



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 4: Module 2A: Unit 1:

Recommended Texts



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Unit 1 focuses on life in Colonial America, particularly in the New York colonies. 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 in order to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency that the CCLS demand.

GRADE 4: MODULE 2A: UNIT 1: RECOMMENDED TEXTS

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 in Grade 2–3 band level (below 740L)			
<i>If You Lived in Colonial Times</i>	Ann McGovern (author), June Otani (illustrator)	Informational	590
<i>Your Life as a Settler in Colonial America</i>	Thomas Kingsley Troupe (author), C. B. Canga (illustrator)	Informational	650
<i>The Real Story about Government and Politics in Colonial America</i>	Kristine Carlson Asselin (author)	Informational	720
<i>The Colony of New York</i>	Susan Whitehurst (author)	Informational	730*

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures in Grade 4–5 band level (740–925L)			
<i>The New York Colony</i>	Martin Hintz (author)	Informational	740*
<i>Colonial Life</i>	Brendan January (author)	Informational	770
<i>The Arrow Over the Door</i>	Joseph Bruchac (author)	Literature	810
<i>The New York Colony</i>	Kevin Cunningham (author)	Informational	830
<i>The History of Early New York</i>	Jeremy Thornton (author)	Informational	830*
<i>Key Leaders in Colonial New York</i>	Elizabeth O'Grady and Colleen Adams (authors)	Informational	890
<i>New York Native Peoples</i>	Mark Stewart (author)	Informational	960*
<i>Early American Villages</i>	Raymond Bial (author/photographer)	Informational	960*
Lexile text measures within Grade 6–8 band level (925–1185L)			
<i>New York: The History of New York Colony. 1624–1776</i>	Roberta Wiener and James R. Arnold (authors)	Informational	1120
<i>Building a New Land: African Americans in Colonial America</i>	James Haskins and Kathleen Benson (authors), James Ransome (illustrator)	Informational	1170

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
<i>New York, 1609–1776</i>	Michael Burgan (author)	Informational	No Lexile
<i>New York Native Americans: A Kid's Look at Our State's Chiefs, Tribes, Reservations, Powwows, Lore, and More from the Past and the Present</i>	Carole Marsh (author)	Informational	No Lexile