

Text Sets for Introducing the 5 Kinds of Nonfiction



On pages 40-42 of [*5 Kinds of Nonfiction: Enriching Reading and Writing Instruction with Children's Books*](#), we've suggested using the following bird-themed text set as part of an activity to introduce the 5 Kinds of Nonfiction classification system to students (and colleagues):



Alderfer, Jonathan. *National Geographic Kids Bird Guide of North America: Second Edition*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2018. **(active)**

Burnie, David. *Eyewitness Books: Bird*. London: DK Children, 2008. **(browseable)**

McCarthy, Megan. *City Hawk: The Story of Pale Male*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2007. **(narrative)**

Simon, Seymour. *Penguins*. New York: HarperCollins, 2010. **(traditional)**

Stewart, Melissa. *Feathers: Not Just for Flying*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2014. **(expository literature)**

During presentations, educators have let us know that they'd like us to recommend additional themed text sets. To honor these requests, we've provided more below. Their themes should appeal to a broad array of young readers.

You can purchase these books and use them with students, or better yet, you can evaluate them as a group and then create your own themed text sets using books available in your classroom and school and public libraries.

Dinosaurs

Buzzeo, Toni. *When Sue Found Sue: Sue Hendrickson Discovers Her T. rex*. New York: Abrams, 2019. **(narrative)**

Levine, Sarah. *Fossil by Fossil: Bones in Nature*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2018. **(expository literature)**

McCurry, Kristen and Juan Calle Velez. *How to Draw Incredible Dinosaurs*. North Mankato, MN: Capstone, 2012. **(active)**

Simon, Seymour. *Dinosaurs: Fact and Fable*. New York: HarperCollins, 2020. **(traditional)**

St. Fleur, Nicholas. *Did You Know? Dinosaur*. New York: DK, 2020. **(browseable)**

Activism

Bondy, Halley. *Speak Up! A Guide to Having Your Say and Speaking Your Mind*. Minneapolis: Zest Books, 2015. **(active)**

Chambers, Veronica. *Shirley Chisolm Is a Verb*. New York: Dial, 2020. **(narrative)**

Clinton, Chelsea. *She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World*. New York: Philomel, 2017. **(expository literature)**

Henderson, Leah. *Together We March: 25 Protest Movements that Marches into History*. New York: Atheneum, 2021. **(browseable)**

Tyner, Dr. Artika R. *Black Lives Matter: From Hashtag to the Streets*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2021. **(traditional)**

Fashion

Albee, Sarah. *Why'd They Wear That: Fashion as the Mirror of History*. Washington, DC: National Geographic for Kids, 2015. **(expository literature)**

Blumenthal, Deborah. *Fancy Party Gowns: The Story of Fashion Designer Ann Cole Lowe*. New York: little bee books, 2017. **(narrative)**

Quigley, Kerri. *Fashion Design for Kids: Skill-building Activities for Future Fashion Designers*. Berkeley: Rockridge Press, 2021. **(active)**

Rowland-Warne, L. *Eyewitness: Costume*. London: DK, 2000. **(browseable)**

Waxman, Laura Hamilton. *Fabulous Fashion Inventions*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2013. **(traditional)**

Dogs

Baines, Becky. *Everything Dogs: All the Canine Facts, Photos, and Fun You Can Get Your Paws On!* Washington, DC: National Geographic for Kids, 2012. **(browseable)**

Dennis, Major Brian, Kirby Larson, and Mary Nethery. *Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine & a Miracle.* New York: Little, Brown, 2009. **(narrative)**

Frank, Sarah. *Golden Retrievers.* Minneapolis: Lerner, 2019. **(traditional)**

McGill, Erin. *If You Want a Friend in Washington: Wacky, Wild & Wonderful Presidential Pets.* New York: Schwartz & Wade, 2020. **(expository literature)**

Moore, Arden. *A Kid's Guide to Dogs: How to Train, Care for, and Play and Communicate with Your Amazing Pet!* North Adams, MA: Storey, 2020. **(active)**

Ocean Life

Gowan, Fiona. *How to Draw Incredible Sharks and Other Ocean Giants: Packed with over 80 Creatures of the Sea.* Denver: B.E.S. Publishing, 2016. **(active)**

Newman, Patricia. *Sea Otter Heroes: The Predators That Saved an Ecosystem.* Minneapolis: Millbrook, 2017. **(narrative)**

Simon, Seymour. *Sea Creatures.* New York: HarperCollins, 2018. **(traditional)**

Stewart, Melissa. *Seashells More than a Home.* Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2019. **(expository literature)**

Zommer, Yuval. *The Big Book of the Blue.* London: Thanks & Hudson, 2018. **(browsable)**

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