**Texts We Use for Balanced Literacy**

*(sources: Chicago Literacy Project[Laura Beltchenko],* *NAESP : Using Read Alouds in Today’s Classrooms,[Reba M Wadsworth]*

Texts do not come with a subtitle “This is an Anchor Text,” etc… The information below can help you decide how to best use a text for instruction. Poems and drama can also be anchor texts if they have enough depth of meaning and complexity to really “dig in,” for understanding. This list of CCSS exemplars are not mandatory – they are just examples of some great texts. Finding texts within each category could be one way to start your own Text Sets!

**Anchor Text**

An anchor text is a book, story or poem you read repeatedly with your students but with a different purpose for reading each time you read the text. This may sound like a close reading, but actually an anchor text is a grade level text. The repeated readings focus on grade level skills, strategies, vocabulary and content. The anchor text is not short or extensively long but has enough content to build real knowledge about a topic.

An anchor text is a cornerstone. It builds stamina and perseverance, is age appropriate and is a published piece or contains high quality and accurate information. It is appropriately complex or challenging for the grade. Anchor texts should be easy to access.

**Supporting Texts**

Supporting texts relate to the anchor text. They are usually shorter and come in a variety of text formats and lengths (passages, articles, poems). They build vocabulary and knowledge about the topic. Supporting texts can be used in many flexible ways to provide students with texts at their **individual reading levels.**

**Close Reading Texts**

Close reading focuses on short, high-quality text that is appropriate for reading several times (e.g., a text with complex ideas and structure). Text can be excerpted from a longer piece of work.

**Read Aloud**

Read Aloud texts are usually above grade level but at listening level of the students. The Modeled teacher Read Aloud should actually extend from Kindergarten through High School! Reading-Aloud is a teacher directed modeled reading to develop understandings of what good fluency sounds like and application of reading skills and strategies. The common core influence in Read Aloud is teacher directed. Interactive Read Alouds are a combination of shared reading and teacher directed (Linda Hoyt).

[Read Alouds](http://www.d118.org/district/curriculum/initiatives/components-effective-read-alouds.pdf)

[Read Aloud Project K-2](http://achievethecore.org/author/86/read-aloud-project)

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| **K – 1 (texts in purple are an example of how to create a text set)** |
| **Literary Texts** | **Poetry** | **Literary Read Alouds** |
| Minarik, Else Holmelund. Little Bear Eastman, P. D. Are You My Mother? Seuss, Dr. Green Eggs and Ham Lopshire, Robert. Put Me in the Zoo **Lobel, Arnold. Frog and Toad Together** Lobel, Arnold. Owl at Home DePaola, Tomie. Pancakes for Breakfast Arnold, Tedd. Hi! Fly Guy    | Anonymous. “As I Was Going to St. Ives.” Rossetti, Christina. “Mix a Pancake.” Fyleman, Rose. “Singing-Time.” Milne, A. A. “Halfway Down Chute, Marchette. “Drinking Fountain.” Hughes, Langston. “Poem.” Ciardi, John. “Wouldn’t You Wright, Richard. “Laughing Boy Greenfield, Eloise. “By Myself Giovanni, Nikki. “Covers Merriam, Eve. “It Fell in the City.” Lopez, Alonzo. “Celebration **Agee, Jon. “Two Tree Toads**  | Baum, L. Frank. The Wonderful Wizard of Oz Wilder, Laura Ingalls. Little House in the Big Woods Atwater, Richard and Florence. Mr. Popper’s Penguins Jansson, Tove. Finn Family Moomintroll Haley, Gail E. A Story, A Story Bang, Molly. The Paper Crane Young, Ed. Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China Garza, Carmen Lomas. Family Pictures Mora, Pat. Tomás and the Library Lady Henkes, Kevin. Kitten’s First Full Moon **Read-Aloud Poetry** Anonymous. “The Fox’s Foray.” **Langstaff, John. Over in the Meadow.** Lear, Edward. “The Owl and the Pussycat.” Hughes, Langston. “April Rain Song Moss, Lloyd. Zin! Zin! Zin! a Violin  |
| **Informational Texts** | **Informational Supporting Texts** | **Informational Read Alouds** |
| **Bulla, Clyde Robert. A Tree Is a Plant** Aliki. My Five Senses Hurd, Edith Thacher. Starfish Aliki. A Weed is a Flower: The Life of George Washington Carver Crews, Donald. Truck Hoban, Tana. I Read Signs Reid, Mary Ebeltoft. Let’s Find Out About Ice Cream “Garden Helpers.” National Geographic Young Explorers “Wind Power.” National Geographic Young Explorers  | Find texts to support student individual reading level. | **Provensen, Alice and Martin. The Year at Maple Hill Farm** Gibbons, Gail. Fire! Fire Dorros, Arthur. Follow the Water from Brook to Ocean Rauzon, Mark, and Cynthia Overbeck Bix. Water, Water Everywhere Llewellyn, Claire. Earthworms Jenkins, Steve, and Robin Page. What Do You Do With a Tail Like This? Pfeffer, Wendy. From Seed to Pumpkin Thomson, Sarah L. Amazing Whales Hodgkins, Fran, and True Kelley. How People Learned to Fly  |

