



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 4: Module 3A: Unit 2:

Recommended Texts



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Unit 2 focuses on simple machines and how those machines help people. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile text measures on this topic, with an emphasis on six specific simple machines. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge.

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.

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

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.

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below band level (below 740L)			
<i>Ramps and Wedges</i>	Sian Smith (author)	Informational	450
<i>Los engranajes trabajan, las ruedas ruedan/Gears Go, Wheels Roll</i>	Mark Weakland (author)	Informational	520*
<i>Put Wheels and Axles to the Test</i>	Sally M. Walker and Roseann Feldmann (authors)	Informational	520
<i>Screws</i>	Lyn Sirota (author), Reginald Butler (illustrator)	Informational	580
<i>Inclined Planes</i>	Katie Marsico (author), Reginald Butler (illustrator)	Informational	600

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level;

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Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below band level (below 740L)			
<i>From Washboards to Washing Machines: How Homes Have Changed</i>	Jennifer Boothroyd (author)	Informational	620
<i>Put Pulleys to the Test</i>	Sally M. Walker and Roseann Feldmann (authors)	Informational	620
<i>Get to Know Inclined Planes</i>	Jennifer Christiansen (author)	Informational	720
Lexile text measures within band level (740-1010L)			
<i>Twist, Dig, and Drill: A Book about Screws</i>	Michael Dahl (author), Denise Shea (illustrator)	Informational	740
<i>Get to Know Screws</i>	Paul C. Challen (author)	Informational	750
<i>Pulleys and Gears</i>	David Glover (author)	Informational	750*
<i>Screws</i>	Michael De Medeiros (author)	Informational	790*
<i>Wedges</i>	Tatiana Tomljanovic (author)	Informational	790*
<i>Inclined Planes</i>	Jennifer Howse (author)	Informational	840*
<i>Roll, Slope, and Slide: A Book about Ramps</i>	Michael Dahl (author), Denise Shea (Illustrator)	Informational	860
<i>Screws in Action</i>	Gillian Gosman (author)	Informational	860*
<i>Wheels and Axles in Action</i>	Gillian Gosman (author)	Informational	980

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band level (over 1010L)			
<i>In the Renaissance</i>	Richard Platt (author), David Lawrence (illustrator)	Informational	1030
<i>Technology in the Ancient World</i>	Paul C. Challen et al. (authors)	Informational	1070
<i>The Inside & Out Guide to Mighty Machines</i>	Clint Twist (author)	Informational	1130