Archived Reading Extensions

The following is a list of reading extension suggestions that are being retired from Mystery Science. These readings are hosted on third-party websites, and Mystery Science does not have control over any changes to other websites' content over time.

Kindergarten

Unit: Animal Needs

Unit: Plant Needs

Unit: Severe Weather

Unit: Weather Patterns

Unit: Sunlight & Warmth

Unit: Pushes & Pulls

1st Grade

Unit: Animal Traits & Survival

Unit: Plant Traits & Survival

Unit: Day Patterns

Unit: Night Patterns

Unit: Light, Sound, & Communication

2nd Grade

Unit: Animal Biodiversity

Unit: Plant Adaptations

Unit: Erosion & Earth's Surface

Unit: Material Properties

3rd Grade

Unit: Fossils & Changing Environments

Unit: Life Cycles

Unit: Heredity, Survival, & Selection

Unit: Weather & Climate

Unit: Forces, Motion, & Magnets

4th Grade

Unit: Animal & Plant Adaptations

Unit: Human Body, Vision, & The Brain

Unit: Earth's Features & Processes

Unit: Sound, Waves, & Communication

Unit: Energy & Energy Transfer

Unit: Electricity, Light, & Heat

5th Grade

Unit: Ecosystems & The Food Web

Unit: Water Cycle & Earth's Systems

Unit: Earth & Space Patterns

Unit: Stars & Planets

Unit: Chemical Reactions & Properties of Matter

Kindergarten

Unit: Animal Needs

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Why do woodpeckers peck wood?	Epic!: Woodpeckers: Backyard Wildlife
	Epic!: Racoons: Backyard Wildlife
Where do animals live?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
How can you find animals in the woods?	Epic!: Where Is Baby Bear?
	Epic!: Racoon Cubs
How do animals make their homes in the forest?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

Unit: Plant Needs

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Are plants alive?	Epic!: Living or Nonliving?
	Epic!: How Do Plants Grow?
How do plants and trees grow?	Epic!: Plants Are Alive
	Epic!: Max Plants a Seed
Why would you want an old log in your backyard?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

Unit: Severe Weather

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How do you get ready for a big storm?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
Have you ever watched a storm?	Unite for Literacy: Can You See the Wind?
	Unite for Literacy: Wonderful Wind
How many different kinds of weather are there?	Unite for Literacy: Weather
	Book recommendation: Come On, Rain
	Book recommendation: The Snowy Day

Unit: Weather Patterns

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How do you know what to wear for the weather?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
What will the weather be like on your birthday?	Book recommendation: Snow Rabbit, Spring Rabbit
	Book recommendation: Ready for Pumpkins
Why do birds lay eggs in the spring?	Unite for Literacy: Red Robin
	Unite for Literacy: It's Spring!
	Unite for Literacy: Spring Senses

Unit: Sunlight & Warmth

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How could you walk barefoot across hot pavement without burning your feet?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
How could you warm up a frozen playground?	Epic!: Temperature: First Science
	Epic!: What Does Sunlight Do?
	Epic!: Keeping Cool in Summer
Why does it get cold in winter?	Unite for Literacy: It's Winter!
	Unite for Literacy: <u>Here Comes Winter</u>
	Unite for Literacy: <u>Is It Cold Outside?</u>

Unit: Pushes & Pulls

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
What's the biggest excavator?	Book recommendation: Construction
	Book recommendation: And Everyone Shouted, "Pull!"
	Book recommendation: <u>Duck in the Truck</u>
Why do builders need so many big machines?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

How can you knock down a wall made of concrete?	ReadWorks: "Will You Push or Pull?"
	ReadWorks: "Paddle a Canoe"
	ReadWorks: <u>"Stuck in the Snow"</u>
	Book recommendation: <u>Demolition</u>
How can you knock down the most bowling pins?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
How can we protect a mountain town from falling rocks?	Epic!: Pushing and Pulling
	Epic!: Changing Direction
How could you invent a trap?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