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| **Grade 2-3 (texts in purple are an example of how to create a text set)** |
| **Literary Texts** | **Poetry** | **Literary Read Alouds** |
| **Gannett, Ruth Stiles. My Father’s Dragon.**Averill, Esther. The Fire CatSteig, William. Amos & BorisShulevitz, Uri. The TreasureCameron, Ann. The Stories Julian TellsMacLachlan, Patricia. Sarah, Plain and TallRylant, Cynthia. Henry and Mudge: The First Book of Their AdventuresStevens, Janet. Tops and BottomsLaMarche, Jim. The RaftRylant, Cynthia. Poppleton in WinterRylant, Cynthia. The Lighthouse Family: The StormOsborne, Mary Pope. The One-Eyed Giant (Book One of Tales from the Odyssey)Silverman, Erica. Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa | Dickinson, Emily. “Autumn.”Rossetti, Christina. “Who Has Seen the Wind?”Millay, Edna St. Vincent. “Afternoon on a Hill.”Frost, Robert. “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening.”Field, Rachel. “Something Told the Wild Geese.”**Hughes, Langston. “Grandpa’s Stories.”**Jarrell, Randall. “A Bat Is Born.”Giovanni, Nikki. “Knoxville, Tennessee.”Merriam, Eve. “Weather.”Soto, Gary. “Eating While Reading | **Kipling, Rudyard. “How the Camel Got His Hump.”**Thurber, James. The Thirteen ClocksWhite, E. B. Charlotte’s WebSelden, George. The Cricket in Times SquareBabbitt, Natalie. The Search for DeliciousCurtis, Christopher Paul. Bud, Not BuddySay, Allen. The Sign Painter**Read Aloud Poetry**Lear, Edward. “The Jumblies.”Browning, Robert. **The Pied Piper of Hamelin**Johnson, Georgia Douglas. “Your World.”Eliot, T. S. “The Song of the Jellicles.”Fleischman, Paul. “Fireflies |
| **Informational Texts** | **Informational Supporting Texts** | **Informational Read Alouds** |
| Aliki. A Medieval FeastGibbons, Gail. From Seed to PlantMilton, Joyce. Bats: Creatures of the Night**Beeler, Selby. Throw Your Tooth on the Roof:** **Tooth Traditions Around the World**Leonard, Heather. Art Around the WorldRuffin, Frances E. Martin Luther King and the March on WashingtonSt. George, Judith. So You Want to Be President?Einspruch, Andrew. Crittercam Kudlinski, Kathleen V. Boy, Were We Wrong About DinosaursDavies, Nicola. Bat Loves the NightFloca, Brian. Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11Thomson, Sarah L. Where Do Polar Bears Live? | Find texts to support student individual reading level. | Freedman, Russell. Lincoln: A Photobiography Coles, Robert. The Story of Ruby BridgesWick, Walter. A Drop of Water: A Book of Science and Wonder**Smith, David J. If the World Were a Village: A Book about the World’s People** Aliki. Ah, Music!Mark, Jan. The Museum Book: A Guide to Strange and Wonderful CollectionsD’Aluisio, Faith. What the World EatsArnosky, Jim. Wild Tracks! A Guide to Nature’s FootprintsDeedy, Carmen Agra. 14 Cows for America |

