

Supplemental Texts

Unit 2: *Animals: Surviving and Thriving*

The following is a list of additional texts that could deepen learning within this unit. Consider adding a few of these texts to the class library and/or offering some of these titles to feed particular interests during Studios work and throughout the day. The list includes fiction texts, non-fiction texts, texts by Maine authors/illustrators, and Wabanaki texts.

Current Unit Texts by Grade Level:

It might be helpful to reference or even borrow some texts from the previous/next grade level(s) to strengthen alignment.

Kindergarten Texts <i>Animals and Habitats</i>	First Grade Texts <i>Animals Surviving and Thriving</i>	Second Grade Texts N/A
<i>"Amphibians"</i> <i>"Fish"</i> <i>"Owl Rules"</i> <i>"The Rehearsal"</i> <i>Fish is Fish</i> <i>From Tadpole to Frog</i> <i>National Geographic Kids: Frogs</i> <i>Life Cycle of a Salmon</i> <i>Lon Po Po</i> <i>Owl Moon</i> <i>Owls</i> <i>Shark Lady The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean's Most Fearless Scientist</i> <i>Swimmy</i> <i>Synthesis of Learning</i> <i>White Owl, Barn Owl</i> <i>Wolves (Gibbons)</i> <i>Wolves (Simon)</i>	<i>A Bird Can Fly</i> <i>"The Story of the Chicken and the Eagle"</i> <i>And Tango Makes Three</i> <i>Animals in the City</i> <i>Black Bear Cub</i> <i>Daniel Finds a Poem</i> <i>Helping Animals</i> <i>Hidden City</i> <i>How Animal Babies Stay Safe</i> <i>How Chipmunk Got His Stripes</i> <i>Me...Jane</i> <i>Sea Turtles</i> <i>Slither, Slide, Hop, and Run</i> <i>Squirrels Leap, Squirrels Sleep</i> <i>Taking a Stand</i> <i>The Perfect Beak</i> <i>Tidepools</i> <i>Turtle Tide</i> <i>What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?</i> <i>Winter Sleep</i>	

Fictional Text Ideas

Title	Author	Year	Summary
<i>Are You a Snail?</i>	<i>Judy Allen and Tudor Humphries</i>	2003	This colorful first nature picture book, written by Judy Allen and illustrated by Tudor Humphries, gives children aged 4 to 7 an inside look at how they would experience life if they were a snail. Ideal for reading aloud or as a first reader, the detailed, warm illustrations bring this familiar creature to life in a truly memorable way. Children who love snails will learn all about their life cycles and behavior, and the witty, interactive text—beginning with the question "Are you a snail?"—will encourage readers to explore the similarities and differences between themselves and these fascinating animals.
<i>Bloom</i>	Julia Seal	2022	Once, the ocean was full of friends. Then a little jellyfish notices that things are changing--friends are disappearing! He sets out to discover the truth and learns that everyone has a part to play in protecting the careful balance of the ocean. "Bloom" refers to a substantial increase in jellyfish population that can be caused by climate change and pollution. In this beautifully illustrated, timely, and topical tale, the jellyfish band together to deliver an important message.
<i>Goyangi Means Cat</i>	Christine McDonell	2011	When Soo Min comes from Korea to live with her new American family, she struggles to learn English and adjust to unfamiliar surroundings. She finds great comfort in the family's cat, <i>Goyangi</i> - that is, until he runs away. After searching the streets with her mother, Soo Min discovers her beloved pet has returned to the house, and speaks her first English word - "Goyangi home." This gentle story reveals that home is truly where the heart is.
<i>Greta and the Giants</i>	Zoë Tucker	2019	This inspiring picture book retells the story of Nobel Peace Prize nominee Greta Thunberg—the Swedish teenager who has led a global movement to raise awareness about the world's climate crisis—using allegory to make this important topic accessible to young children. Greta is a little girl who lives in a beautiful forest threatened by Giants. When the Giants first came to the forest, they chopped down trees to make houses. Then they chopped down more trees and made even bigger homes. The houses grew into towns and the towns grew into cities, until now there is hardly any forest left. Greta knows she has to help the animals who live in the forest, but how? Luckily, Greta has an idea... A section at the back explains that, in reality, the fight against the "giants" isn't over and explains how you can help Greta in her fight.

