|  |
| --- |
| 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/)*.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Key Content (Synopsis of two weeks)** | |
| Read Aloud  An Elephant Grows Up  <http://achievethecore.org/page/2818/an-elephant-grows-up> | **Synopsis of Text:**  When the baby elephant is born, the mother cow is protective of the calf. The baby is dependent on its mother for protection and food. As the baby elephant grows up, she learns from the herd where to go for water, how to use its trunk for drinking and picking leaves, and how to use her tusk. Eventually the calf grows up and has her own calf. |
| Related Text 1:  The Savanna  <http://easyscienceforkids.com/the-savanna/> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This book introduces basic information about the savanna habitat, the setting of the read-aloud text. This text helps students to better understand where the elephant and its mother live. |
| Related Text 2:  Baby Animals in Savanna Habitats  <https://www.getepic.com/app/read/8098> | **Synopsis, highlighting related learning:**  This book continues to build students’ knowledge about the savanna. It also goes further into detail about what an animal’s life is like in the savanna while highlighting information about a variety of animal babies and different ways they survive and live in their environment. Lastly, the book shares information about predators and the food chain in the savanna.  *Teacher note: Create an educator account for free access to texts.* |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Optional Supporting Resources** | |
| African Savanna  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxAO-a0KrAQ&t=55s> | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This short video shows students the landscape and animal life on the African savanna. Students gain a better understanding of the different characteristics of this habitat and the animals that live there. |
| Savanna Grassland Biome Facts  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKnV\_‌7QzpNo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nKnV_7QzpNo) | **Description/rationale for inclusion:**  This short video shows images of a savanna and the animals that live there, provides a description of some of the features and landscape, and provides information about the weather and seasons of a savanna. The information and images will support the information learned about life in a savanna. |
| **Writing/Culminating Tasks** | |
| Text Type 1: Narrative | **Description of task:**  Think about what you have learned about the savanna habitat and the animals that live there. Imagine that you visit the African savanna to observe the landscape and wildlife. Write a story to tell the sequence of events that occur during your visit. Be sure that this sequence of events shares:   * The actions that take place * The feelings you experience during this adventure * Your thoughts * A sense of closure |
| Text Type 2: Informative | **Description of task:**  You have been learning about the African savanna and the animals that live there. Create an informative article about the African savanna. Make sure that you:   * Provide a title * Introduce your topic * Provide a conclusion   Develop your topic using facts and information from what you have learned, include images or drawings that support your information, and write a caption for each of these visuals. |
| Task Type 3: Research | **Description of task:**  There are many other animals that you have learned grow up on the African savanna. In small groups or partners, select an animal that lives on the African savanna to learn more about. Create a one-page article about your animal to contribute to a class book. In your article, be sure to:   * Have a title * Introduce your animal * Provide facts and information that you learn about your animal * Include a conclusion.   Provide at least one picture or visual aid with a caption.  *Note: The following websites may be helpful for this research project. Students could search these websites to learn about their animal:*   * <https://www.dkfindout.com/us/> * <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/> * <http://www.africa-wildlife-detective.com/> |
| All content linked to within this resource was available for use when this resource was published in January 2018. Over time, the organizations that manage that external content may move or remove it or change the permissions. If the content is no longer available, please email info@studentsachieve.net. | |