1st Grade

Unit: Animal Traits & Survival

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How can you help a lost baby	ReadWorks: Set of articles about baby animals
animal find its parents?	Epic!: Meet My Family!
	Epic!: Quack Like a Duck
Why do birds have beaks?	Epicl: Animals on the Farm: Ducks
	Epic!: <u>I Love You Just Enough</u>
Why do baby ducks follow their mother?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
Why are polar bears white?	ReadWorks: <u>"Animals of the Arctic"</u>
	ReadWorks: "Meet Some Owls"
	ReadWorks: <u>"A Fawn in the Forest"</u>
Why do family members look alike?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

Unit: Plant Traits & Survival

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
What will a baby plant look like when it grows up?	Unite for Literacy: The Life of a Seed
	Unite for Literacy: Garden Giants
	Unite for Literacy: Pick a Pumpkin
	Unite for Literacy: Look!
Why don't trees blow down in the wind?	PBS: <u>Set of Curious George wind activities</u>
What do sunflowers do when you're not looking?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

Unit: Day Patterns

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	ReadWorks: "Me and My Shadow"
	ReadWorks: "Maria Makes a Snake"
Could a status's shadow mayo?	ReadWorks: <u>"Light"</u>
Could a statue's shadow move?	Book recommendation: What Makes a Shadow?
	Book recommendation: Nothing Sticks Like a Shadow
	Poetry Foundation: "My Shadow"
What does your shadow do when you're not looking?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
How can the Sun help you if you're lost?	ReadWorks: "Day to Night"
	ReadWorks: <u>"Sunrise, Sunset"</u>
	Book recommendation: The Sun is My Favorite Star
Why do you have to go to bed early in the summer?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

Unit: Night Patterns

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
When can you see the full moon?	ReadWorks: "The Moon Journal"
	ReadWorks: "How Big is the Moon?"
	ReadWorks: <u>"A Trip to the Moon"</u>
	ReadWorks: "Does the Moon Really Shine?"
Why do the stars come out at night?	ReadWorks: "Why Don't We See Stars in the Daytime?"
	Newsela: "Arizona city sees success keeping its night sky dark"
How can stars help you if you get lost?	None (This is a read-along lesson)

Unit: Light, Sound, & Communication

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	Book recommendation: The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything
How do they make silly sounds in cartoons?	Book recommendation: <u>The Rain Stomper</u>
	Book recommendation: <u>In the Tall, Tall Grass</u>
Where do sounds come from?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
	Epic!: Playing with Light and Shadows
What if there were no windows?	Epic!: Sensing Light and Sound
	Epic!: Sending Messages with Light and Sound
	Epic!: Lights Out!
Can you see in the dark?	None (This is a read-along lesson)
How could you send a secret message to someone far away?	ReadWorks: "Traffic Lights"
	ReadWorks: "Making Streets Safer"
	ReadWorks: "Garrett Morgan"
	Epicl: It's a Firefly Night

2nd Grade

Unit: Animal Biodiversity

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How many different kinds of	ReadWorks: "Warm-Blooded and Cold-Blooded Animals"
How many different kinds of animals are there?	Newsela: "Fantastic Beast: Hogwarts hat inspires name of new spider species"
	ReadWorks: "What Lives in the Ocean?"
Why would a wild animal visit a	ReadWorks: "What Lives in a Rain Forest?"
playground?	ReadWorks: "What Lives in the Desert?"
	ReadWorks: "What Lives in a Pond?"
	Newsela: A new type of parrot found in Mexico
Why do frogs say "ribbit"?	Newsela: Scientists thought these tree frogs had died out; The Frog Man found them!
	ReadWorks: "Martin's Birdhouse"
	ReadWorks: Set of articles about birds
How could you get more birds to	Unite for Literacy: Beautiful Birds
visit a birdfeeder?	Unite for Literacy: The Birds I'll See
	Unite for Literacy: Red Robin
	Unite for Literacy: Animals Up, Down, All Around

Unit: Plant Adaptations

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	Epic!: From Bird Poop to Wind: How Seeds Get Around
How did a tree travel halfway	Epic!: Little Dandelion Seeds The World
around the world?	Epicl: Before We Stood Tall: From Small Seed to Mighty Tree
Why do seeds have so many different shapes?	None (New lesson)
Could a plant survive without light?	ReadWorks: "What Do Plants Need?"

