



Mississippi Text Exemplars

Office of Curriculum and Instruction
January 6, 2014



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

The Mississippi Text Exemplars list is a compilation of text titles gathered from teachers and English Language Arts specialists from around the state of Mississippi.¹ Over 80 teachers and curriculum specialists were contacted and asked to identify texts that were used in grades K-6 classrooms in their districts. The sample texts were compiled into a list based on the response of Mississippi teachers. The list was then vetted by a task force of Mississippi English Language Arts teachers and specialists, including members of higher education communities in Mississippi. This task force vetted these texts based on the following criteria:

- Appropriate age and grade-level text complexity
- Appropriate age and grade-level content
- Value of literature and informational text to classroom instruction
- Recommendations of Mississippi English Language Arts teachers and specialists

This list is by no means exhaustive. It is not a required reading list for Mississippi students, nor is it a suggested reading list. The list serves as a sample list of texts that have been used within the state of Mississippi.

¹ Some texts may be used in multiple grade levels, depending on reader and task considerations.



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

It is important to note the types of texts that the CCSS require at each grade level when choosing texts. For example, the CCSS for grade 3 requires students to read myths. While the Mississippi text exemplars may contain myths at various grade levels, it would be plausible to use the myths listed below, even if they have been placed at a different grade level. Furthermore, for the purposes of integrating curriculum, it is important to note the topics required by the Mississippi Social Studies and Science Frameworks at each grade level. For example, fourth grade students are required to study Mississippi's Native American groups; therefore, teachers may choose texts about these groups even if they are listed at another grade level. Finally, the *PARCC Model Content Frameworks* for each grade level can be utilized to provide teachers with further parameters when choosing texts and creating text sets to be used with the titles on the Mississippi exemplar list.



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Kindergarten²

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| 10 Fat Turkeys | Tony Johnston | L | 320 |
| A Butterfly is Born | Melvin Berger | L | NA |
| A House for Hermit Crab | Eric Carle | L | 480 |
| A Pair of Socks | Stuart Murphy | L | 440 |
| Abuela | Arthur Dorros | L | 510 |
| Barnyard Song | Rhonda Gowler Greene | L | 660 |
| Bear Snores | Karma Wilson | L | 280 |
| Biscuit Visits the Pumpkin Patch | Alyssa Satin Capucilli | L | NA |
| Bluebird | Bob Staake | L | NA |
| Brown Bear, Brown Bear | Bill Martin Jr./ Eric Carle | L | 440 |
| Cat's Colors | Jane Cabrera | L | 80 |
| Chicka Chicka Boom Boom | Bill Martin Jr. | L | 530 |
| Chrysanthemum | Kevin Henkes | L | 460 |
| Creatures of the Night | David Cutts | L | NA |
| Doctor Desoto | William Steig | L | 560 |
| Gingerbread Baby | Jan Brett | L | 430 |
| Green Eggs and Ham | Dr. Seuss | L | 30 |
| If You Take A Mouse to the Movies | Laura Numeroff | L | 240 |
| Jingle Bells | Ira Trapani | L | 800 |
| My Teacher for President | Kay Winters | L | 370 |
| Owl at Home | Arnold Lobel | L | 370 |
| Owl Babies | Martin Waddell | L | 500 |
| Planting a Rainbow | Lois Ehlert | L | 170 |
| Pumpkin Soup | Helen Cooper | L | 310 |
| Sheep in a Jeep | Nancy E. Shaw | L | 130 |
| Snowballs | Lois Ehlert | L | 300 |
| Somewhere in the World Right Now | Stacey Schuett | L | 550 |
| The Little Red Hen | Paul Galdone | L | 510 |
| The Mitten | Jan Brett | L | 800 |
| The Paper Crane | Molly Bang | L | 810 |
| The Very Busy Spider | Eric Carle | L | 130 |
| Today is Monday | Eric Carle | L | NA |
| Walter the Baker | Eric Carle | L | 550 |

² Many of these titles are intended to be read-aloud books in Kindergarten.



