



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 4: Module 1: Unit 1

Recommended Texts



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Unit 1 focuses on the topic of the founding and structure of the Haudenosaunee, or Iroquois, Confederacy and the Great Peacemaker. The list below includes works with a range of Lexile® text measures on this topic as well as on other Native American tribes of the northeastern United States. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge. It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level in order to build the academic vocabulary and fluency that the CCLS demands.

Where possible, materials in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile levels that correspond to Common Core Bands: below-grade band, within band, and above-band. Note, however, that Lexile measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges

(As Provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grades 2–3: 420–820L
- Grades 4–5: 740–1010L



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below band level (under 740L)			
<i>The Maiden of the Mist: A Legend of Niagara Falls</i>	Veronika Martenova Charles (author/illustrator)	Literature (picture book)	500
<i>The World Before This One: A Novel Told in Legend</i>	Rafe Martin (author)	Literature (illustrated novel)	500
<i>The First Americans (Life in the Time of)</i>	Lisa Trumbauer (author)	Informational Text (picture book)	590
<i>Giving Thanks: A Native American Good Morning Message</i>	Chief Jake Swamp (author), Erwin Printup Jr. (illustrator)	Literature (picture book)	680
<i>Sequoyah: The Cherokee Man Who Gave His People Writing</i>	James Rumford (author/illustrator), Anna Sixkiller Huckaby (Cherokee translator)	Informational Text (picture book)	700



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within band level (740L-1010L)			
<i>Brother Eagle, Sister Sky: A Message from Chief Seattle</i>	Chief Seattle (author), Susan Jeffers (illustrator)	Literature (picture book)	740
<i>If You Lived with the Iroquois</i>	Ellen Levine (author), Shelly Hehenberger (illustrator)	Informational Text (picture book)	810
<i>Native Americans: The First Peoples of New York</i>	Kate Schimel and Lynn George (authors)	Informational Text (highly illustrated nonfiction)	820
<i>The Iroquois</i>	Emily Dolbear and Peter Benoit (authors)	Informational Text (photo-essay)	850
<i>The Iroquois</i>	Stefanie Takacs (author)	Informational Text (highly illustrated nonfiction)	860
<i>The Iroquois and Their History</i>	Genevieve St. Lawrence (author)	Informational Text (highly illustrated nonfiction)	860
<i>The Iroquois: The Six Nation Confederacy</i>	Mary Englar (author)	Informational Text (highly illustrated nonfiction)	880
<i>Seneca Chief, Army General: A Story about Ely Parker</i>	Elizabeth Van Steenwyk (author), Karen Ritz (illustrator)	Informational Text (illustrated biography)	880
<i>Peace Walker: The Legend of Hiawatha and Tekanawita</i>	Carrie J. Taylor (author)	Informational Text (illustrated nonfiction)	930



Title	Author And Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band level (over 1010L)			
<i>Life in a Longhouse Village</i>	Bobbie Kalman (author)	Informational Text (highly illustrated nonfiction)	1020
<i>Hiawatha: Founder of the Iroquois Confederacy</i>	Nancy Bonvillain (author)	Informational Text (illustrated biography)	1260
<i>New York Native Peoples</i>	Mark Stewart (author)	Informational Text (illustrated nonfiction)	1040
<i>100 Native Americans Who Shaped American History</i>	Bonnie Juettner (author)	Collective Biography (illustrated nonfiction)	