How much water should you give a plant?	None (New lesson)
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Unit: Erosion & Earth's Surface

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	ReadWorks: "Oceans, Rivers, and Lakes"
If you floated down a river, where	ReadWorks: "The Mighty Mississippi"
would you end up?	ReadWorks: "All Kinds of Maps"
	ReadWorks: "Birth of a Mighty River"
	ReadWorks: "How Not to Save a Sand Castle"
Why is there send at the beach?	ReadWorks: "Explore the Seashore"
Why is there sand at the beach?	ReadWorks: <u>"The Perfect Sandcastle"</u>
	ReadWorks: "What is a Rock?"
	ReadWorks: Set of articles about clouds and rain
Where de flech fleeds beginning	Epic!: Rain
Where do flash floods happen?	Epic!: Floods!
	Epic!: <u>Daisy Take a Swim</u>
What's strong enough to make a	ReadWorks: "Weathering and Erosion"
canyon?	ReadWorks: "A Grand Old Canyon"
	Epic!: How Do Water and Wind Change Rock?
How can you stop a landslide?	Epic!: Soil Erosion and How to Prevent It
	Epicl: Examining Erosion

Unit: Material Properties

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	ReadWorks: <u>T-Shirts & Shorts - Introduction</u>
	ReadWorks: <u>T-Shirts & Shorts - T-Shirts</u>
Why do we wear clothes?	ReadWorks: <u>T-Shirts & Shorts - Shorts</u>
	ReadWorks: T-Shirts & Shorts - Personalize It!

	ReadWorks: "The Silk Mystery"
	ReadWorks: <u>"A Playground Problem"</u>
Can you really fry an egg on a hot sidewalk?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
	ReadWorks: "Colorful Crayons"
Why are so many toys made out of plastic?	ReadWorks: "Breakfast Time"
	ReadWorks: <u>"A Camping Trip"</u>
	ReadWorks: "Ideas that Pop"
What materials might be invented in the future?	ReadWorks: "A Brush with History"
	ReadWorks: "Inventions: Then and Now"
Could you build a house out of paper?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
	Epic!: Why do we need soil?
How do you build a city out of	Epic!: Discover Dirt
mud?	Epicl: Studying Soil
	ReadWorks: "Houses from Around the World"

3rd Grade

Unit: Fossils & Changing Environments

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Where can you find whales in the desert?	None (Mystery Science reading for this lesson was retired)
How do we know what dinosaurs looked like?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
Con you putting a dinagour?	American Museum of Natural History: <u>"First Impressions"</u>
Can you outrun a dinosaur?	Science News Explores: "Some Arctic Dinos Lived in Herds"

Unit: Life Cycles

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	ReadWorks: <u>"A Frog's Life"</u>
	ReadWorks: <u>"Springtime for the Digger Bee"</u>
	ReadWorks: "Hummingbirds"
How is your life like an alligator's	ReadWorks: <u>"A Kangaroo's Life Cycle"</u>
life?	ReadWorks: "Caterpillars"
	ReadWorks: "Traveling Turtles: A Trip Across the Atlantic"
	ReadWorks: <u>"A Butterfly's Life Cycle"</u>
	ReadWorks: "Cicadas: No Ordinary Bugs"
	Epic!: Bugged!
What's the best way to get rid of	Newsela: "Tick, mosquito, flea illnesses tripled, CDC says U.S. isn't fully prepared"
mosquitoes?	Newsela: "Fighting Mosquitoes with Mosquitoes"
	Newsela: "Spray meant for Zika mosquitoes kills millions of bees"
Why do plants grow flowers?	None (Mystery Science reading for this lesson was retired)
Why do plants give us fruit?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
Why are there so many different	ReadWorks: Collection of readings about insects and animals that pollinate plants
kinds of flowers?	ReadWorks: Collection of readings about interactions between organisms and their environments