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Kindergarten

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Frog and Toad Together | Arnold Lobel | L | 450 |
| Polar Bear, Polar Bear | Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle | L | 670 |
| A Day at the Apple Orchard | Megan Faulkner & Adam Krawesky | I | 640 |
| A Tree is a Plant | Clyde Robert Bulla | I | 600 |
| Autumn Leaves | Ken Robbins | I | 630 |
| Circus Shapes | Stuart Murphy | I | 140 |
| Earthworms | Claire Llewellyn | I | 700 |
| From Caterpillar to Butterfly | Deborah Heiligman | I | 520 |
| From Seed to Pumpkin | Jan Kotte | I | NA |
| Guess Who Spins | Sharon Gordon | I | NA |
| How People Learned to Fly | Fran Hodgkins | I | 630 |
| I Read Signs | Tana Hoban | I | NA |
| My Five Senses | Aliki | I | 400 |
| Nature Spy | Shelly Rotner and Ken Kreisler | I | 360 |
| On the Go | Ann Morris | I | 480 |
| Picture Dictionary of Animals | Rebecca Motil | I | NA |
| Pumpkin, Pumpkin | Jeanne Titherington | I | 260 |
| Schools Have Rules | Nina Tsang | I | NA |
| See, Hear, Touch, Taste, Smell | Melvin Berger | I | NA |
| Shapes, Shapes, Shapes | Tana Hoban | I | NA |
| Starfish | Edith Hurd | I | 170 |
| The American Flag | Lloyd G. Douglas | I | 520 |
| The Beetle Alphabet Book | Jerry Pallotta | I | 620 |
| The Human Body | Melvin Berger | I | NA |
| The Liberty Bell | Lloyd G. Douglas | I | 370 |
| The Pledge of Allegiance | Lloyd G. Douglas | I | NA |
| The Statue of Liberty | Lloyd G. Douglas | I | 510 |
| The Tiny Seed | Eric Carle | I | 400 |
| The White House | Lloyd G. Douglas | I | 480 |
| Turtle Song | John Archambault | I | NA |
| What Do You Do With a Tail Like This? | Steve Jenkins & Robin Page | I | 760 |
| What I Like About Me | Allia Zobel Nolan | I | NA |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 1³

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|-------------------|-----------|---------|
| A Bad Case of the Stripes | David Shannon | L | 540 |
| A Bad Kitty Christmas | Nick Bruel | L | 520 |
| A Pocket Full of Kisses | Audrey Penn | L | NA |
| Alexander and the Wind-up Mouse | Leo Leonni | L | 490 |
| All You Need for a Snowman | Alice Schertle | L | NA |
| Amelia Bedelia's First Apple Pie | Herman Parish | L | 530 |
| Apples, Apples Everywhere | Robin Koontz | L | 410 |
| Bad Apple - A Tale of Friendship | Edward Hemingway | L | 560 |
| Bear's Loose Tooth | Karma Wilson | L | 440 |
| Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake | Michael Kaplan | L | 600 |
| Chocolatina | Erik Craft | L | 560 |
| Country Angel Christmas | Tomie dePaola | L | 500 |
| Curious George Goes to a Chocolate Factory | HA Rey | L | 440 |
| Don't Talk To Strangers | Christine Mehlafl | L | NA |
| Elmer | David McKee | L | 500 |
| First Day Jitters | Julie Danneberg | L | 210 |
| First Day of School | Mercer Mayer | L | 190 |
| Footprints in the Snow | Cynthia Benjamin | L | 20 |
| Gregory, The Terrible Eater | Mitchell Sharmat | L | 490 |
| Hi! Fly Guy | Tedd Arnold | L | 280 |
| How Santa Got His Elves | E.J. Sullivan | L | NA |
| How The Grinch Stole Christmas | Dr. Seuss | L | 510 |
| Junie B. Jones (series) | Barbara Park | L | Various |
| Lacey Walker, Nonstop Talker | Christianne Jones | L | 390 |
| Love, Splat | Rob Scotton | L | 700 |
| Miss Nelson is Missing | Harry Allard | L | 340 |
| Mooseltoe | Margie Palatini | L | 180 |
| Officer Buckle and Gloria | Peggy Rathmann | L | 510 |
| Over and Under the Snow | Kate Mesner | L | 700 |
| Pete the Cat and His White Shoes | Eric Litwin | L | 240 |
| Pete the Cat, Rocking in My School Shoes | Eric Litwin | L | 240 |
| Pink and Say | Patricia Polacco | L | 590 |
| Rotten Ralph Feels Better | Jack Gantos | L | 520 |
| Skippyjon Jones, Class Action | Judy Schachner | L | 740 |
| Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon | Patty Lovell | L | 560 |
| Stella Queen of the Snow | Marie-Louise Gay | L | 370 |

³ Some of these titles are intended to be read-aloud books in Kindergarten.



