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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:  The Great Kapok Tree  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2579/the-great-kapok-tree> | **Synopsis of Text:**  A man walks into a lush rainforest and starts chopping down a huge kapok tree. Lulled by the heat, he sits down and soon falls asleep. The forest dwellers approach him, each pleading in his ear a reason to keep the tree standing.  Suddenly, the man wakes up, and for the first time notices the beauty all around him. |
| Related Text 1:  Discover the Rain Forest!  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Discover-the-Rain-Forest!/0a7cfe5e-db74-41bc-82d7-cda317663c75#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This article provides background information to supplement the story in *The Great Kapok Tree* by describing the different levels of the rain forest. A description of each level, including the plants and animals that inhabit it, is included. |
| Related Text 2:  Trouble in the Amazon  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Trouble-in-the-Amazon/16789e0d-1bb8-40f4-b597-78e38e3e3c00#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This article highlights the challenges faced by the plants and animals living in the Amazon rainforest. Just as *The Great Kapok Tree* tells the story of why the rain forest is important to various animals, this text explains what people are doing to hurt the forest, why it is harmful to the whole earth, and how the problem can be solved. |
| Related Text 3:  The Amazing Amazon  <https://www.raz-plus.com/books/leveled-books/book/?id=2585&lang=English> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This informational text includes a wealth of information about the Amazon rainforest. Chapters feature information about the geography, layers, animals, challenges, and one’s personal connection to the rain forest. This text supplements *The Great Kapok Tree* by providing information about some of the animals featured in the text, including sloths, frogs, and jaguars.  *Teacher’s note: This is a challenging text for students in this grade band. Consider focusing on the chapter titled “Who, Me?” to help students understand the challenges facing the rainforest and the ways that people can help to save it. Also, consider focusing on the animal interviews throughout the text to supplement the information about animals in The Great Kapok Tree.* |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Virtual Field Trip: Amazon Rain Forest  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JEsV5rqbVNQ> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This video takes students on a tour of the Amazon Rain Forest. The footage includes rain forest levels and many of the living creatures living in each level. Also, the video shares facts about the animals. |
| Virtual Treehouse  <https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/interactives/treehouse> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This interactive site allows students to play various games related to learning about the rain forest. Note: Your computer must have Adobe Flash Player. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Informative | **Description of task:**  Think about what you have learned about the rain forest from *The Great Kapok Tree* and the other texts about the rain forest. What have you learned about the rain forest? Write a piece about the rain forest. Remember to:   * Introduce the topic you are writing about * Include at least three facts you have learned about the rain forest * Wrap up the piece with a concluding sentence |
| Text Type 2: Opinion | **Description of task:**  Do you think it is important for people to save the rain forest?  Think about why it is important. Think about what you have learned from the texts about how animals need the rain forest to live. Working with a partner, write an opinion piece sharing at least two reasons why it is important to save the rain forest.  Remember to:   * State your opinion * Give at least two reasons why it is important to save the rainforest * Wrap up the piece with a concluding sentence   *Teacher note: This task could also be adapted to ask students to create persuasive posters.* |
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