

Additional Readings:

WEEK 1

WEEK 2

By the Authors and Illustrators

McKissack, Patricia. *Mirandy and Brother Wind. Dragonfly, 1997.* Inspired by a photo of the author's grandparents, this tells the story of Mirandy, who plots to have Brother Wind as her partner in the upcoming dance contest for the cakewalk.

APPROACHING

Stevens, Jan Romero. *Carlos and the Carnival. Rising Moon, 1999.* Carlos is given money for his birthday and decides to spend it with his friend at the local carnival.

APPROACHING

Related to the Theme

Ditchfield, Christin. *Knowing Your Civil Rights. Children's Press, 2004.* This discusses the Bill of Rights and describes the many battles that have been fought for equal rights in the United States.

APPROACHING

Jenkins, Steve. *What Do You Do When Something Wants to Eat You? Houghton, 1997.* Describes how various animals, including an octopus, a puff adder, and a gliding frog, escape from danger.

APPROACHING

Rappaport, Doreen. *The School Is Not White: A True Story of the Civil Rights Movement. Jump at the Sun, 2005.* In 1965 the Carter family of Drew, Mississippi, enrolled their children in an all-white school, where they all excelled.

APPROACHING

Kaner, Etta. *Animal Defenses: How Animals Protect Themselves. Kids Can Press, 1999.* This colorful book introduces defense mechanisms in animals, such as camouflage and the changing of size and shape.

APPROACHING

Bridges, Ruby. *Through My Eyes. Scholastic, 1999.* A moving account by the author of her own struggle as a six year old to integrate her school in New Orleans in 1960.

ON LEVEL

Hickman, Pamela. *Animal Senses: How Animals See, Hear, Taste, Smell, and Feel.* The author focuses on the senses of animals and on environmental adaptations such as the placement of eyes on a frog.

ON LEVEL

Fradin, Dennis Brindell. *Ida B. Wells: Mother of the Civil Rights Movement. Clarion, 2000.* This biography of a remarkable woman offers a compelling overview of Wells's life and her contributions to the civil rights movement.

ON LEVEL

Weber, Belinda. *Animal Disguises. Kingfisher, 2004.* The world of animal camouflage is discussed, including how some animals use disguises to catch their prey, and how others use camouflage to avoid being caught.

ON LEVEL

Freedman, Russell. *In Defense of Liberty: The Story of America's Bill of Rights. Holiday House, 2003.* Describes the origins of and challenges to the ten amendments to the Constitution that make up the Bill of Rights.

BEYOND

Perry, Phyllis Jean. *Armor to Venom: Animal Defenses. Franklin Watts, 1997.* Recounts how animals use their armor, horns, stings, and other natural protective devices in order to survive.

BEYOND

McWhorter, Diane. *A Dream of Freedom: The Civil Rights Movement From 1954-1968. Scholastic, 2004.* Explores the sacrifices and victories of African Americans in the pursuit of social and political equality.

BEYOND

Fredericks, Anthony. *Animal Sharpshooters. Franklin Watts, 1999.* Describes animals such as horned lizards, spiders, and cobras that survive by throwing something to either catch prey or to avoid being captured.