<i>Mel Fell</i>	Cory Tabor	2021	Readers will delight in turning their book sideways and upside down to follow Mel on her journey from downward fall to triumphant flight in this tale of self-confidence and taking a leap of faith.
<i>Welcome Home, Bear: A Book of Animal Habitats</i>	Il Sung Na	2015	Bear is tired of waking up every morning in the same green forest, so he decides to search for a new place to live. He visits the birds in the trees, a mole underground, a camel in the hot desert sand, puffins in the cold arctic snow . . . only to realize his own home is the perfect place for him after all. <i>Welcome Home, Bear</i> offers rich illustrations, bright colors, and a simple, spare text—all wrapped up in a beautiful, kid-friendly package. Readers meet animals in their habitats around the world—and return with Bear to the one place he is truly happy.

Nonfiction Text Ideas

<i>Title</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Summary</i>
<i>A Boy and a Jaguar</i>	Alan Rabinowitz	2014	Speaking for the animals he loves gives one boy's life hope, purpose, and truth in this gorgeous picture book autobiography. Alan loves animals, but the great cat house at the Bronx Zoo makes him sad. Why are they all alone in empty cages? Are they being punished? More than anything, he wants to be their champion—their voice—but he stutters uncontrollably. Except when he talks to animals...then he is fluent. <i>*Teachers- be sure to read this book ahead of time for potentially sensitive content</i>
<i>A Nest is Noisy</i>	Dianna Hutts Aston	2015	From tiny bee hummingbird nests to orangutan nests high in the rainforest canopy, an incredible variety of nests are showcased here in all their splendor. Poetic in voice and elegant in design, this carefully researched book introduces children to a captivating array of nest facts and will spark the imaginations of children whether in a classroom reading circle or on a parent's lap.

<i>A Peek at Beaks: Tools Birds Use</i>	Sara Levine	2021	Have you ever seen a bird using a jackhammer? What about one scooping up a meal with a net? Of course birds can't really use tools, at least not the way humans do. But birds have surprisingly helpful tools with them at all times—their beaks! Guess which birds have beaks resembling commonly used tools in this playful picture book from award-winning author Sara Levine. Delightfully detailed collage artwork by Kate Slater helps this book take flight!
<i>Amazing Eyes Up Close</i>	Melissa Stewart	2012	Did you know that honeybees have more than two eyes? Or that a giant squid's eyes are bigger than dinner plates? AMAZING EYES UP CLOSE, in the ANIMAL BODIES UP CLOSE series, lets you learn all about how animals use their eyes to look for food and to stay safe. ML: good resource book
<i>Butt or Face? Can you tell which end you're looking at?</i>	Kari Lavelle	2023	The silly, simple premise is carried out splendidly; younger readers will be entranced by fascinating photos, bright colors, and googly eyes galore, while older readers will appreciate fast-fact boxes, clear explanations, and endless animal puns. Butt or Face offers kids a delightfully cheeky challenge: examine a close-up photo of an animal, and then guess whether you're looking at the top or the...um...bottom. The answer is revealed on the next page with a complete photo of the animal! Also included are factual animal details along with how these animals use camouflage or other trickery to engage with their home. Readers will discover animals like the Cuyaba dwarf frog whose backside looks like a pair of eyes, the Mary River turtle that breathes through its butt, and many more!
<i>Chimpanzee Children of Gombe</i>	Jane Goodall	2014	This heartwarming book is filled with photos of many of the chimpanzee babies, toddlers, and young adults that live in the Gombe National Park in Tanzania, where the Jane Goodall research center of is located. Dr. Goodall has campaigned unceasingly for the protection of the chimpanzee—now an endangered species—and this moving, personal account will educate readers about the many threats to the animals in the wild and inspire readers of all ages to join in her vital work. *Teacher Resource
<i>Feathers Not Just for Flying</i>	Melissa Stewart	2014	Young naturalists explore sixteen birds in this elegant introduction to the many, remarkable uses of feathers. A concise main text highlights how feathers are not just for flying. More curious readers are invited to dig deeper with informative sidebars that underscore how feathers of all shapes and sizes

