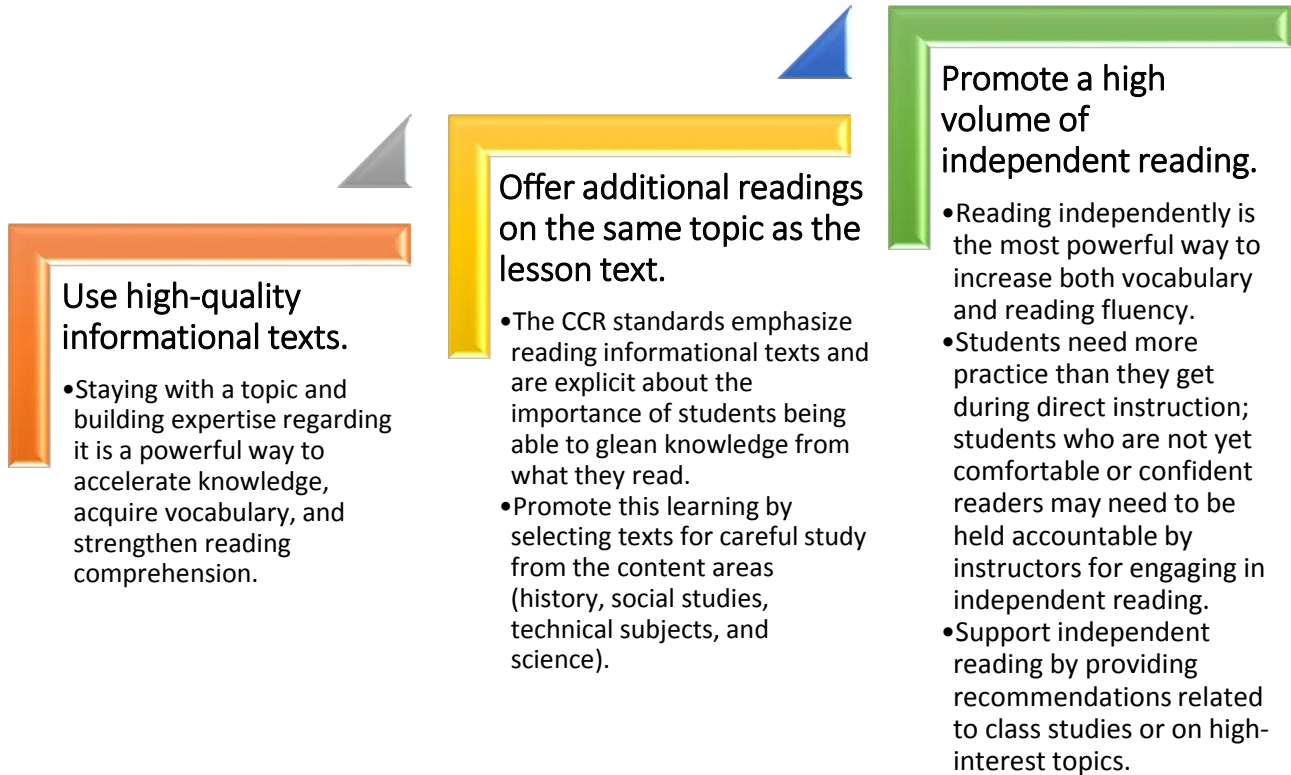


BUILD KNOWLEDGE BY PROMOTING VOLUME OF READING

One of the three shifts (or advances) in the College and Career Readiness Standards (CCRS) is “building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction,” critically important for its power to accelerate student growth.



General Tips on Finding and Selecting Additional Texts

- Book excerpts can be superb short texts.
- Consider materials that are available in print *and* digital formats.
- Primary documents can engage your students.
- The “text” can be more than words on a page: consider videos, graphics, charts, and photos.
- Consider the complexity, quality, and relevance of each suggested text or resource.
- If information from different articles overlaps, this is a plus, not a problem. What is known helps connect to what is new, and repetition is key to learning new academic vocabulary.

Research in Support of Reading Volume and Building Knowledge

Recht, D. R., & Leslie, L. (1988). “Effect of prior knowledge on good and poor readers’ memory of text.” *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 80(1), 16.

Knowledge of a topic leads to dramatically improved reading comprehension.

This summary and synthesis of a vast body of research shows how knowledge of a subject aids thinking, memory, and learning of new information.

Willingham, D. T. (2006). “How knowledge helps.” *American Educator*, 30(1), 30-37.

Kintsch’s “situation model,” showing the essential role of knowledge in the comprehension process, forms the basis of much current comprehension research.

Kintsch, W. (1998). *Comprehension: A Paradigm for Cognition*. Cambridge University Press.

Find Additional Readings on a Topic ~ a few of the many free resources

Some require a free subscription.

As always, check for readability.

❖ **Leveled (or sorted) Readings**

- CCSSO Text Sets [www.ccsso.org/Navigating_Text_Complexity/Showroom_Models.html]
- LINC'S Learner Center – Learn to Read [<https://learner.lincs.ed.gov/resources/reading>]
- Marshall Adult Education [http://resources.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/reading_skills_home.html]
- NewsELA [<https://newsela.com/>]
- News For You (costs \$) [www.newreaderspress.com/news-for-you-online]
- ReadWorks [www.readworks.org/]
- ReadWriteThink [www.readwritethink.org/]
- The Change Agent (*free to state--funded programs in New England*) [<http://changeagent.nelrc.org/in-the-classroom/>]

❖ **U.S. government websites**

- Census Bureau [www.census.gov/]
- Kids.gov [<https://kids.usa.gov/>]
- NASA [www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/index.html]
- National Park Service [www.nps.gov/teachers/index.htm]

❖ **Museum websites**

- American Museum of Natural History [www.amnh.org/learn-teach/educators/]
- National Women's History Museum [<https://www.nwhm.org/>]
- The Exploratorium [www.exploratorium.edu/education/designing-teaching-learning-tools]
- The Smithsonian [www.si.edu/Educators]
- United States Memorial Holocaust Museum [www.ushmm.org/]

❖ **Other nonprofit organizations' websites**

- Facing History and Ourselves [<https://www.facinghistory.org/>]
- Independent Television Service (ITVS) [<http://itvs.org/educators/collections>]
- National Geographic Education [<http://education.nationalgeographic.org/>]
- PBS Learning Media [www.pbslearningmedia.org/]
- Primary Source [www.primarysource.org/for-teachers]
- Teaching Tolerance [www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources]

❖ **Encyclopedias and Reference Sources**

- World Book Online – Scott Fetzer [www.worldbookonline.com]
- Encyclopedia Britannica Online [www.britannica.com]
- Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia and Encyclopedia Americana (Scholastic Grolier Online) (costs \$)
 - [<http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/grolier>]
- Oxford Reference Online (Oxford University Press) [www.oxfordreference.com]

❖ **Library Catalogs, Vetted Lists, Reviews, Bibliographic Information, and Databases**

- American Library Association [www.ala.org]
- Library of Congress [www.loc.gov/teachers/]
- Project Gutenberg [www.gutenberg.org]
- School Library Journal, Young Voices [www.slj.com; <http://youngvoicesadvocates.com>]
- Your local public library network, and research databases available through your library