



## Memphis-Shelby County Schools K-5 Wonders Reading Topics by Unit



### Research is Clear

- Students are able to build their vocabulary faster when they read multiple books, articles, and other texts on the same topic.
- When students are unfamiliar with a topic, it is harder for them to understand what they are reading and to learn new words.
- Reading several books, articles, and other texts on the same topic allows students to learn more and to learn faster.
- Children who read 20 minutes a day/5 days a week outside of classrooms are exposed to 1.8 million words in one school year and have an increase in critical thinking. *-NESCA, 2021*

### How Parents Can Help

- Below is a list of unit topics that are areas of focus throughout each grade levels' Wonders curriculum.
- By encouraging students to read about these topics at home, students have an opportunity to deepen their background knowledge. This will further support them in being prepared to learn in class!
- Students can use the same single sign on credentials used at school to access their Wonders online dashboard at home. Click [here](#) for more details regarding the student dashboard.

Kindergarten	Third Grade
Unit 1-New Friends/ Your Senses <i>(September)</i> Unit 2-Tools/Shapes/ Bugs <i>(September-October)</i> Unit 3-Rules to Go By / Sounds Around Us <i>(October)</i> Unit 4-Jobs/ Community <i>(November-December)</i> Unit 5-How Living Things Grow and Change <i>(January)</i> Unit 6 -Seasons/ Kinds of Weather <i>(January-February)</i> Unit 7-Animals/ Animal Habitats <i>(February-March)</i> Unit 8-Transportation/ Space <i>(March-April)</i> Unit 9 -Good Citizen/ Natural Resources <i>(April)</i> Unit 10-Protecting the Environment <i>(April-May)</i>	Unit 1-Cultures and Traditions <i>(August-September)</i> Unit 2-How Government Works <i>(September-November)</i> Unit 3-What We Know About Earth <i>(November-January)</i> Unit 4-How Animals Adapt <i>(January-February)</i> Unit 5-What Good Citizens Do <i>(February-April)</i> Unit 6-Importance of Goals <i>(April-May)</i>
First Grade	Fourth Grade
Unit 1-School/ Pets/ Friends <i>(September-October)</i> Unit 2-Jobs/ Communities/ Maps <i>(October-December)</i> Unit 3-Plants / From Farm to Table <i>(December-January)</i> Unit 4-Animals and Insects <i>(February-March)</i> Unit 5-Up in the Sky/ Great Inventions <i>(March-May)</i> Unit 6-Weather/ Sharing Traditions/ Celebrate America <i>(May)</i>	Unit 1-Natural Disasters <i>(August-September)</i> Unit 2-What Helps an Animal Survive <i>(September-November)</i> Unit 3-Ways to Help the Community <i>(November-January)</i> Unit 4-Importance of Government <i>(January-February)</i> Unit 5-How the Past Helps Us Understand the Present <i>(February-April)</i> Unit 6-Energy Resources <i>(April-May)</i>
Second Grade	Fifth Grade
Unit 1-Families Around the World <i>(August-September)</i> Unit 2-Learning From Animals <i>(September-November)</i> Unit 3 How People Help their Community / What We See in the Sky <i>(November-January)</i> Unit 4-Culture Makes Us Special <i>(January-February)</i> Unit 5-Heroes/ Good Citizens/ Rules <i>(February-April)</i> Unit 6-Money Matters/ Myths <i>(April-May)</i>	Unit 1-Effects of Technology <i>(August-September)</i> Unit 2- Making a Plan <i>(September-November)</i> Unit 3-Learning About Different Cultures <i>(November-January)</i> Unit 4-What Can People Do to Bring About a Positive Change <i>(January-February)</i> Unit 5- Our Changing Earth <i>(February-April)</i> Unit 6-Adaptations <i>(April-May)</i>

*Note: The topics listed above align with texts that students will explore during the unit. The time periods noted in blue are approximations as pacing is based on students' needs.*

### The Big 3 Reading Questions...Great Questions to Discuss After Reading!

- What's something you read today and what was the most interesting part about it?
- Did you learn any new or difficult words? What do they mean?
- What was the most important part about what you read?