

Open Court Reading

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Grade 5 Text Collection

Selections include narrative and informational texts from numerous genres and cross-curricular connections.



Getting Started

Student Anthology

Journey to the Center of the Earth excerpted from a larger work by Jules Verne and adapted from an original translation by Frederick Amadeus Malleson (Science Fiction)

Unit 1: Perseverance

Student Anthology

The Marble Champ by Gary Soto (Realistic Fiction)

Queen of the Track: Alice Coachman, Olympic High-Jump Champion by Heather Lang (Biography)

Mother to Son by Langston Hughes (Poetry)

One Small Step by Vidas Barzdukas (Informational Text)

It Couldn't Be Done by Edgar Albert Guest (Poetry)

The Great Serum Race: Blazing the Iditarod Trail by Debbie S. Miller (Narrative Nonfiction)

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening by Robert Frost (Poetry)

Hatchet excerpted from a larger work by Gary Paulsen (Adventure Tale)

Unit 2: Cycles

Student Anthology

Monsoons: From Myth to Modern Science by Elaine David (Myth/Informational Text)

Making Waves: Going Under the Surface with Ocean Currents by Phil Moskowitz (Explanatory Text)

Ookpik: The Travels of a Snowy Owl by Bruce Hiscock (Realistic Fiction)

Critters Crossing! by Nick D'Alto (Informational Text)

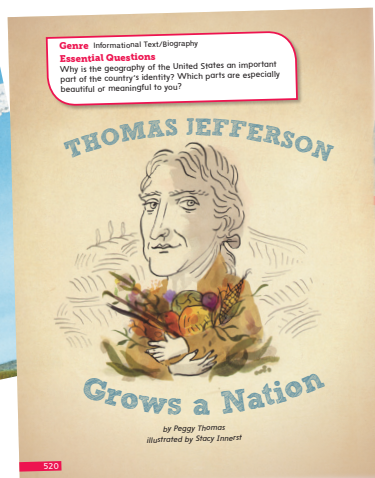
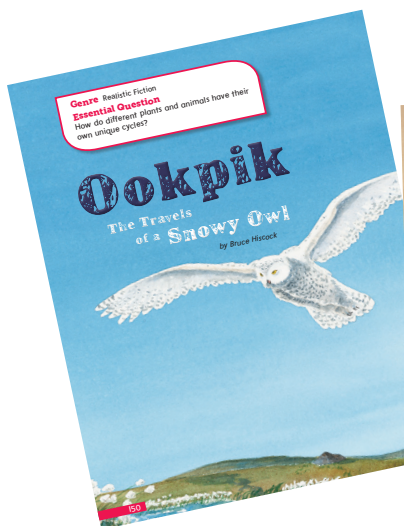
Salmon Creek by Annette LeBox (Rhyming Narrative Nonfiction)

A Year on Bowie Farm by Jen Russell (Realistic Fiction)

Months by Christina Rossetti (Poetry)

Hope by Oliver Herford (Poetry)

A Handful of Dirt by Raymond Bial (Informational Text)



Unit 3: Celebrating World Communities

Student Anthology

Island Treasures: Growing Up in Cuba excerpted from a larger work by Alma Flor Ada (Autobiography)

The Pot That Juan Built by Nancy Andrews-Goebel (Informational Text)

Heading Home by Karen Martin (Realistic Fiction)

My Chinese New Year by Tanya Anderson (Poetry)

The House Baba Built: An Artist's Childhood in China by Ed Young (Autobiography)

Just 17 Syllables! by Dennis Fertig (Realistic Fiction)

Haiku by Matsuo Bashō, Yamazaki Sokan, Arakida Moritake, and Matsunaga Teitoku, with translations by William George Aston (Poetry)

My Librarian Is a Camel excerpted from a larger work by Margriet Ruurs (Informational Text)

Unit 4: Our Planet, Our Home

Student Anthology

Midnight Forests: A Story of Gifford Pinchot and Our National Forests by Gary Hines (Informational Text)

John Muir: America's Naturalist by Sara Middleton (Biography)

A Winter Scene by Henry David Thoreau (Poetry)

Alejandro's Gift by Richard E. Albert

Why Is the World Green? by Susan Martins Miller (Informational Text)

The Mystery of Washington Park by Jorge Almazan (Play)

A Bird Came Down the Walk by Emily Dickinson (Poetry)

What's the Buzz? Keeping Bees in Flight by Merrie-Ellen Wilcox (Informational Text)



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Unit 5: Making a Nation

Student Anthology

The Starving Time: The Early Struggle to Survive in America by Kristine Cruikshank (Informational Text)

A Spy by Chance by Dennis Fertig (Historical Fiction)

The Search for the Mysterious Patriot by Vidas Barzdukas (Play)

Home by Maggie Smith-Beehler (Poetry)

Thomas Jefferson Grows a Nation by Peggy Thomas (Informational Text/Biography)

Abraham Lincoln & Frederick Douglass: The Story Behind an American Friendship excerpted from a larger work by Russell Freedman (Informational Text)

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave excerpted from a larger work by Frederick Douglass (Autobiography)

Speech at Gettysburg by Abraham Lincoln (Speech)

The Transcontinental Railroad by Samantha Paterson

Unit 6: Art and Impact

Student Anthology

Art Works! by Dan Alvarez (Realistic Fiction)

The Storyteller adapted from a work by Saki (Realistic Fiction)

Today Is Very Boring by Jack Prelutsky (Poetry)

More Than Meets the Eye by Amanda Oldman (Realistic Fiction)

The Painter by Maggie Smith-Beehler (Poetry)

The Last Leaf adapted from a work by O. Henry (Realistic Fiction)

The Voice That Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights excerpted from a larger work by Russell Freedman