**Sample Text Sets**

*Topical book baskets can be created using printable resources, the titles in your classroom library, or both. If you want to add thoughtful sequencing of the resources, the text set becomes even richer. Below are a couple of examples of the many types of text sets that you can create in your classroom!*

***Building Knowledge and Vocabulary – Informational Topics:*** *Select a high-interest topic, or use your state’s science and social studies standards. Create an entirely informational text set by sequencing the texts to build knowledge of the topic at hand. Note – fiction texts or hybrid fiction/non-fiction can still be included in these text sets.*

***Supporting Access to Complex Text:*** *Select a high-quality text (fiction or non-fiction) that you want to support your students to read. Identify the knowledge demands that may present difficulties and create a text set that builds working knowledge prior to reading. Example: If your students are planning to read Number the Stars it may be helpful for them to have working knowledge of the events leading to World War II.*

Here are some examples of topics, titles, and the rationale for the sequence of texts:

Example 1: All Eyes on the Moon - Grade 2-3

**Rationale:** The purpose of this series of texts is for students to grow an understanding of the moon and its phases. The set begins with an engaging, illustrated book read aloud by the teacher that is about the moon, Jump into Science: Moon (810L). Next, a broad overview of the moon is given in the first video, “All About the Moon.” The following book, On the Moon, tells students about the surface and characteristics of the moon. The second video, “Phases of the Moon,” furthers the study of the moon with an emphasis on the moon’s orbit and its phases. Ending the set, students will read The Disappearing Moon (450L). This engaging short story is intended to reinforce learned knowledge about the moon and raise student curiosity about watching the moon’s phases.

**Jump Into Science: Moon by Steve Tomecek**

This text can hook the class. Starting with a read- aloud can build interest and excitement.

**Lexile level:** 810

**Synopsis:** If you believe any of these old moon myths, then you need to get your facts straight—straight from a moonstruck cat and his firefly pal that is. These two characters have the real facts, and they’re just as intriguing: Why does the moon seem to change shape? What is it made of? Who were the men on the moon, and what did they find there? Let this fun-loving feline and his bright friend show you around huge lunar craters, moon dust, rocks, and footprints, and give you the solar system’s best view of planet Earth.

Informational video that will provide facts that clarify some of the myths from the read-aloud.

**All About the Moon: Astronomy and Space for Kids by FreeSchool** (video)

**Synopsis:** The moon is our nearest neighbor in space and the only heavenly body that people have visited! Learn more about the moon and our visits to it in this fun, kid-friendly video.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JM21GBJecx0>

This text gives an overview of basic facts- good for the first independent read

**On the Moon by Eugene Stanley**

**Lexile level:** 450

**Synopsis:** This book gives insight into the surface and atmosphere of the moon.

<https://www.raz-plus.com/books/leveled-books/book/?id=2468&lang=English>

This resource will provide engaging facts to help students understand the “problem” in the upcoming fiction text.

**Phases of the Moon: Astronomy and Space for Kids” by FreeSchool** (video)

**Synopsis:** The moon changes its shape almost every night. But why? The phases of the moon are caused by the light from the sun and the moon's orbit around the Earth. From new moon through waxing crescent, quarter, gibbous, full moon, and waning back to new moon again, come learn about the cycle of shapes the moon takes (or rather, appears to take) as it travels around our planet.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4ZHdzl6ZWg>

**The Disappearing Moon: A Pourquoi Tale by Dori H. Butler**

After building content knowledge based on facts about the moon, children will enjoy comparing what they know to the animals’ impressions/fears in this tale.

**Lexile level:** 450

**Synopsis:** The animals are afraid the moon is disappearing, and they’re very worried. They think their fears have come true until they get a lesson about the moon and its phases from wise old Owl. Students will learn facts about the moon through this enjoyable story. Pictures support the text.

<https://www.readinga-z.com/books/leveled-books/book/?id=916&lang=English>

Example 2: Inventors Grade - 4-5

**Rationale:** This Expert Pack begins with the engaging video, “Kid President: How to be an Inventor” to hook students into the world of inventions. This will make students excited about the process of inventing and may lead them to think that anyone can become an inventor. This video also shows that inventors are not just historical figures, but also living in today’s world. Next is an article, “Inventions,” that explains what an invention is and how it is different than a “discovery.” The article also briefly touches on the importance of inventions to help people, which is the big idea we want students to understand from this expert pack. Additionally, students learn about a few famous inventors and their inventions.

The next resource, “Eureka: How the Invention of Everyday Objects Changed the World,” builds on students’ understanding about what an invention is by explaining how several inventions affect everyday lives. The next two resources are all informative texts about specific inventors. The two articles, “Franklin, Benjamin,” and “Jobs, Steve,” will provide information on specific inventors, why they made the invention, and some interesting information about these inventors. The last article, “The 20 Most Fascinating Accidental Inventions” will hopefully engage students in how much fun inventors can have and what they can stumble upon by trying to create something. The goal for this final article is to provide students with interesting information in order to build engagement and interest in researching other inventions or inventors after finishing this research set.

**Kid President: How to be an Inventor** (video)

This video is fun and will draw in students to the concept behind the upcoming independent texts.

**Synopsis:** This video gives students an idea about what an inventor does through the view of a young person who wants to create a vacuum cleaner that does not scare his cat. Kid President shows the process that an inventor goes through, from an idea, to implementation of the idea, to the creation of a product.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75okexRzWMk>

**Invention by World Book**

Broad, introductory first text

**Lexile level:** 890

**Synopsis:** This short informational article introduces students to what an invention is and the purpose of inventions. It also as explains a few specific inventions.

<http://worldbookonline.com/kids/home#article/ar831041>

This resource is very readable, but expands on the idea of inventing by providing more nuance around trials and failures.

**Eureka: How the Invention of Everyday Objects Changed the World by Brenna Maloney**

**Lexile level:** 630

**Synopsis:** This informational text explores how inventors have tried and failed to create new innovations. It highlights how these inventions have improved the lives of Americans.

<http://content.yudu.com/A200by/NGXPFJanFeb2013/resources/index.htm?referrerUrl=http%3A%2F%2Fngexplorer.cengage.com%2Fpathfinder%2F1301%2Fteachers.html>

After the broader resources, this is the first text narrowing the focus to a specific inventor.

**Franklin, Benjamin by World Book**

**Lexile level:** 650

**Synopsis:** This article gives a brief introduction to some of Benjamin Franklin’s most important inventions.

<http://worldbookonline.com/kids/home#article/ar830811>

**Jobs, Steve by Jarice Hanson**

This is the hardest piece based on Lexile, but the time period and inventions highlighted will be more familiar to readers.

**Lexile level:** 1070

**Synopsis:** This article gives a brief introduction to some of Steve Job’s most important inventions.

<http://worldbookonline.com/student/article?id=ar725684>

**The 20 Most Fascinating Accidental Inventions by Pamela Cyran and Chris Gaylord**

**Lexile level:** 790

**Synopsis:** Most inventors strive for weeks, months, or years to perfect their products. (Thomas Edison tried thousands of different light bulb filaments before arriving at the ideal mixture of tungsten.) But sometimes, brilliance strikes by accident. This article is a salute to the scientists, chefs, and everyday folks who stumbled upon greatness – and, more importantly, shared their mistakes with the world.

If this text set is used to generate interest in science/experiments, this final task should leave them ready for more! And if not- great fun facts.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Technology/2012/1005/The-20-most-fascinating-accidental-inventions/Matches>