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 1

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Stone Soup | Marcia Brown | L | 480 |
| The Snowy Day | Ezra Jack Keats | L | 500 |
| The After-Christmas Tree | Linda Wagner Tyler | L | NA |
| The Big Snow | Berta and Elmer Hader | L | 710 |
| The Biggest Christmas Tree Ever | Steven Kroll | L | 680 |
| The Gingerbread Man | Jim Aylesworth | L | 450 |
| The Giving Tree | Shel Silverstein | L | 530 |
| The Jacket I Wear in the Snow | Shirley Neitzel | L | NA |
| The Kissing Hand | Audrey Penn | L | 660 |
| The Other Side | Jacqueliune Woodson | L | 300 |
| The Polar Express | Chris Van Allsburg | L | 520 |
| The Quilt | Ann Jonas | L | 290 |
| The Scrawny Little Tree | Ed Mehler | L | NA |
| The Very Quiet Cricket | Eric Carle | L | 430 |
| Too Many Pumpkins | Linda White | L | 770 |
| Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving | Dave Pilkey | L | NA |
| Wemberly Worried | Kevin Henkes | L | 170 |
| When the Leaf Blew In | Steve Metzger | L | 350 |
| Who Will be My Valentine This Year? | Jerry Pallotta | L | 150 |
| Who Will See Their Shadows This Year? | Jerry Pallotta | L | 260 |
| You Get What You Get | Julie Glassman | L | 660 |
| Commotion in the Ocean | Giles Andreae | L | 850 |
| A Ladybug's Life | John Himmelman | I | NA |
| A Tree For All Seasons | Robin Bernard | I | 420 |
| Down Buttermilk Lane | John Sanford | I | NA |
| Follow the Water from Brook to Ocean | Arthur Dorros | I | 600 |
| George Washington's Teeth | Deborah Chandra | I | 720 |
| Good Enough to Eat: A Kid's Guide to Food and Nutrition | Lizzy Rockwell | I | 570 |
| How Many Seeds in a Pumpkin? | Margaret McNamara | I | 560 |
| How's the Weather in Fall? | Rebecca Felix | I | 260 |
| Johnny Appleseed | Jodie Shepherd | I | 680 |
| Johnny Appleseed | David Lee Harrison | I | 200 |
| Let's Read About Ruby Bridges | Ruby Bridges and Grace Maccarone | I | 420 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 1

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. | Doreen Rappaport | I | 410 |
| Picking Apples and Pumpkins | Amy Hutchings | I | 730 |
| Seed, Sprout, Pumpkin, Pie | Jill Esbaum | I | 810 |
| The Honey Makers | Gail Gibbons | I | 770 |
| The Legend of the Bluebonnet: An Old Tale of Texas | Tomie dePaola | I | 740 |
| The Reasons for Seasons | Gail Gibbons | I | 620 |
| The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree | Gail Gibbons | I | 580 |
| Who Was Johnny Appleseed? | Joan Holub | I | 790 |
| Why do Leaves Change Color? | Betsy Maestro | I | 580 |
| Wonderful Worms | Linda Glaser | I | 390 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 2

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------|--------|
| A Kiss Goodbye | Audrey Penn | L | 660 |
| Adventure of Riley Polar Bear Puzzle | Amanda Lumry | L | 940 |
| Bats at the Library | Brian Lies | L | 720 |
| Buffalo Dusk | Carl Sandburg | L | 920 |
| Centipede's One Hundred Shoes | Tony Ross | L | 620 |
| City Green | DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan | L | 480 |
| City Mouse Country Mouse | Rozanne Lanczak Williams | L | NA |
| Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs | Judi Barrett | L | 730 |
| Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa | Erica Silverman | L | 400 |
| Duck for President | Doreen Cronin | L | 680 |
| Flat Stanley | Jeff Brown | L | 550 |
| Goldilocks and the Three Bears | James Marshall | L | 520 |
| If You Give a Mouse Cookie | Laura Numeroff | L | 660 |
| Inside Your Outside | Tish Rabe & Aristides Ruiz | L | 660 |
| Jack and the Beanstalk | Steven Kellogg | L | 660 |
| Kitten's First Full Moon | Kevin Henkes | L | 360 |
| LaRue Across America | Mark Teague | L | 900 |
| Leaf Man | Lois Ehlert | L | 310 |
| Leola and the Honeybears | Melodye Benson Rosales | L | 800 |
| Lon Po Po | Ed Young | L | 670 |
| Look What I Did With a Leaf | Morteza E. Sohi | L | 700 |
| Magic School Bus Weathers the Storm | Joanne Cole | L | 300 |
| Marta's Magnets | Wendy Pfeffer & Gail Piazza | L | NA |
| Oh Say Can You Seed? | Bonnie Worth & A. Ruiz | L | NA |
| Oh the Things You Can Do That are Good for You | Tish Rabe & Aristides Ruiz | L | NA |
| Pumpkin Jack | Will Hubbell | L | 500 |
| Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf | Lois Ehlert | L | 680 |
| Red Riding Hood | James Marshall | L | 520 |
| Spooky, Spooky, Spooky | Cathy MacLennan | L | NA |
| Stellaluna | Janell Cannon | L | 550 |
| Storm in the Night | Mary Stolz | L | 550 |
| Strega Nona | Tomie de Paola | L | 660 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 2

