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| About this Resource:  *This text set centers around the topic of a high-quality read aloud anchor text, in order to build students’ knowledge and vocabulary. Anchor texts are a part of Student Achievement Partners’ Read Aloud Project and full lesson plans are hyperlinked. Each Related Text is a suggested lightweight resource that connects to the topic of the read aloud and builds student knowledge and vocabulary. Also included are high-interest, topically related Optional Supporting Resources and Writing/Culminating Tasks in varied genres. Suggested resources are free or almost free (requiring a teacher license or sign on) and can be used as read aloud texts or for small group or independent reading depending on their complexity. All are intended to be optional resources for the classroom and teachers are encouraged to modify, adapt, or supplement these text sets with related resources. Text Sets are intended to support approximately two weeks of instruction. For additional suggestions for use, read this blog post:* [*https://achievethecore.org/aligned/reading-to-learn/*](https://achievethecore.org/aligned/reading-to-learn/)*.* |

*Teacher note: Consider combining this Text Set with the “Thunder Cake” Kindergarten resource to expand student learning on this topic.*

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| **Key Content (Synopsis of two weeks)** | |
| Read Aloud:  Thunder-Boomer  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2585/thunder-boomer> | **Synopsis of Text:**  This illustrated picture book tells the tale of a Midwest family seeking relief from a hot summer day. The mother begins to recognize the signs of a summer “thunder-boomer” and the family hurries to prepare for the storm. The reactions of the various family members, in tandem with the illustrations and the sound effects, clearly demonstrate the stages of the severe thunderstorm. The author shows the family coping in different ways during the worst part of the storm (rain, thunder, hail, lightning, wind). A surprise at the end highlights a new family member: Thunder-boomer, a kitten found after the storm passes. |
| Related Text 1:  Clouds and Rain  <https://www.readworks.org/article/Clouds-and-Rain/9f0a565d-6c93-4b81-85c9-54b27f471da6> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This short informational text explains what clouds are made of. It describes different types of clouds. The description of rain clouds builds on students’ understanding of thunderstorms from the read-aloud text, helping students understand where rain comes from and why it rains. |
| Related Text 2:  What causes lightning and thunder?  <https://newsela.com/articles/lib-nasa-lightning-thunder/id/23266/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This text is adapted from a NASA.gov article about lightning and thunder. It describes what electricity is and how it is connected to lightning. The text goes on to explain the relationship between lightning and thunder, describing how lightning causes thunder to happen. This text gives students some of the scientific knowledge needed to understand thunderstorms and why they happen. |
| Related Text 3:  Thunderstorms  <http://www.weatherwizkids.com/weather-thunderstorms.htm> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This webpage gives basic information about thunderstorms, including what they are, when they are most likely to occur, and what causes them. It also describes what can happen during thunderstorms, including what lightning is and what causes it, what thunder is and what causes it, what hail is, and what causes wind to blow, giving students the scientific knowledge to understand some of the weather conditions that are described in the read-aloud text. At the end of the webpage, there are several experiments students can conduct to help them better understand thunderstorms and lightning. |
| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| Wacky Weather Videos: Fun facts & more!  <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQlnTldJs0ZQ67D3cB0HVlAf3H_y8u54T> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This playlist includes 14 videos about different types of weather. The selected videos listed below explain what weather is and describe thunderstorms. Students can see what it looks like and sounds like during a thunderstorm, seeing lightning and hearing thunder. The following videos from the playlist should be used with students:   * Video 1: “Wonder About Weather” * Video 2: “Our World: What is Weather?” * Video 8: “Learn About Thunderstorms” * Video 9: “How a Thunderstorm is Formed” * Video 10: “What causes Thunder and Lightning?” * Video 11: “Mind Blowing Lightning – Electric Brain Storm (time lapse)”   *Teacher note: Not all of the 14 videos on this playlist directly connect to the content of this resource. Teachers should skip the additional videos or spend extra time reinforcing the knowledge demands required to make use of them. Note that, of the six suggested videos listed above, Video 10, “What causes Thunder and Lightning,” relates most directly to the texts in this set and should not be skipped.* |
| Rain Poems  <http://www.mothergoosecaboose.com/rainpoems.html> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This webpage has a collection of poems about rain and thunderstorms. The poems feature words about rain and thunderstorms, helping students build vocabulary about the topic. They also expose students to literary techniques like rhymes, figurative language, and onomatopoeias. |
| **Writing/ Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Narrative | **Description of task:**  Imagine being stuck outside in a thunderstorm. Draw or write a story about someone caught in a thunderstorm. Include the sequence of events that take place including what the character sees and does during the storm. |
| Text Type 2: Informative | **Description of task:**  Think about thunderstorms. Create a one-page article about what a thunderstorm is. Make sure to:   * Provide a title * Draw or write sentences about your topic   Within your article, explain what a thunderstorm is, and what causes thunder and lightning. Include 1-2 images that provide or support information, and captions for each image you provide. |
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