

Companion Text Set to Read Aloud Anchor Text

Anchor Text: Verdi | Grade: 2

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/>.

Key Content (Synopsis of two weeks)

Read Aloud:

Verdi

<http://achievethecore.org/page/2821/verdi>

Synopsis of Text:

This beautifully illustrated book is about a python who deals with issues of accepting himself. Young Verdi doesn't want to grow up big and green. He likes his bright yellow skin and sporty stripes. Besides, all the green snakes he meets are lazy, boring, and rude. When Verdi finds a green stripe running along his whole body, he tries everything he can think of to get rid of it...and ends up getting himself into trouble. Even with his best efforts, Verdi turns green. In the end, Verdi is still young at heart and he realizes even though he is big and green now, he doesn't have to stop being himself.

Teacher note: The last two pages of this book are not addressed in the RAP lesson. Be sure to read these pages as they directly connect to the key content of this set.

Related Text 1:

Pythons: Snakes Alive

<https://www.getepic.com/app/read/6668>

Synopsis, highlighting related learning:

This book is all about pythons, the same type of snake as the main character in the read-aloud text. It explains how pythons look, where they live, and how and what they eat. The picture glossary at the end reinforces important vocabulary related to pythons.

Related Text 2:

Python Facts for Kids

<http://easyscienceforkids.com/all-about-pythons/>

Synopsis, highlighting related learning:

This short article reinforces students' knowledge about pythons. It explains what they are and where they live. It includes photographs of pythons, helping students to visualize this animal.

Related Text 3:

Pythons

<https://www.dkfindout.com/us/animals-and-nature/reptiles/pythons/>

Synopsis, highlighting related learning:

This website adds on to students' knowledge about pythons, going into more detail about their bodies. A labeled diagram of a python points out their unique features, with captions that appear when the labels are clicked on. A "see more pythons" button takes the user to another webpage featuring photographs with captions of different kinds of pythons.

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Optional Supporting Resources	
Green Tree Python https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JlVarN_3Uqg	Description/rationale for inclusion: This video is about green tree pythons, the same type of python as the main character in the read-aloud text. This video will allow students to see pythons in real life. It explains why pythons are different colors and it describes how pythons hunt and eat their prey.
Python, Python, What Do You See? http://www.getty.edu/education/teachers/classroom_resources/curricula/arts_lang_arts/a_la_lesson31.html	Description/rationale for inclusion: This arts-integrated lesson plan guides students in analyzing the sculpture <i>Python Killing Gnu</i> , and then creating their own sculptures of pythons. For a high resolution image of the sculpture: http://www.getty.edu/art/collection/objects/1069/antoine-louis-barye-python-killing-a-gnu-french-1834-1835/ <i>Teacher note: The lesson plan connects to the text <i>The Greedy Python</i> by Richard Buckley and Eric Carle, while not a text in this set this resource does support its content. If it is not possible to access this text, the same lesson steps for this portion of the lesson can be applied to Verdi.</i>
Writing/Culminating Tasks	
Text Type 1: Narrative	Description of task: Imagine you are a python. Write a story featuring a python as the main character. Include a sequence of events, and use details from what you have learned about pythons to describe what happens. Be sure to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe what the characters are thinking, feeling and doing• Provide a conclusion to your story
Text Type 2: Informative	Description of task: Write a one-page article about pythons. Make sure that you: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a title• Introduce your topic• Provide a conclusion Develop your topic using facts and details from what you have learned about pythons. Include 2-3 images that provide or support information in your article, and a caption for each image you provide.

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