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| **Grade 4-5 (texts in purple are an example of how to create a text set)** |
| **Literary Texts** | **Poetry** | **Literary Read Alouds** |
| Carroll, Lewis. Alice’s Adventures in WonderlandBurnett, Frances Hodgson. The Secret GardenFarley, Walter. The Black StallionSaint-Exupéry, Antoine de. The Little PrinceBabbitt, Natalie. Tuck EverlastingSinger, Isaac Bashevis. “Zlateh the GoatHamilton, Virginia. M. C. Higgins, the Great**Erdrich, Louise. The Birchbark House**Curtis, Christopher Paul. Bud, Not BuddyLin, Grace. Where the Mountain Meets the Moon | Blake, William. “The Echoing Green.” Lazarus, Emma. “The New Colossus.” Thayer, Ernest Lawrence. “Casey at the BatDickinson, Emily. “A Bird Came Down the Walk.” Sandburg, Carl. “Fog.” Frost, Robert. “Dust of SnowDahl, Roald. “Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf**Nichols, Grace. “They Were My People.”** Mora, Pat. “Words Free As Confetti | Read Alouds for Grade 5 – 6 (not CCSS Exemplars)<http://nancykeane.com/rl/332.htm> |
| **Informational Texts** | **Informational Supporting Texts** | **Informational Read Alouds** |
| Berger, Melvin. Discovering Mars: The Amazing Story of the Red PlanetCarlisle, Madelyn Wood. Let’s Investigate Marvelously Meaningful MapsLauber, Patricia. Hurricanes: Earth’s Mightiest StormsOtfinoski, Steve. The Kid’s Guide to Money: Earning It,Saving It, Spending It, Growing It, Sharing ItWulffson, Don. Toys!: Amazing Stories Behind Some Great Inventions Schleichert, Elizabeth. “Good Pet, Bad Pet.” Kavash, E. Barrie. “Ancient Mound Builders.” Koscielniak, Bruce. About Time: A First Look at Time and Clocks Banting, Erinn. England the LandHakim, Joy. A History of USRuurs, Margriet. My Librarian Is a Camel: How BooksAre Brought to Children Around the WorldSimon, Seymour. Horses Montgomery, Sy. Quest for the Tree Kangaroo:An Expedition to the Cloud Forest of New GuineaSimon, Seymour. Volcanoes Nelson, Kadir. We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League BaseballCutler, Nellie Gonzalez. “Kenya’s Long Dry SeasonHall, Leslie. “Seeing Eye to EyeRonan, Colin A. “Telescopes.” **Buckmaster, Henrietta. “Underground Railroad** | Find texts to support student individual reading level. |  |