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|---|-----------|--------|
| The Art Lesson | Tomie dePaola | L | 650 |
| The Biggest Pumpkin Ever | Steven Kroll | L | 570 |
| The Cowboy and the Blackeyed Pea | Tony Johnston | L | 510 |
| The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash | Trinka Hakes Noble | L | 540 |
| The Hat | Jan Brett | L | 440 |
| The Important Book | Margaret Wise Brown | L | 580 |
| The Legend of the Indian Paintbrush | Tomie dePaola | L | 840 |
| The Magic School Bus at the First Thanksgiving | Joanna Cole | L | 200 |
| The Magic School Bus Plants Seeds | Joanna Coles, Bruce Degen & John Speirs | L | 420 |
| The Magic School Bus Takes a Moon Walk | Joanna Cole | L | 300 |
| The Magic School Bus: Amazing Magnetism | Rebecca Carmi & John Speirs | L | 570 |
| The Magic School Bus: Inside a Hurricane | Joanne Cole | L | 500 |
| The Magic School Bus: Inside the Earth | Joanna Cole | L | 500 |
| The Magic School Bus: Inside the Human Body | JoAnne Cole & Bruce Degen | L | 420 |
| The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System | Joanna Cole | L | 480 |
| The Magic School Bus: Wet All Over | Joanne Cole | L | 350 |
| The Magic School Takes a Wild Leaf Ride | Judith Stamper | L | 240 |
| The Night Before Christmas | Tim Browning | L | NA |
| The Popcorn Book | Tomie dePaola | L | 830 |
| The Raft | Jim LaMarche | L | 540 |
| The Relatives Came | Cynthia Rylant | L | 940 |
| The Rough Faced Girl | Rafe Martin | L | 540 |
| The Sign Painter | Allen Say | L | 250 |
| The Three Little Pigs | James Marshall | L | 560 |
| The Treasure | Uri Shulevitz | L | 650 |
| The True Story of the Three Little Pigs | Jon Scieszka | L | 570 |
| The Twelve Days of Christmas | Susan Jeffers | L | 650 |
| The Wild Christmas Reindeer | Jan Brett | L | 670 |
| There's a Map on My Lap | Tish Rabe | L | NA |
| There's No Place Like Space (Cat in the Hat Learning Library) | Tish Rabe | L | 520 |
| Thunder Cake | Patricia Polacco | L | 630 |
| Tops and Bottoms | Janet Stevens | L | 620 |
| A Drop Around the World | Barbara Shaw McKinney | I | 820 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 2

