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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:  Fireflies  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2819/fireflies> | **Synopsis of Text:**  A boy catches fireflies in a jar. He wants to keep them, but soon realizes that they will die in the jar. Though it makes him very sad, he lets them go. When he sees that they are able to fly and shine bright again, he smiles. He realizes it makes him happy to see them free. |
| Related Text 1:  Fireflies  <https://www.getepic.com/app/read/35882> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This informational book explains what fireflies are, building on students’ knowledge about animals that glow from the read-aloud book. It describes their bodies, how they make light, and what they use their light for.  *Teacher note: Create an educator account for free access to texts.* |
| Related Text 2:  Firefly, Lightning Bug Insect Facts  <http://www.bugfacts.net/firefly.php> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This short informational article builds on students’ knowledge about fireflies. It describes where they live, what they eat, and what they look like. It also describes the life cycle of a firefly. The article includes a drawing of two fireflies, helping students to visualize what they look like. |
| Related Text 3:  Glow-in-the-Dark Animals  <https://www.raz-plus.com/books/leveled-books/book/?id=1377&lang=English> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This informational book expands students’ knowledge about fireflies and why they glow by describing other animals that glow in the dark. The book explains three different ways animals glow, and provides reasons for why animals glow. |

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| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Firefly Experience  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k72jGJTC_3o> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This short video of fireflies in the woods will help students experience what it is like to be around fireflies. Students can see the fireflies’ flashing lights and hear their buzz. To make the viewing experience even more realistic, watch it with all the lights turned off! |
| Lullabies for Kids: Fireflies  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4OjsLiFrS1Q> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This short video is a song about fireflies with corresponding movements. Using rhyming words and hand motions, this video reinforces vocabulary about fireflies. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Narrative | **Description of task:**  Imagine you are a firefly. Write about a day in your life. Include a sequence of events, and use details from what you have learned about fireflies to describe what happens. Be sure to describe what you are thinking and feeling, and to provide a conclusion to your story. |
| Text Type 2: Informative | **Description of task:**  Write a one-page article about fireflies. Make sure that you:   * Provide a title * Introduce your topic * Provide a conclusion.   Develop your topic using facts and details from your research. Include 2-3 images that provide or support information in your article, and a caption for each image you provide. |
| Task Type 3: Opinion | **Description of task:**  Use the following website to learn more about why we should protect fireflies: <https://legacy.mos.org/fireflywatch/>  Then, write to state your opinion about why it is important to protect fireflies. Give reasons to support your opinion using what you have learned about fireflies. Be sure to use linking words to connect your opinion and reasons, and to provide a conclusion. |
| All content linked to within this resource was available for use when this resource was published in January 2018. Over time, the organizations that manage that external content may move or remove it or change the permissions. If the content is no longer available, please email info@studentsachieve.net. | |