



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 5: Module 3A: Unit 2:

Recommended Texts



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Unit 2 builds students' background about the history of baseball and the role of Jackie Robinson specifically in breaking the color barrier in baseball. The list below includes texts with a range of Lexile text measures on this topic. This provides appropriate independent reading for each student to help build content knowledge.

It is imperative that students read a high volume of texts at their reading level to continue to build the academic vocabulary and fluency demanded by the CCLS.

Common Core Band Level Text Difficulty Ranges:

(As provided in the NYSED Passage Selection Guidelines for Assessing CCSS ELA)

- Grades 2–3: 420–820L
- Grades 4–5: 740–1010L
- Grades 6–8: 925–1185L

Where possible, texts in languages other than English are also provided. Texts are categorized into three Lexile ranges that correspond to Common Core Bands: below-grade band, within band, and above-grade band. Note, however, that Lexile measures are just one indicator of text complexity, and teachers must use their professional judgment and consider qualitative factors as well. For more information, see Appendix 1 of the Common Core State Standards.

Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures below band level (below 740L)			
<i>The History of Baseball</i>	Diana Star Helmer and Thomas S. Owens (authors)	Informational	410
<i>The Girl Who Struck out Babe Ruth</i>	Jean L. S. Patrick (author), Jeni Reeves (illustrator)	Informational	410
<i>Jackie Robinson: A Life of Determination</i>	Colleen A. Sexton (author)	Biography	570*
<i>Jackie Robinson: He Led the Way</i>	April Jones Prince (author)	Biography	600*
<i>Jackie Robinson: Breaking the Color Barrier</i>	Sean Price (author)	Biography	640*
<i>Who Was Jackie Robinson?</i>	Gail Herman (author), John O'Brien (illustrator)	Biography	670
<i>Jackie Robinson</i>	Stephanie Sammartino McPherson (author)	Biography	730
<i>Thank You, Jackie Robinson</i>	Barbara Cohen (author)	Biography	730

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level;



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures within band level (740–1010L)			
<i>Jackie Robinson: Strong Inside and Out</i>	Editors of <i>TIME for Kids</i> with Denise Lewis Patrick (authors)	Biography	760
<i>Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an Amazing All-Brother Baseball Team</i>	Audrey Vernick (author), Steven Selerno (illustrator)	Informational	780
<i>Jackie Robinson: Hero and Athlete</i>	Suzanne Slade (author), Thomas Spense (illustrator)	Biography	790
<i>Testing the Ice: A True Story about Jackie Robinson</i>	Sharon Robinson (author), Kadir Nelson (illustrator)	Biography	800
<i>When Jackie Met Hank</i>	Cathy Goldberg Fishman (author), Mark Elliott (illustrator)	Informational	850*
<i>We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball</i>	Kadir Nelson (author/illustrator)	Informational	900
<i>Stealing Home: Jackie Robinson against the Odds</i>	Robert Burleigh (author), Mike Wimmer (illustrator)	Biography	910
<i>Jackie Robinson: Baseball Great & Civil Rights Activist</i>	Charles E. Pederson (author)	Biography	930

*Lexile based on a conversion from Accelerated Reading level.



Title	Author and Illustrator	Text Type	Lexile Measure
Lexile text measures above band level (over 1010L)			
<i>Jackie's Nine: Jackie Robinson's Values to Live By</i>	Sharon Robinson (author)	Biography	1040
<i>First Pitch: How Baseball Began</i>	John Thorn (author)	Informational	1070
<i>Jackie Robinson: Champion for Equality</i>	Michael Teitelbaum (author)	Biography	1140
<i>Stars in the Shadows: The Negro League All-Star Game of 1934</i>	Charles R. Smith Jr. (author), Frank Morrison (illustrator)	Informational	1330