			help birds with warming or cooling, protect them from the sun, help them swim, glide or even dig. With a range of common and exotic species readers will be engaged by both the new and the familiar.
<i>Fish Farts and other Amazing Ways Animals Adapt</i>	Joanne Settel	2024	From popping off a tail to rolling around in dung to farting to send a message, this funny and informative nonfiction picture book shows the many unusual ways animals adapt to their surroundings! Animals survive and thrive in astounding ways: they trick, trap, and fry predators; feed on other animals' poop and skin; and use electric zaps, slime, and other unexpected methods to communicate. Featuring animals like Komodo dragons, bombardier beetles, and capuchin monkeys, this fact-filled book explores the surprising, exciting, and sometimes hilarious ways that animals adapt.
<i>Hiders Seekers Finders Keepers: How Animals Adapt in Winter</i>	Jessica Kulekjian	2022	A poetic and informative exploration of the many ways animals face the challenges of winter. When the autumn days grow shorter and the temperatures cool, animals prepare for winter. Some, the hiders, choose a place to rest and wait out the winter, hibernating under the ground or snuggling in a sheltered spot. Other creatures are seekers, migrating to new locations where the weather is milder and the food sources more plentiful. And then there are the finders, who keep warm and fed by adapting to the new conditions. Every animal knows just what to do — following an ingenious plan that's just right for them!
<i>Humanimals: Incredible Ways Animals are Just Like Us!</i>	Christopher Lloyd	2019	So you think you're special? Just because people have built cities, invented pop-up toasters and put people on the Moon that they are somehow different from (or better than) other living things? Well it's time to think again! Humanimal explores the interconnections of the human and natural worlds in ways you never before imagined... Inside you will discover how: ● Slime molds learn how to navigate through a maze ● Rats are ticklish and how it makes them laugh out loud ● Elephants have funerals for their lost loved ones ● Bees vote in elections to decide where to locate their nests ● Crows use cars to crack nuts ● And a whole lot more!

			This richly illustrated, mesmerizing exploration shows that humans and other animals don't just live on the same planet, they also share many of the same patterns of behavior, making us all fellow players in the drama that is life on Earth. Fascinating and stunningly illustrated, Humanimal explores and celebrates the astonishing ways in which animals and humans are alike. *Teacher Resource: This is a bit wordy for a read aloud but would be a good resource
<i>Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla</i>	Katherine Applegate	2014	Captured as a baby, Ivan was brought to a Tacoma, Washington mall to attract shoppers. Gradually, public pressure built until a better way of life for Ivan was found at Zoo Atlanta. From the Congo to America, and from a local business attraction to a national symbol of animal welfare, Ivan the Shopping Mall Gorilla traveled an astonishing distance in miles and in impact. This is his true story and includes photographs of Ivan in the back matter.
<i>One Turtle's Last Straw: The Real-Life Rescue That Sparked a Sea Change</i>	Elisa Boxer	2022	The inspiring true story of how one small turtle and kids all over the country sparked an environmental movement. Based on the viral video that created awareness of the harm caused by plastic straws, this heart-wrenching story is a perfect tool for teaching children about sustainability. Slurp! A boy finishes his drink and tosses it in the trash, straw and all. He moves on without another thought... In the waters off of Costa Rica, scientists spot an endangered sea turtle and pull him aboard to study him. But he has something stuck in his nose. A barnacle? A stick? No...it's a plastic straw! This heroic story of one turtle's rescue reminds us that even the smallest straw can hurt our ocean life--and that the smallest demand for change can grow into something big!
<i>Over and Under the Canyon</i>	Kate Messner	2021	<i>Over and Under the Canyon</i> takes young readers on a thrilling tour of a desert canyon ecosystem. Over the canyon, the sun scalds the air, baking desert mud to stone. But under the shade of the cliffs hides another world, where bighorn sheep bound from rock to rock on the hillside, roadrunners make their nests in sturdy cacti, and banded geckos tuck themselves into the shelter of the sand. Discover the wonders concealed in the curves of the canyon, the magic of a desert wildflower bloom, and all the unexpected creatures that bring the desert to life.

<i>Seashells: More than a Home</i>	Melissa Stewart	2019	This book sheds a surprising light on how seashells--the hard, protective outer layer that mollusks inhabit--serve tremendous purpose. This large group of marine animals needs shells for protection, feeding, transportation, anchorage, and more"--Provided by publisher.
<i>Slow Down for Manatees</i>	Jim Arnosky	2010	Manatees are the gentle giants of southeastern coastal waterways. An endangered species, their biggest threat is humans, who unwittingly hit them with their boats in shallow waters. Jim Arnosky's conversational narrative tells the story of one such accident, which leads the manatee to be taken to a rescue and rehabilitation facility. There they discover that the manatee is pregnant. And while she recovers and gives birth to a healthy baby, she longs to be free. Ultimately, both manatees are released into the wild--a huge success for the people who intervened in saving the animal.
<i>The Global Ocean</i>	Rochelle Strauss	2022	The global ocean is in trouble — and kids can help! Though we think of Earth's five oceans as separate and distinct, they are actually a linked system of circulating water that is one single ocean — the global ocean. This comprehensive overview explores the global ocean's enormous influence on the planet, as well as humans' often-detrimental influence on the ocean. But it also highlights many inspiring initiatives underway to restore and heal Earth's most important feature, making its message of urgency as hopeful as it is accurate. Kids will happily dive into these beautiful pages to learn about our magnificent global ocean — and what they can do to help save it! *resource for teachers/kids to dig deeper
<i>The Penguin of Ilha Grande: From Animal Rescue to Extraordinary Friendship</i>	Shannon Earle	2023	When an oil-covered penguin washes up in Brazil, Seu João saves the penguin's life. Soon man and penguin are friends, and Dindim the penguin won't return to the wild. At last Dindim swims away, only to return four months later! For seven years, Dindim the penguin lived with Seu João in Brazil for eight months a year, disappearing for four months after his annual molting.
<i>What If You Had Animal Teeth? (Part of What if You Had Series)</i>	Sandra Markle	2013	WHAT IF YOU HAD ANIMAL TEETH takes children on a fun, informative, and imaginative journey as they explore what it would be like if their own front teeth were replaced by those of a different animal. Featuring a dozen animals (beaver, great white shark, narwhal, elephant, rattlesnake, naked mole rat, hippopotamus, crocodile, and more), this book explores how different teeth are especially adapted for an animal's survival. At the end of the book, children will discover why their own