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| **Grade 6-8 (texts in purple are an example of how to create a text set)** |
| **Literary Texts** | **Drama** | **Poetry** |
| Alcott, Louisa May. Little WomenTwain, Mark. The Adventures of Tom SawyerL’Engle, Madeleine. A Wrinkle in TimeCooper, Susan. The Dark Is RisingYep, Laurence. Dragonwings **Taylor, Mildred D. Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry**Hamilton, Virginia. “The People Could Fly.”Paterson, Katherine. The Tale of the Mandarin DucksCisneros, Sandra. “Eleven.”Sutcliff, Rosemary. Black Ships Before Troy: The Story of the Iliad | Fletcher, Louise. Sorry, Wrong NumberGoodrich, Frances and Albert Hackett. The Diary of Anne Frank: A PlayRead Alouds for Grade 5 – 6 (not CCSS Exemplars)<http://nancykeane.com/rl/332.htm>[Grades 7 - 8 Read Alouds](http://education.scholastic.ca/product/9780779186785)[Article: Teacher Read-Alouds in Middle School](http://interactivereadalouds.pbworks.com/f/Tapping%2Bthe%2BPotential%2Bof%2BTeacher%2BRead-Alouds%2Bin%2BMiddle%2BSchool.pdf) | Longfellow, Henry Wadsworth. “Paul Revere’s Ride.”Whitman, Walt. “O Captain! My Captain!”Carroll, Lewis. “Jabberwocky.”Navajo tradition. “Twelfth Song of Thunder.”Dickinson, Emily. “The Railway Train.”Yeats, William Butler. “The Song of Wandering Aengus.”Frost, Robert. “The Road Not Taken.”Sandburg, Carl. “Chicago.”**Hughes, Langston. “I, Too, Sing America.”**Neruda, Pablo. “The Book of Questions.”Soto, Gary. “Oranges.”Giovanni, Nikki. “A Poem for My Librarian, Mrs. Long |
| **Informational Texts Language Arts** | **History /Social Studies Informational Texts** | **Science, Math, Technical Informational Texts** |
| Adams, John. “Letter on Thomas Jefferson.” Douglass, Frederick. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass an American Slave, Written by HimselfChurchill, Winston. “Blood, Toil, Tears and Sweat: Address to Parliament on May 13th, 1940.”**Petry, Ann. Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad**Steinbeck, John. Travels with Charley: In Search of America | United States. Preamble and First Amendment to the United States Constitution. (1787, 1791)Lord, Walter. A Night to RememberIsaacson, Phillip. A Short Walk through the Pyramids and through the World of ArtMurphy, Jim. The Great FireGreenberg, Jan, and Sandra Jordan. Vincent Van Gogh: Portrait of an ArtistPartridge, Elizabeth. This Land Was Made for You and Me: The Life and Songs of Woody GuthrieMonk, Linda R. Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution**Freedman, Russell. Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott** | Macaulay, David. Cathedral: The Story of Its ConstructionMackay, Donald. The Building of ManhattanEnzensberger, Hans Magnus. The Number Devil: A Mathematical AdventurePeterson, Ivars and Nancy Henderson. Math Trek Adventures in the Math ZoneKatz, John. Geeks: How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet out of IdahoPetroski, Henry. “The Evolution of the Grocery Bag.”“Geology.” U\*X\*L Encyclopedia of Science “Space Probe.” Astronomy & Space: From the Big Bang to the Big Crunch “Elementary Particles.” New Book of Popular Science California Invasive Plant Council. Invasive Plant Inventory |

