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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 Secret Life of a Snowflake  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2597/the-secret-life-of-a-snowflake> | **Synopsis of Text:**  As a scientist, Dr. Kenneth Libbrecht tries to understand how things work in the natural world. He looks at snowflakes under a microscope and takes photographs of what he sees. He learns and explains how snowflakes grow and why each one has a unique shape. |
| Related Text 1:  Snow  <https://www.getepic.com/app/read/30641> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This short informational book describes snow, the focus of Dr. Libbrecht’s study as described in the read-aloud book. Students learn about the characteristics of snow, how it is formed, and what it does for the Earth. |
| Related Text 2:  Snow Science!  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Snow-Science!/cff7e32b-40b3-4ff0-8013-62d917d621cf#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This informational article builds on students’ understanding about snow by describing how it forms. It describes, and shows a photograph of, the different shapes snowflakes can take and describes Dr. Libbrecht’s tool for taking photographs of snow. |
| Related Text 3:  Snow  <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/earth/weather/snow/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This website builds on to students’ understanding of snow and how it forms by connecting it to the water cycle. It describes the different types of snow, and features a photograph of a snowy day. A sidebar includes information about and a photograph of a blizzard. |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Watch snowflakes form in time lapse through a microscope  <http://thekidshouldseethis.com/post/77698700764> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This video shows the formation of snowflakes using time-lapse photography. Students will be able to see the process that they have been learning about throughout the set. |
| Snowflake Theme  <http://www.kidactivities.net/category/theme-snowflakes.aspx> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This website features several crafts students can make to represent snow, reinforcing students’ knowledge about the shapes and characteristics of snowflakes. Encourage students to use all that they have learned to make their crafts as realistic as possible! |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Narrative | **Description of task:**  Imagine you are a snowflake. Write a story about a day in your life. Include a sequence of events, and use details from what you have learned about snow to describe what happens. Be sure to:   * Describe what you are thinking, feeling and doing * Provide a conclusion to your story |
| Text Type 2: Informative | **Description of task:**  Write a one-page article about snowflakes. Make sure that you:   * Provide a title * Introduce your topic * Provide a conclusion   Develop your topic using facts and details from what you have learned about snow. Include 2-3 images that provide or support information in your article, and a caption for each image you provide. |
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