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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:  Snowboard Twist  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2595/snowboard-twist> | **Synopsis of Text:**  Snowboarding season sets the stage for this adventure and also offers insight into the science of snowfalls in the Teton Mountains. As Axel, his dad, and his snowboarding rival, Kelly, check out the conditions after a fresh snowfall, an avalanche hits! When Axel endangers Kelly by not heeding the snow warnings, it’s up to his dog, Grits, to help rescue her in this gripping account of the awesome wonder and potential peril of an avalanche. |
| Related Text 1:  Avalanche!  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Avalanche!/5d32024b-e787-429a-94bc-bae13f89bc7e#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This text gives a basic description of an avalanche. It also explains that experts can help people avoid an avalanche. Dag, Axel’s father in *Snowboard Twist,* is an expert who tries to help people avoid avalanches. |
| Related Text 2:  “Mammoth Mountain ski resort uses World War II gun to stop avalanches”  <https://newsela.com/articles/avalanche-control-big-guns/id/25565/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This article describes one of the ways that experts avoid avalanches. They use a cannon to set off smaller, planned avalanches. In *Snowboard Twist*, Dag plans on using a “snow cannon” to cause a small avalanche. |
| Related Text 3:  Lessons aim to help young people avoid snow danger  <https://newsela.com/articles/avalanche-education/id/14589/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This article describes the efforts of Eric Gullickson to teach kids to be safe as they ski and snowboard in the backcountry. It includes more information about snow conditions that might cause avalanches. |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| This is what I call an avalanche! Stjernøy Norway  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dYx9wbCsl14> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This video captures footage of an avalanche and can help students grasp the enormity and severity of this natural disaster. |
| Olympic Snowboarder Surprises Kid Snowboarders  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VivLtaMQjM0> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  In this video, one of the most famous snowboarders in the world, Shaun White, gives two boys a surprise snowboarding lesson. Students can see some of the basic components of snowboarding, including the lift ride up. *Note: You may want to start the video at minute 1:30. This is where the lesson begins in earnest.*  If your students are unfamiliar with Shaun White, you may want to begin with a video or two from “The Best Shaun White Videos” compilation found at this website: <https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2014/feb/11/best-shaun-white-snowboarding-videos>  This compilation includes a video of Shaun White practicing as a 10 year old. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Informational | **Description of task:**  Write a paragraph to explain what you have learned about avalanches from *Snowboard Twist* and the other texts you have read. Use facts and definitions to tell about avalanches. Be sure to include an introduction and conclusion. |
| Text Type 2: Informational | **Description of task:**  Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort would like your help. They want to create a pamphlet for kids who like to ski or snowboard that will help them stay safe. Working with a partner, use words and pictures to clearly explain at least three ways kids can stay safe on the snowy mountain. |
| Text Type 3: Narrative | **Description of task:**  Imagine you are snowboarding on a mountain and you hear the rumblings of an avalanche! Use all that you have learned about avalanches to write about what happens next.  Be sure to include: the events that happened; your thoughts, feelings and actions; signal words and an ending. |
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