



EXPEDITIONARY  
LEARNING

## Grade 4: Module 2A: Unit 2:

### Recommended Texts



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Unit 2 reinforces knowledge of life in Colonial America, focusing in particular on the lives of everyday colonists. 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:**

(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
<b>Lexile text measures in Grade 2–3 band level (below 740L)</b>			
<i>Work in Colonial America</i>	Mark Thomas (author)	Informational	260
<i>School in Colonial America</i>	Mark Thomas (author)	Informational	320
<i>Our Strange New Land: Elizabeth's Jamestown Colony Diary, Book One</i>	Patricia Hermes (author)	Literature	350
<i>The Starving Time: Elizabeth's Jamestown Colony Diary, Book Two</i>	Patricia Hermes (author)	Literature	360
<i>Colonial Voices: Hear Them Speak</i>	Kay Winter (author), Larry Day (illustrator)	Informational	630



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
<b>Lexile text measures in Grade 4–5 band level (740–1010L)</b>			
<i>The Dish on Food and Farming in Colonial America</i>	Anika Fajardo (author)	Informational	740
<i>The Scoop on Clothes, Homes, and Daily Life in Colonial America</i>	Elizabeth Raum (author)	Informational	780
<i>The Scoop on School and Work in Colonial America</i>	Bonnie Hinman (author)	Informational	790
<i>A Pickpocket's Tale</i>	Karen Schwabach (author)	Literature	810
<i>Surviving Jamestown: The Adventures of Young Sam Collier</i>	Gail Langer Karwoski (author), Paul Casale (illustrator)	Literature	820
<i>The Matchlock Gun</i>	Walter D. Edmonds (author), Paul Lantz (illustrator)	Literature	860
<i>Colonial Woman</i>	Niki Walker (author)	Informational	925*

<sup>1</sup>Available in e-book format only.

\* Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
<b>Lexile text measures above band level (over 1010L)</b>			
<i>Jamestown, 1607</i>	Michael L. Cooper (author)	Informational	1040
<i>The Secret of the Sealed Room: A Mystery of Young Ben Franklin</i>	Bailey MacDonald (author)	Literature	1050
<i>A History of US: Making Thirteen Colonies, 1600–1740</i>	Joy Hakim (author)	Informational	No Lexile