			teeth are just right for them. And they'll also get a friendly reminder to take good care of their teeth, because they're the only teeth they'll ever have. Each spread features a photograph of the animal using its specialized teeth on the left and a humorous illustrated image of a child using that animal's teeth on the right.
<i>Wild Brunch: Poems About How Creatures Eat</i>	David Harrison	2024	Young wildlife lovers are invited to explore how and why animals eat what they do in this nonfiction poetry picture book collection for kids. Explore how narwhals, jellyfish, hippos, piranhas, and many more species of swimming, land-based, and flying animals satisfy their appetites in a collection of culinary poems. A creative companion to <i>Now You See Them, Now You Don't: Poems About Creatures That Hide</i> and <i>A Place to Start a Family: Poems About Creatures That Build</i> by celebrated author and science expert David L. Harrison and award-winning illustrator, Giles Laroche.

Texts with Authors/Illustrators from Maine

Title	Author	Year	Summary
<i>Cooper & Packrat Series</i>	Tamra Wight	2015 and more	This charming middle-grade series blends outdoor adventure, eco-mystery, and humor. Each installment follows Cooper (a slightly reluctant camper) and his trusty sidekick Packrat as they encounter wildlife mysteries near Pine Lake — their summer camp setting. Across the series, Tamra Wight (who brings personal experience running a campground and working in education in Maine into her writing) layers rich outdoor detail, gentle humor, and wildlife stewardship into fast-paced plots that engage 8–12-year-olds in both story and nature awareness. Excellent chapter book read aloud
<i>Finding a Friend in the Forest</i>	Dean Bennett	2005	In appealing prose and watercolor illustrations, this book retells the true story of Jasper, an aging beagle that belongs to a couple who buy a fishing camp in the Maine woods. After unsuccessful attempts to make friends with a variety of forest animals, Jasper and his owners meet a crippled whitetail doe that makes their camp her home. The deer and dog become inseparable and spend many seasons together at the water's edge, the doe often bringing her fawns to meet her longtime friend.

<i>Lighthouse Dog to the Rescue</i>	Angeli Perrow	2000	Pauline, the lighthouse keeper's daughter, is proud of her pet spaniel because he is helpful and clever and a friend to all. But even Pauline does not realize just how brave and loyal Spot is until the night a terrible blizzard hits and a boat is missing out in the storm. Based on a true story from Maine's maritime history.
<i>One Cool Friend</i>	Toni Buzzeo	2012	When well-mannered Elliot reluctantly visits the aquarium with his distractible father, he politely asks whether he can have a penguin--and then removes one from the penguin pool to his backpack. The fun of caring for a penguin in a New England Victorian house is followed by a surprise revelation by Elliot's father.
<i>Wild about Bears</i>	Jeannie Brett	2014	For ages 6–9, this nonfiction picture book profiles all eight bear species and highlights how each survives in its habitat—from polar ice to tropical forests. Beautiful watercolor illustrations bring these powerful survival stories to life. It was named a National Science Teachers Association Outstanding Science Trade Book.

Wabanaki Culture

Title	Author	Year	Summary
<i>Thanks to the Animals</i>	Allen Sockabasin	2009	Little Zoo Sap and his family are moving from their summer home on the coast to their winter home in the deep woods. Unnoticed, the youngster tumbles off the end of the sled. Alone, cold, and frightened, Zoo Sap cries, and his cries attract the forest animals. Beginning with beaver and ending with the great bald eagle, the animals rush to protect the baby and shelter him from the cold until his father returns for him.