BEYOND



WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5
<p>Editors of TIME for Kids. <i>TIME for Kids: Snakes!</i> HarperTrophy, 2005. Snakes have no arms, legs, or flippers, but we find them slithering around almost every place on the planet. TIME for Kids reveals the secrets of these critters.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>	<p>Simon, Seymour. <i>Danger! Volcanoes.</i> Sea Star Books, 2002. This introduces the facts about volcanoes, what they are, why and how they erupt, and the effects of some famous eruptions of the twentieth century.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>	<p>Medearis, Angela Shelf. <i>The Singing Man.</i> Holiday House, 1994. A couple's young son is told to leave his African village because he chooses music as his occupation, but years later he returns to show how well he has done.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>
<p>Cronin, Doreen. <i>Duck for President.</i> Simon & Schuster, 2004. Duck is tired of working and decides to hold an election to replace Farmer Brown. Children and adults can learn a lot about the electoral process and democracy as Duck decides to run for office.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>	<p>Kramer, Stephen. <i>Eye of the Storm.</i> G. P. Putnam's, 1997. The author is a storm chaser and discusses different types of weather and the difficulties in photographing lightning, tornadoes, and hurricanes.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>	<p>Knutson, Barbara. <i>Love and Roast Chicken: A Trickster Tale from the Andes Mountains.</i> Lerner Publishing Group, 2004. In this tale from the Andes, a clever guinea pig outsmarts the fox that wants to eat him for dinner.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>
<p>Sisulu, Elinor. <i>The Day Gogo Went to Vote: South Africa, April 1994.</i> Little Brown, 1996. Thembi's grandmother, who has not left the house in years, goes to the voting booth when black South Africans are finally given the right to vote.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>	<p>McMillan, Bruce. <i>The Weather Sky.</i> Farrar, 1991. The author discusses the different cloud types, the weather patterns with which they are associated, and the climatic conditions they bring.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>	<p>McDermott, Gerald. <i>Jabuti the Tortoise.</i> Harcourt, 2001. Everyone enjoys Jabuti's flute playing except for Vulture, who is jealous because he has no musical talent. Vulture tricks Jabuti into riding on his back to play a cruel hoax.</p> <p>APPROACHING</p>
<p>Sobel, Syl. <i>How the U.S. Government Works.</i> Barron's Educational Series, 1999. This is an easy-to-follow illustrated book on the complexities of our government and how it is managed.</p> <p>ON LEVEL</p>	<p>Arnold, Caroline. <i>El Niño: Stormy Weather for People and Wildlife.</i> Clarion, 1998. In this readable, informative text, the author describes the physical symptoms of El Niño and La Niña and their effects on animal and plant habitats and human economies.</p> <p>ON LEVEL</p>	<p>Goble, Paul. <i>Iktomi and the Buffalo Skull: A Plains Indian Story.</i> Orchard, 1991. Iktomi, the trickster, interrupts a powwow of the Mouse People, gets his head stuck in a buffalo skull, and must find someone to help him.</p> <p>ON LEVEL</p>
<p>Harness, Cheryl. <i>Thomas Jefferson.</i> National Geographic, 2004. A biography of the third president of the United States, who wrote the Declaration of Independence and is referred to as the Father of American Democracy.</p> <p>ON LEVEL</p>	<p>Berger, Melvin. <i>Hurricanes Have Eyes But Can't See: And Other Amazing Facts About Wild Weather.</i> Scholastic, 2004. Here is a photographic exploration into the world of tornadoes, blizzards, and dust storms with an interesting and informative text.</p> <p>ON LEVEL</p>	<p>Hamilton, Virginia. <i>A Ring of Tricksters: Animal Tales from America, the West Indies, and Africa.</i> Sky Press, 1997. These 12 tales are an international story bag whose common thread follows the African culture to America through the West Indies.</p> <p>ON LEVEL</p>
<p>Granfield, Linda. <i>America Votes: How Our President Is Elected.</i> Kids Can Press, 2003. The American electoral process is broken down into subjects ranging from campaign finance to election fraud and presented with humorous asides.</p> <p>BEYOND</p>	<p>Kahl, Jonathan D. <i>National Audubon Society First Field Guide: Weather.</i> Scholastic, 1998. This provides an overview of various weather conditions, how they develop, and how they are studied.</p> <p>BEYOND</p>	<p>Hausman, Gerald. <i>Dogs of Myth: Tales From Around the World.</i> Simon & Schuster, 1999. Here is a collection of traditional tales about dogs, including "The Trickster Dog" and "The Enchanted Dog."</p> <p>BEYOND</p>
<p>Gutman, Dan. <i>Landslide! A Kid's Guide to the U.S. Elections.</i> Aladdin, 2000. In a question and answer format, this book tells how elections are run and everything kids might want to know about the democratic process at work.</p> <p>BEYOND</p>	<p>Vogel, Carole Garbuny. <i>Weather Legends: Native American Lore and the Science of Weather.</i> Millbrook Press, 2001. Tales from Native Americans that give varied reasons for weather phenomena are contrasted with the science of weather by meteorologists.</p> <p>BEYOND</p>	<p>Norman, Howard A. <i>Trickster and the Fainting Birds.</i> Harcourt, 1999. Here is a collection of Cree and Chippewa tales that teaches lessons in humanity, kindness toward others, and sharing with those less fortunate.</p> <p>BEYOND</p>