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| America the Beautiful | Katharine Lee Bates | I | 650 |
| Bats: Creatures of the Night | Joyce Milton | I | 510 |
| Desert Life | Steven James Petruccio | I | NA |
| Do Tornadoes Really Twist? | Melvin Berger | I | 770 |
| Down Comes the Rain | Franklyn M. Branley | I | 560 |
| Flip, Float, Fly Seeds on the Move | JoAnn Early Macken & Pamela Paparone | I | 650 |
| From Seeds to Plant | Gail Gibbons | I | 660 |
| Hydro's Adventure Through the Water Cycle | Randi S. Goodrich | I | NA |
| It's Not What You've Got | Dr. Wayne W. Dyer | I | 780 |
| Looking at Life Cycles: How do Plants and Animals Change? | Angela Royston | I | NA |
| Owls | Gail Gibbons | I | 760 |
| Presenting: Amazing Magnets | Teresa Celsi | I | 660 |
| Rainforest Life Cycles | Sean Callery | I | NA |
| Samuel Eaton's Day | Kate Waters | I | 590 |
| Sarah Morton's Day | Kate Waters | I | 700 |
| Simple Machines | Allan Fowler | I | NA |
| Squanto's Journey | Joseph Bruchac | I | 560 |
| The Cloud Book | Tomie dePaola | I | 680 |
| The Moon Book | Gail Gibbons | I | 740 |
| The Scrambled States of America | Laurie Keller | I | 510 |
| The Snowflake: A Water Cycle Story | Neil Waldman | I | NA |
| This Land is Your Land | Woody Guthrie | I | NA |
| Tornado Alert | Franklyn M Branley | I | 640 |
| Weather Words and What They Mean | Gail Gibbons | I | 450 |
| What Happens to a Hamburger? | Paul Showers & Edward Miller | I | 520 |
| Zippering, Zapping, Zooming Bats | Ann Earle | I | 730 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 3

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|----------------------|-----------|--------|
| Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day | Judith Viorst | L | 970 |
| Amos and Boris | William Steig | L | 810 |
| Atlantic | Brian Karas | L | 730 |
| BFG | Roald Dahl | L | 720 |
| Charlotte's Web | EB White | L | 680 |
| Chester Raccoon and The Big Bad Bully | Audrey Penn | L | 810 |
| Chicken Sunday | Patricia Polacco | L | 650 |
| Cricket in Times Square | George Selden | L | 780 |
| Dex: The Heart of a Hero | Caralyn Buehner | L | NA |
| Grandpa's Face | Eloise Greenfield | L | 610 |
| Hello Ocean | Pam Munoz Ryan | L | NA |
| House Mouse Senate Mouse | Peter Barnes | L | NA |
| How I Spent My Summer Vacation | Mark Teague | L | NA |
| How to be Cool in Third Grade | Betsy Duffey | L | 470 |
| Hurricane | David Wiesner | L | 460 |
| In November | Cynthia Rylant | L | 440 |
| Jake Drake Know It All | Andrew Clements | L | 570 |
| Jim and the Beanstalk | Raymond Briggs | L | 560 |
| Junkyard Wonders | Patricia Polacco | L | 660 |
| Just in Time Abraham Lincoln | Patricia Polacco | L | 570 |
| King Midas and the Golden Touch | Charlotte Craft | L | 660 |
| Mirette on the Highwire | Emily Arnold McCully | L | 580 |
| Mr. Lincoln's Way | Patricia Polacco | L | 450 |
| Muggie Maggie | Beverly Cleary | L | 730 |
| My Father's Dragon | Ruth Stiles Gannett | L | 990 |
| Oliver Button is a Sissy | Tomie dePaola | L | 480 |
| Ox Cart Man | Donald Hall | L | 1130 |
| Pickles to Pittsburgh | Judi Barrett | L | 810 |
| Ramona Quimby, Age 8 | Beverly Cleary | L | 860 |
| Sarah Plain and Tall | Patricia MacLachlan | L | 560 |
| Stone Fox | John Gardiner | L | 550 |
| Tacky the Penguin | Helen Lester | L | 810 |
| Tales from the Odyssey | Mary Pope Osborne | L | 790 |
| Thank You, Mr. Falker | Patricia Polacco | L | 650 |
| The Chocolate Touch | Patrick Catling | L | 770 |
| The Courage of Sarah Noble | Alice Dalgliesh | L | 610 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 3

