

Grade 4 Reading Unit 3 - Nonfiction

In this unit, your child will explore nonfiction text sets. He/she will apply previously learned comprehension strategies and build on those strategies while researching social studies and science topics. As the unit progresses your child will think critically about nonfiction texts, questioning the validity of sources used, the author's purpose for writing, and identifying author bias.

Skills your child will develop in this unit are:

- Using text features to activate and build background knowledge
- Stopping and thinking- identifying what a text is mostly about
- Identifying important facts versus interesting facts
- Asking questions before/during/after reading (What to do with unanswered questions)
- Taking notes and creating organizers to sort the information
- Questioning the credibility of an author

Questions to consider asking your child:

- What text features do you notice in nonfiction text? How do they help you?
- How does the author's structure help you learn?
- What is your nonfiction text mainly about?
- What did you learn from your nonfiction text?
- What questions did you ask yourself before, during, and after reading your nonfiction text?
- What is the author's point of view on the topic? Do you agree or disagree and why?

Some books that may be shared in class are:

- Various nonfiction text sets related to social studies and science topics

Now that your child has begun reading nonfiction texts, it is important to cite facts, key ideas, and the meaning within the text. As your child delves into nonfiction, encourage him/her to ask questions and think about the author's message.