Unit: Heredity, Survival, & Selection

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	ReadWorks: "Growing Melons"
How do you identify a mysterious fruit?	ReadWorks: <u>"Kinds of Melons"</u>
(Formerly titled "How could you	ReadWorks: <u>"Fun with Melons"</u>
make the biggest fruit in the world?")	ReadWorks: "Magic Tomatoes"
,	ReadWorks: "Pumpkin Time!"
What do dogs & pigeons have in common?	None (New lesson)

Revised Lesson Title TBD (Formerly titled "Can selection happen without people?")	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
Why do dogs wag their tails?	Newsela: "In fight against the enemy, ants stick together"
	Newsela: "Astronauts in space can pick chocolate pudding cake for dessert"
How long can people (and	Newsela: "U.S. astronaut breaks record for most spacewalks by a woman"
animals) survive in outer space?	Newsela: "Twins take part in first study to look at effects of space on body"
	Newsela: <u>"Fresh, frigid air greets astronauts on their return to earth"</u>

Unit: Weather & Climate

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	ReadWorks: "What's the Big Idea about Water? Water's Impact on the Earth"
Where do clouds come from?	ReadWorks: "The Whys of Weather: Clouds"
	ReadWorks: "Water Takes Three Forms"
	ReadWorks: <u>"The Water Cycle"</u>
	ReadWorks: "The Whys of Weather - Rain"
How can we predict when it's going to storm?	ReadWorks: "Summer Vacation"
	ReadWorks: "The Big Storm"
	ReadWorks: <u>"Snowy Town"</u>
	ReadWorks: "Summer Vacation"
Where's the best place to build a snow fort?	ReadWorks: "Winter Weather in the United States"
	ReadWorks: "The Job of a Meteorologist"
	ReadWorks: "What Are Weather Patterns?"
	ReadWorks: "Animals Get Ready"
Why are some places always hot?	ReadWorks: "Ilsa and the International Camp"
	ReadWorks: "An Introduction to Climates"
How can you keep a house from blowing away in a windstorm?	Epic!: How a House is Built

Epic!: <u>Wind</u>

Unit: Forces, Motion, & Magnets

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How could you win a tug-of-war against a bunch of adults?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
What makes the bridges so strong?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
How high can you swing on a flying trapeze?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
What can magnets do?	None (Mystery Science readings still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
How can you unlock a door using a magnet?	Epic!: Magnetism
	Epicl: Discovering Science: Playing with Magnets

4th Grade

Unit: Animal & Plant Adaptations

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Why do see creatures look so strange?	None (This is a new lesson)
Why would a sea turtle eat a plastic bag?	None (This is a new lesson)
Why don't the same trees grow everywhere?	None (This is a new lesson)

Unit: Human Body, Vision, & The Brain

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Why do your biceps bulge?	ReadWorks: "Move Your Muscles!"
	ReadWorks: "Bones On the Go!"
What do people who are blind see?	ReadWorks: "The Human Body - Your Vision"

	ReadWorks: "Device May Help Blind People See"
	ReadWorks: "Louis Braille"
How can some animals see in the dark?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
How does your brain control your body?	ReadWorks: "The Human Body: You've Got Some Nerve!"
	ReadWorks: "Focus: What's Inside"
	ReadWorks: <u>"Rise Up"</u>

Unit: Earth's Features & Processes

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Could a volcano pop up where you live?	Newsela: "The Pacific Ring of Fire, home to 452 volcanoes"
Why do some volcanoes explode?	Newsela: "Hot lava flowing into the cool ocean off Hawaii gives quite a show"
Will a mountain last forever?	Wired Magazine: <u>"2,500 Tons of Rock Fell Off Half Dome and Nobody Noticed"</u>
What did your town look like 100 million years ago?	ReadWorks: A collection of readings about rocks.
	ReadWorks: "Layer After Layer: Sedimentary Rock"
How could you survive a landslide?	NPR: "Slow-Motion Landslide Threatens Homes in New York"

