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| About this Resource:  *This text set centers around the topic of a high-quality read aloud anchor text, in order to build students’ knowledge and vocabulary. Anchor texts are a part of Student Achievement Partners’ Read Aloud Project and full lesson plans are hyperlinked. Each Related Text is a suggested lightweight resource that connects to the topic of the read aloud and builds student knowledge and vocabulary. Also included are high-interest, topically related Optional Supporting Resources and Writing/Culminating Tasks in varied genres. Suggested resources are free or almost free (requiring a teacher license or sign on) and can be used as read aloud texts or for small group or independent reading depending on their complexity. All are intended to be optional resources for the classroom and teachers are encouraged to modify, adapt, or supplement these text sets with related resources. Text Sets are intended to support approximately two weeks of instruction. For additional suggestions for use, read this blog post:* [*https://achievethecore.org/aligned/reading-to-learn/*](https://achievethecore.org/aligned/reading-to-learn/)*.* |

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| **Key Content (Synopsis of two weeks)** | |
| Read Aloud:  Two Bad Ants  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2434/two-bad-ants> | **Synopsis of Text:**  A scout ant has returned with a beautiful sparkling crystal for his ant queen. She deemed it the most delicious food she has ever tasted. This prompts the need for the queen’s loyal ant subjects to gather more crystals because the queen ant’s happiness makes the whole ant nest a happy place. The story is told from the viewpoint of two ants. These two ants, along with other ants from their nest, begin a long and adventurous journey to retrieve these magnificent crystals. Once they reach the prized crystals, the two ants make a decision to stay and eat crystals to their hearts’ content. They forgo the long and demanding journey of carrying the crystals back to their ant queen. When morning comes, the ants encounter unexpected dangers and obstacles. They soon realize that the right thing and the less hazardous thing to do is return to the nest with a crystal for the ant queen. The two ants realize their family and safe home make them feel happier than they’d ever felt before. |
| Related Text 1:  All About Ants  <https://www.readworks.org/article/All-About-Ants/bc4510e7-a45f-421e-adb5-6920a1a90862#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This first resource is supported by audio, and provides an introduction to ants. It begins with some basic information and facts, and then provides more detailed information about the different types of ants in a colony. It ends with some interesting facts about ants. |
| Related Text 2:  Ant Colonies  <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/animals-and-nature/insects/ant-colonies/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  In this resource, students will build their understanding of ant colonies, and learn more about each type of ant’s job. This article also provides a graphic image of an ant colony that is somewhat interactive. When students click on the vocabulary word in the image, additional information will pop up to tell more about underground nests, larvae, pupae, tunnels, queen ants, and worker ants. |
| Related Text 3:  Ants and Their Different Types  <http://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-ants/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This final article reinforces what students have already learned about ants, and also introduces a few different species of ants. It provides students with a few additional facts about ants. |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Amazing Ant Facts!  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ploW2KEUmLw> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This video provides additional facts with graphics and photos about ants and how they live in a colony. The video also shares information about an ant’s body. This video would support and continue to increase students’ ant knowledge. |
| Ants, Ants, Ants  <http://www.songsforteaching.com/intellitunes/ants.htm> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This song is a fun way for students to reinforce what they have learned about worker ants and ants in a colony. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Informative | **Description of task:**  Think about the facts you have learned about ants. Create a one-page article to teach others all about ants and how they live in a colony. Write to share the facts you learned and be sure to:   * Give your article a title * Include illustrations with labels or captions to support your information * Provide a conclusion |
| Text Type 2: Narrative | **Description of task:**  What is it like to be an ant? Think about all you have learned about ants, and imagine you are a worker ant in an ant colony. Write a story about a day in the colony. Write the events in your day as they occur to include the different things you might see and do throughout that day, and provide an ending to your story. |
| Task Type 3: Project | **Description of task:**  In a group, create a model of an ant colony. In your model, show an underground nest and its surroundings, and the ants that live there. Label the parts in your model, and include a brief statement on each label to describe that part of the model.  *Note: A variety of materials could be used to create this project such as modeling clay, salt dough, paper, or recycled supplies, etc. This could be done in partners or small groups.* |

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