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses | Paul Goble | L | 670 |
| The Indian in the Cupboard | Lynne Reid Banks | L | 700 |
| The Legend of Jimmy Spoon | Kristiana Gregory | L | 790 |
| The Pain and the Great One | Judy Blume | L | 680 |
| The Talking Eggs | Robert Souci | L | 940 |
| The Ugly Duckling | Jerry Pinkney | L | 650 |
| The Very Best Pumpkin | Mark Kimball Moulton | L | 980 |
| White House White Out | Ron Roy | L | 500 |
| Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears | Verna Aardema | L | 770 |
| Working Cotton | Sherley Anne Williams | L | 600 |
| Snowmen at Christmas | Caralyn Buehner | L | 910 |
| A River Ran Wild | Lynne Cherry | I | 670 |
| Amelia and Eleanor Go for a Ride | Pam Munoz Ryan | I | 600 |
| Desert Giant | Barbara Bash | I | 980 |
| Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People, and War | Yukio Tsuchiya | I | 460 |
| Fireboat | Maira Kalman | I | 280 |
| First Flight | Leslie Garrett | I | NA |
| Flight | Robert Burleigh | I | 570 |
| If I Ran for President | Catherine Stier | I | 910 |
| If You Traveled West in a Covered Wagon | Ellen Levine | I | 860 |
| If You Were a Pioneer on the Prairie | Anne Kamma | I | 750 |
| More Than Anything Else | Marie Bradby | I | 660 |
| Planet Earth/Inside Out | Gail Gibbons | I | 800 |
| Rainforest | Penelope Arlon | I | 890 |
| Talking about Bessie | Nikki Grimes and Earl B. Lewis | I | 1030 |
| The Man Who Walked Between the Towers | Mordicai Gerstein | I | 480 |
| The Planets | Gail Gibbons | I | 660 |
| The Search for the Missing Bones | Eva Moore | I | 550 |
| Twister Trouble | Ann Schreiber | I | 520 |
| Two Bobbies | Kirby Larson & Mary Nethery | I | 810 |
| What is the World Made of? | Kathleen Zoehfeld | I | 560 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 3

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Who Lives in the Rainforest? | Mary Reid | I | 890 |
| Who Was Babe Ruth? | Joan Holub and Ted Hammond | I | 690 |
| Who Was Eleanor Roosevelt? | Gare Thompson | I | 620 |
| Who Was Jane Goodall? | Roberta Edwards | I | 700 |
| Who Was Roald Dahl? | True Kelley | I | 670 |
| Who Was Steve Jobs? | Pam Pollack and Meg Belviso | I | 660 |
| Woodrow for President: A Tail of Voting, Campaigns, and Elections | Cheryl Barnes | I | NA |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 4

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| A Remainder of One | Elinor Pinczes | L | 570 |
| Actual Size | Steve Jenkins | L | 1080 |
| Anne of Greene Gables | LM Montgomery | L | 560 |
| Because of Winn Dixie | Kate DiCamillo | L | 610 |
| Charlie and the Chocolate Factory | Roald Dahl | L | 810 |
| Esperanza Rising | Pam Munoz Ryan | L | 750 |
| Fly Away Home | Eve Bunting | L | 450 |
| Give Me Half | Stuart Murphy | L | 430 |
| Grandfather Tang's Story | Ann Tompert | L | 660 |
| If You Lived at the Time of the Great San Francisco Earthquake | Ellen Levine | L | 760 |
| Love that Dog | Sharon Creech | L | 1010 |
| Shiloh | Phyllis Reynolds Naylor | L | 890 |
| Sir Cumference and the Great Knight of the Angle Land | Cindy Neuschwander | L | 600 |
| Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing | Judy Blume | L | 470 |
| The Best Christmas Pageant Ever | Barbara Robinson | L | 760 |
| The Best School Year Ever | Barbara Robinson | L | 1020 |
| The Buried City of Pompeii | Shelley Tanaka | L | 880 |
| The Great Divide | Dayle Ann Dodds | L | 430 |
| The Great Graph Contest | Loreen Leedy | L | 310 |
| The Greedy Triangle | Marilyn Burns | L | 580 |
| Train to Somewhere | Eve Bunting | L | 440 |
| Twelve Snails to One Lizard | Susan Hightower | L | 900 |
| When I Grow Up | Al Yankovic | L | 930 |
| When I Was Young in the Mountains | Cynthia Rylant | L | 980 |
| Adventure to the Planet Mars! | Carole Marsh | I | 770 |
| American Civil War | Peter Chrisp | I | 1020 |
| Anno's Mysterious Multiplying Jar | Masaichiro and Mitsumasa Anno | I | 380 |
| Civil War | John Stanchak | I | 1030 |
| Come Back Salmon | Molly Cone | I | 930 |
| Did Columbus Really Discover America? | Peter and Connie Roop | I | 690 |
| Discovering Mars: The Amazing Story of the Red Planet | Melvin Berger | I | 670 |
| Earth: The Life of Our Planet | Dr. Mike Goldsmith | I | 1140 |
| Everyday Heroes | Beth Johnson | I | 820 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 4