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| **Grade 9-10 (texts in purple are an example of how to create a text set)** |
| **Literary Texts** | **Drama** | **Poetry** |
| Homer. The OdysseyOvid. MetamorphosesGogol, Nikolai. “The Nose.”De Voltaire, F. A. M. Candide, Or The OptimistTurgenev, Ivan. Fathers and SonsHenry, O. “The Gift of the Magi.”Kafka, Franz. The MetamorphosisSteinbeck, John. The Grapes of WrathBradbury, Ray. Fahrenheit 451Olsen, Tillie. “I Stand Here Ironing.”**Achebe, Chinua. Things Fall Apart**Lee, Harper. To Kill A MockingbirdShaara, Michael. The Killer AngelsTan, Amy. The Joy Luck ClubÁlvarez, Julia. In the Time of the ButterfliesZusak, Marcus. The Book Thief | Sophocles. Oedipus RexShakespeare, William. The Tragedy of MacbethIbsen, Henrik. A Doll’s HouseWilliams, Tennessee. The Glass MenagerieIonesco, Eugene. Rhinoceros**Fugard, Athol. “Master Harold”...and the boys**[**High School Read-Alouds (Reading to your students!)**](http://atn-reading-lists.wikispaces.com/Read%2Balouds%2B-%2Bhigh%2Bschool) | Shakespeare, William. “Sonnet 73.”Donne, John. “Song.”Shelley, Percy Bysshe. “Ozymandias.”Poe, Edgar Allan. “The Raven.”Dickinson, Emily. “We Grow Accustomed to the Dark.”Houseman, A. E. “Loveliest of Trees.”Johnson, James Weldon. “Lift Every Voice and Sing.”**Cullen, Countee. “Yet Do I Marvel.”**Auden, Wystan Hugh. ”Musée des Beaux Arts.”Walker, Alice. “Women.”Baca, Jimmy Santiago. “I Am Offering This Poem to You |
| **Informational Texts Language Arts** | **History /Social Studies Informational Texts** | **Science, Math, Technical Informational Text** |
| Henry, Patrick. “Speech to the Second Virginia Convention.”Washington, George. “Farewell Address.” **Lincoln, Abraham. “Gettysburg Address.”** Lincoln, Abraham. “Second Inaugural Address.” Roosevelt, Franklin Delano. “State of the Union Address.” Hand, Learned. “I Am an American Day Address.” Smith, Margaret Chase. “Remarks to the Senate in Support of a Declaration of Conscience.” King, Jr., Martin Luther. “Letter from Birmingham Jail.”King, Jr., Martin Luther. “I Have a Dream: Address Delivered at the March on Washington, D.C., for Civil Rights on August 28, 1963.”**Angelou, Maya. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**Wiesel, Elie. “Hope, Despair and Memory.”Reagan, Ronald. “Address to Students at Moscow State University.”Quindlen, Anna. “A Quilt of a Country | Brown, Dee. Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American WestConnell, Evan S. Son of the Morning Star: Custer and the Little BighornGombrich, E. H. The Story of Art, 16th EditionKurlansky, Mark. Cod: A Biography of the Fish That Changed the World**Haskins, Jim. Black, Blue and Gray: African Americans in the Civil War**Dash, Joan. The Longitude PrizeThompson, Wendy. The Illustrated Book of Great ComposersMann, Charles C. Before Columbus: The Americas of 149  | Euclid. ElementsCannon, Annie J. “Classifying the Stars.”Walker, Jearl. “Amusement Park Physics.”Preston, Richard. The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True StoryDevlin, Keith. Life by the NumbersHoose, Phillip. The Race to Save Lord God BirdHakim, Joy. The Story of Science: Newton at the CenterNicastro, Nicholas. Circumference: Eratosthenes and the Ancient Quest to Measure the GlobeU.S. Environmental Protection Agency/U.S. Department of Energy. Recommended Levels of Insulation |

