), Bryan Collier (illustrator)	Biography	1100