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------|
| Everywhere in Mississippi | Laurie Parker | I | NA |
| Glory Be | Augusta Scattergood | I | 680 |
| Helen Keller | Margaret Davidson | I | 520 |
| How Do You Burp in Space? And Other Tips Every Space Tourist Needs to Know | Susan E. Goodman | I | 830 |
| How tall, How Short, How Faraway | David A. Adler | I | 850 |
| If You Lived 100 Years Ago | Ann McGovern and Anna DiVito | I | 770 |
| If You Made a Million | David Schwartz | I | 840 |
| Inchworm and a Half | Elinor J. Pinczes | I | NA |
| Is a Blue Whale the Biggest Thing There Is? | Robert Wells | I | 850 |
| Let's Call it America | Gare Thompson | I | 670 |
| Lincoln: A Photobiography | Russell Freedman | I | 1040 |
| Louis Braille | Margaret Davidson | I | 510 |
| M is for Magnolia | Michael Shoulders | I | NA |
| Man on the Moon | Pamela Dell | I | 1050 |
| Math Curse | Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith | I | 560 |
| Mission: Mars | Pascal Lee | I | 760 |
| Mississippi | Barbara Somervill | I | 1010 |
| Mississippi Alphabet | Laurie Parker | I | NA |
| Mississippi - Hello USA | Anna Ready | I | 970 |
| Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11 | Brian Floca | I | 990 |
| Mystery Math | David Adler | I | 780 |
| Pigs will be Pigs | Amy Axelrod | I | 490 |
| Postcards from Pluto: Tour of the Solar System | Loreen Leedy | I | 490 |
| Predators | Steve Parker | I | NA |
| Rocks and Minerals | Dr. R.F. Symes | I | NA |
| Seeing Symmetry | Loreen Leedy | I | 640 |
| So You Want to be an Inventor? | Judith St. George and David Small | I | 840 |
| So You Want to be President? | Judith St. George | I | 730 |
| Spaghetti and Meatballs for All | Marilyn Burns | I | 420 |
| The Amazing Human Machine | Lori Froeb | I | NA |
| The Boston Tea Party | Russell Freedman | I | 1130 |
| The Hershey's Milk Chocolate Fraction Book | Jerry Palotta | I | 710 |
| The Kid Who Invented the Popsicle and Other Extraordinary Stories Behind Everyday Things | Don Wulffson | I | 1080 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 4

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| The Kid's Guide to Money: Earning It, Saving It, Spending It, Growing It, Sharing It | Steven Otfinoski | I | 980 |
| The Librarian Who Measured the Earth | Kathryn Lasky | I | 840 |
| The Mighty Mars Rovers: The Incredible Adventures of Spirit and Opportunity | Elizabeth Rusch | I | 950 |
| The Solar System | Rosalind Mist | I | NA |
| This Land Called America: Mississippi | Shawndra Shofner | I | NA |
| Toys! Amazing Stories Behind Some Great Inventions | Don Wulffson | I | 950 |
| Uniquely Mississippi | Martin Wilson | I | NA |
| Wilma Unlimited | Kathleen Krull and David Diaz | I | 730 |
| World's Strangest Animals | Paula Hammond | I | 1100 |



MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Ensuring a bright future for every child

Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 5

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Abbie Against the Storm | Marcia Vaughan | L | 560 |
| Alabama Moon | Watt Key | L | 720 |
| Blood on the River | Elisa Carbone | L | 820 |
| Brian's Winter | Gary Paulsen | L | 1180 |
| Bridge to Terabithia | Katherine Patterson | L | 810 |
| Bud, Not Buddy | Christopher Paul Curtis | L | 950 |
| Frindle | Andrew Clements | L | 830 |
| Hatchet | Gary Paulsen | L | 1020 |
| Holes | Louis Sachar | L | 660 |
| How Leo Learned to be King | Marcus Pfister | L | 540 |
| How To Steal a Dog | Barbara O'Connor | L | 700 |
| In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson | Bette Bao Lord | L | 730 |
| Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe | CS Lewis | L | 940 |
| Maniac Magee | Jerry Spinelli | L | 820 |
| My Side of the Mountain | Jean Craighead George | L | 810 |
| Number the Stars | Lois Lowry | L | 670 |
| Old Yeller | Fred Gipson | L | 910 |
| Rules | Cynthia Lord | L | 780 |
| Sign of the Beaver | Elizabeth George Speare | L | 770 |
| Souder | William Howard Armstrong | L | 900 |
| Summer of the Swans | Betsy Cromer Byars | L | 830 |
| The Gold Coin | Alma Flor Ada | L | 550 |
| The Great Kapok Tree | Lynne Cherry | L | 670 |
| The Lightning Thief | Rick Riordan | L | 740 |
| The Tiger Rising | Kate DiCamillo | L | 520 |
| The Watsons Go to Birmingham | Christopher Paul Curtis | L | 1000 |
| The Westing Game | Ellen Raskin | L | 750 |
| The Whipping Boy | Sid Fleischman | L | 570 |
| The Yellow Star | Carmen Agra Deedy | L | 550 |
| Tuck Everlasting | Natalie Babbitt | L | 770 |
| Walk Two Moons | Sharon Creech | L | 770 |
| Where the Mountain Meets the Moon | Grace Lin | L | 810 |
| Wild Life | Cynthia DeFelice | L | 860 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 5