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| **Grade 11-12 (texts in purple is an example of how to create a text set)** |
| **Literary Texts** | **Drama** | **Poetry** |
| Chaucer, Geoffrey. The Canterbury TalesDe Cervantes, Miguel. Don QuixoteAusten, Jane. Pride and PrejudicePoe, Edgar Allan. “The Cask of Amontillado.”**Brontë, Charlotte. Jane Eyre**Hawthorne, Nathaniel. The Scarlet LetterDostoevsky, Fyodor. Crime and PunishmentJewett, Sarah Orne. “A White Heron.”Melville, Herman. Billy Budd, SailorChekhov, Anton. “Home.”Fitzgerald, F. Scott. The Great GatsbyFaulkner, William. As I Lay DyingHemingway, Ernest. A Farewell to… Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching GodBorges, Jorge Luis. “The Garden of Forking Paths.”Bellow, Saul. The Adventures of Augie MarchMorrison, Toni. The Bluest EyeGarcia, Cristina. Dreaming in CubanLahiri, Jhumpa. The Namesake | Shakespeare, William. The Tragedy of HamletMolière, Jean-Baptiste Poquelin. TartuffeWilde, Oscar. The Importance of Being EarnestWilder, Thornton. Our Town: A Play in Three Acts**Miller, Arthur. Death of a Salesman**Hansberry, Lorraine. A Raisin in the SunSoyinka, Wole. Death and the King’s Horseman: A Play[**High School Read-Alouds (Reading to your students!)**](http://atn-reading-lists.wikispaces.com/Read%2Balouds%2B-%2Bhigh%2Bschool) | Li Po. “A Poem of Changgan.”Donne, John. “A Valediction Forbidding Mourning.”Wheatley, Phyllis. “On Being Brought From Africa to America.”Keats, John. “Ode on a Grecian Urn.”Whitman, Walt. “Song of Myself.”Dickinson, Emily. “Because I Could Not Stop for Death.”Tagore, Rabindranath. “Song VII.”Eliot, T. S. “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.”Pound, Ezra. “The River Merchant’s Wife: A Letter.”Frost, Robert. “Mending Wall.”Neruda, Pablo. “Ode to My Suit.”Bishop, Elizabeth. “Sestina.”Ortiz Cofer, Judith. “The Latin Deli: An Ars Poetica.”Dove, Rita. “Demeter’s Prayer to Hades.”Collins, Billy. “Man Listening to Disc |
| **Informational Texts Language Arts** | **History /Social Studies Informational Texts** | **Science, Math, Technical Informational Texts** |
| Paine, Thomas. Common SenseJefferson, Thomas. The Declaration of IndependenceUnited States. The Bill of Rights (Amendments One through Ten of the United States Constitution).Thoreau, Henry David. WaldenEmerson, Ralph Waldo. “Society and Solitude.”Porter, Horace. “Lee Surrenders to Grant, April 9th, 1865.”**Chesterton, G. K. “The Fallacy of Success.”**Mencken, H. L. The American Language, 4th EditionWright, Richard. Black BoyOrwell, George. “Politics and the English Language.”Hofstadter, Richard. “Abraham Lincoln and the Self-Made Myth.”Tan, Amy. “Mother Tongue.”Anaya, Rudolfo. “Take the Tortillas Out of Your Poetry.” | Tocqueville, Alexis de. Democracy in AmericaDeclaration of Sentiments by the Seneca Falls ConferenceDouglass, Frederick. “What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?:An Address Delivered in Rochester, New York, on 5 July 1852.”An American Primer. Edited by Daniel J. Boorstin Lagemann, Ellen Condliffe. “Education.”McPherson, James M. What They Fought For 1861–1865The American Reader: Words that Moved a Nation, 2nd EditionAmar, Akhil Reed. America’s Constitution: A BiographyMcCullough, David. 1776…Bell, Julian. Mirror of the World: A New History of ArtFedViews by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco | Paulos, John Allen. Innumeracy: Mathematical Illiteracy and Its ConsequencesGladwell, Malcolm. The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big DifferenceTyson, Neil deGrasse. “Gravity in Reverse: **The Tale of Albert Einstein’s ‘Greatest Blunder.’”**Calishain, Tara, and Rael Dornfest. Google Hacks: Tips & Tools for Smarter Searching, 2nd EditionKane, Gordon. “The Mysteries of Mass.”Fischetti, Mark. “Working Knowledge: Electronic Stability Control.”U.S. General Services Administration. Executive Order 13423: Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation ManagementKurzweil, Ray. “The Coming Merger of Mind and Machine.”Gibbs, W. Wayt. “Untangling the Roots of Cancer.”Gawande, Atul. “The Cost Conundrum: Health Care Costs in McAllen, Texas |