**Reading Fundamentals Grade 3 Nonfiction Unit**

**Each Reading Fundamentals Grade 3 Nonfiction unit of study includes:**

* 6 anchor/mentor texts
* [Common Core State Standards Alignment and Correlation Chart](http://www.schoolwide.com/images/_appendix/_docs/RF_Extended/RF_CCSS_INDV/RFGR8_Fiction_CCSS.pdf)
* Comprehensive Teacher's Guide
* Interactive Read-Aloud Lessons and Mini-Lessons
* Student Assessments
* Access to free digital teaching resources on Schoolwide's Resources website:
  + Digital Short Shared Texts
  + Digital Lesson Appendices
  + Instructional Videos

Nonfiction is a rich, varied genre that offers a plethora of topics to entice any reader! Students will spend a great deal of time in school (and in their lives outside of school) reading nonfiction, from newspaper articles to textbooks, recipes to biographies, and travel brochures to informational web pages. Reading nonfiction is empowering. So often students feel like experts about the topic or subject they have read about. Nonfiction reading sparks students’ curiosity and opens their eyes to new worlds and different points of view. Nonfiction has so much to offer readers and is an essential genre to study.

Part of the magic in any unit of study is exposing students to possibilities within the genre. Nonfiction writers stir the imagination and write in vivid, engaging styles. By reading and studying three types of nonfiction (reference, biography, and literary), students will develop an understanding of various forms, features, and purposes of nonfiction. The reading of nonfiction texts will be enhanced by an understanding of the structure, layout, and text features associated with each particular type of nonfiction writing. Common conventions and features enable writers to make their ideas and information clear and accessible to readers. Students will enjoy the aesthetic features of nonfiction texts while appreciating the clear and accurate information and presentation of facts.

Nonfiction reading often leads to inquiry. Students have a natural curiosity and “wonder” about many things. Nonfiction texts encourage students to closely observe and learn about all that is around them. Students will develop passions for locating information, finding answers to questions and wonderings, and deepening their understanding about the nonfiction topics they are reading and learning about. The grades K–8 Nonfiction units will help students learn and apply specific reading skills and strategies that will enable them to discover facts, identify big ideas, and learn new information about the topics they are reading about. This genre study will also provide them with specific tools to address the challenges of reading nonfiction as well as ways to work through difficult text— essential skills for any reader.