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|---------------------|------------------|---------------|
| A History of the US: Book 3 | Joy Hakim | I | 810 |
| Christopher Columbus Sailing to a New World | Adrianna Morganelli | I | 1110 |
| Civil War Spies | Craig Sodaro | I | 820 |
| Cowboys of the Wild West | Russell Freedman | I | 1160 |
| Freedom River | Doreen Rappaport | I | 330 |
| Henry's Freedom Box | Ellen Levine | I | 380 |
| Historic Colonial Life | Bobbie Kalman | I | 870 |
| I Have a Dream: The Story of Martin Luther King | Margaret Davidson | I | 680 |
| If a Bus Could Talk | Faith Ringgold | I | 790 |
| If You Lived at the Time of Martin Luther King | Ellen Levine | I | 810 |
| If You Lived with the Sioux Indians | Ann McGovern | I | 690 |
| If You Sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 | Ann McGovern | I | 600 |
| Jackie Robinson | Sally M. Walker | I | 540 |
| Jackie Robinson and the Story of All-Black Baseball | Jim O'Connor | I | 610 |
| Mandela: from the Life of the South African Statesman | Floyd Cooper | I | 890 |
| Rosa | Nikki Giovanni | I | 900 |
| Shh! We're Writing the Constitution | Jean Fritz | I | 950 |
| The Story of Ruby Bridges | Robert Coles | I | 730 |
| We Are the Ship: The Story of the Negro Baseball League | Kadir Nelson | I | 900 |
| When Marian Sang | Pam Munoz Ryan | I | 780 |
| Who's That Stepping on Plymouth Rock? | Jean Fritz | I | 780 |



Office of Curriculum and Instruction
Mississippi Text Exemplars

Grade 6

| Title | Author | Text Type | Lexile |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|
| A Wrinkle in Time | Madeleine L'Engle | L | 740 |
| Boy in the Striped Pajamas | John Boyne | L | 1080 |
| Chains | Laurie Halse Anderson | L | 780 |
| Dragonwings | Laurence Yep | L | 870 |
| Fever, 1793 | Laurie Halse Anderson | L | 580 |
| Gathering Blue | Lois Lowry | L | 680 |
| Hope Was Here | Joan Bauer | L | 710 |
| Lord of the Rings | JRR Tolkien | L | 920 |
| Messenger | Lois Lowry | L | 720 |
| Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry | Mildred D. Taylor | L | 920 |
| Tale of the Mandarin Ducks | Katherine Paterson | L | 930 |
| The Giver | Lois Lowry | L | 760 |
| The Green Book | Jill Paton Walsh | L | 980 |
| The Hobbit | JRR Tolkien | L | 1000 |
| Voyage on the Great Titanic | Ellen Emerson White | L | 1010 |
| Wonder | RJ Palacio | L | 790 |
| A Night to Remember | Walter Lord | I | 950 |
| Chasing Lincoln's Killer | James L. Swanson | I | 980 |
| Children of the Dust Bowl | Jerry Stanley | I | 1120 |
| Four Perfect Pebbles: A Holocaust Story | Lila Perl | I | 1080 |
| How They Croaked | Georgia Bragg | I | 950 |
| Indian Chiefs | Russell Freedman | I | 1030 |
| Soul Surfer | Bethany Hamilton | I | 960 |
| The Diary of Anne Frank | Anne Frank | I | 1080 |
| The Great Fire | Jim Murphy | I | 1130 |
| Through My Eyes | Tim Tebow | I | 930 |