Grades 3-5 Common Core ELA Resources

Sources of Informational Texts for Upper Elementary Students

For the complete special collections with media resources, visit: http://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/grades-3-5-common-core-ela-resources/

The Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts for Grades 3-5 emphasize the need to provide all students with consistent opportunities to confront and comprehend grade-level complex text—through individual reading, through read-alouds, or as a group reading activity. Although this may require extra scaffolding for some students, all students should have an opportunity to engage with complex text as a member of a class.

Characteristics of high-quality reading materials for Grades 3-5:

- appropriately complex texts
- contain more sophisticated academic vocabulary
- lend themselves to more complex tasks
- able to support rich dialogue
- well-written and, as appropriate, richly illustrated
- appeal to students’ interests (“texts of their choice”)
- wide range of materials on a variety of topics and genres
- vary in length and density
- at students’ own reading levels as well as complexity levels that will challenge and motivate students

National Geographic's many award-winning nonfiction materials—from children's books to classroom magazines to interactive digital products—provide upper elementary students with opportunities to practice the foundational reading skills required to achieve fluency and comprehension.