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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:  Snowflake Bentley  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2599/snowflake-bentley> | **Synopsis of Text:**  Wilson Bentley dedicated his life to capturing the extraordinary beauty of snowflakes and he was determined to share the beauty with others. His photographs reveal two important truths about snowflakes. First, that no two are alike and second, that each one is surprisingly beautiful. |
| Related Text 1:  Artist’s Studio: Photography  <https://www.getepic.com/app/read/34039> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This informational book follows the experience of two photographers. It introduces students to what photography is and to the tools a photographer uses, connecting to Bentley’s work described in the read-aloud text. The picture glossary at the end introduces important vocabulary related to photography. |
| Related Text 2:  Forms of Art—Photography  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Forms-of-Art---Photography/eecf32f3-9923-4816-97e6-547bfc631ed6#!articleTab:content/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This informational article builds on students’ understanding of photography. It describes the scientific process of taking a picture and presents five steps photographers follow when using film cameras. It also explains the impact of photography on our everyday lives.  *Teacher note: Create an educator account for free access to texts.* |
| Related Text 3:  Hobbies for Kids: Photography and Cameras  <http://www.ducksters.com/hobbies/photography.php> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This website puts photography into the context of a hobby for children. It explains why kids might enjoy it, and why it is a good hobby for kids. Links to additional articles related to photography are provided and should be explored as time allows. “Basic Guidelines for Taking a Picture” and “A Brief History of Photography and the Camera” especially relate to the content of this set.  *Teacher note: The vocabulary on this website is challenging; students may need additional support reinforcing the knowledge demands required to make use of this text.* |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Photo Tips with Hilary  <https://youtu.be/N_bENCTCH58?list=PLQlnTldJs0ZQclIs5q5hrAhH_zZZLcBdx> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This series of short videos for kids give tips for taking pictures. There are four videos in this series: “How to Take Fun Photos in Nature,” “Trick Your Friends with these Upside-Down Photo Tips,” “How to Take Photos with Cool Light Shapes,” and “Get Ready for Halloween with these Spooky Photo Tips!” These videos continue to build students’ understanding about photography, including the importance of light and composition in photography. |
| 10 Photography Activities for Kids  <https://www.tots100.co.uk/2013/05/14/10-photography-activities-for-kids/> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  After learning about the history and science of photography, students will likely want to try to take pictures themselves. This website describes 10 hands-on activities students can do as they experience what it is like to be a photographer. The activities do not require fancy or expensive equipment—all can be done with basic digital cameras or smartphones. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Informative | **Description of task:**  Write a one-page article about photography. 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 photography. Include 2-3 images that provide or support information in your article, and a caption for each image you provide. |
| Text Type 2: Opinion | **Description of task:**  Is it easy to be a photographer? Use all that you have learned about photography to write your piece. Be sure to include: your opinion, reasons to support your opinion, linking words and a concluding statement. |
| Text Type 3: Research | **Description of task:**  Choose one of the following photographers to learn more about: Ansel Adams, George Eastman, Dorothea Lange, Sally Mann or Gordon Parks  What kind of photographs did he or she take? What contribution did he or she make to the art of photography? Research to learn more about this person. Then, write a biography about him or her. Make sure to:   * Provide a title * Introduce your topic * Provide a conclusion   Be sure to develop your topic using facts and details from your research. |
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