Unit: Sound, Waves, & Communication

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How do you send a secret code?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
How far can a whisper travel?	ReadWorks: <u>"Fixing My Sister's Bike"</u>
	ReadWorks: "The Pool"
	ReadWorks: "I Break Stuff for a Living"
	ReadWorks: "Who Needs a Better Mousetrap?"
	ReadWorks: "Three Cheers for Ears!"
What would happen if you screamed in outer space?	Newsela: "Many sounds travel to the deepest part of the ocean"

	Newsela: "East Coast whale, dolphin grounds to endure oil exploration blasts"
	Newsela: "With grace and scuba gear, dancers perform new underwater ballet"
Why are some sounds high and some sounds low?	ReadWorks: "Now Hear This!"

Unit: Energy & Energy Transfer

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
How is your body similar to a car?	ReadWorks: "Food for Action"
	Newsela: <u>"A funny-looking car for a weird race"</u>
What makes roller coasters go	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
fast?	ReadWorks: "Up to Speed"
How can marbles save the world?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
Could you knock down a building using only dominoes?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
Can you build a chain reaction machine?	Newsela: "Seattle teens build robot that drives"
	Newsela: "Steel building passes first earthquake test"
	Newsela: "Dressed-up robots help us study wild penguins"

Unit: Electricity, Light, & Heat

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Revised Lesson Title TBD (Formerly titled "Where does energy come from?")	ReadWorks: <u>"Clean Energy"</u>
	Newsela: "Generating energy from the wind"
	Newsela: "Groups are working to make clean energy and option for all communities"
	Newsela: "Scientists create new solar panels that are useful on rainy days too"
	Newsela: "Thai food vendor harnesses the power of the sun to cook chicken"

What if there were no electricity?	National Geographic Kids: "Light Pollution"
How long did it take to travel	Epic!: Hot Air Balloon Video
across the country before cars and planes?	Epic!: How Does it Fly: Hot Air Balloon

5th Grade

Unit: Ecosystems & The Food Web

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Why would a hawk move to New York City?	On Newsela: "Wild animals are losing their fear as largest predators disappear"
	On Newsela: "Weather changes mean sea lion pups are going hungry, washing ashore"
What do plants eat?	On ReadWorks: <u>"A Plant Puzzle"</u>
Where do follow leaves we?	On ReadWorks: "Pet Cemetery"
Where do fallen leaves go?	On ReadWorks: <u>"Ice Harvest"</u>
Do warmen washin and dista	On Epic!: "Inside the Worm's Hole"
Do worms really eat dirt?	On Epic!: "How Do Animals Help Make Soil?"
Why do you have to clean a fish tank but not a pond?	On Newsela: "Rock Snot algae sneaking into more rivers, causing headaches"
	On Newsela: "What is the biosphere?"
How can we protect Earth's environment?	On ReadWorks: A collection of readings about estuary ecosystems.
	On Kids-Dinosaurs.com: A list of dinosaur names.
Why did the dinosaurs go extinct?	On Newsela: "Theory that mammals became daytime dwellers after dinosaurs left"
	On Newsela: "Duck-like dinosaur fossil, plucked from black market, makes debut"

On Newsela: <u>"Fossilized poop shows that "vegetarian" dinosaurs also ate shellfish"</u>

Unit: Water Cycle & Earth's Systems

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How much water is in the world?	Newsela: "Scientists on hunt for 1 million-year-old ice to better understand Earth"
	Newsela: "Drinking purified wastewater an option as California drought continues"
	ReadWorks: "The Great Salt Lake"
How much salt is in the ocean?	ReadWorks: "Uyuni Salt Flat of Bolivia"
	Wonderopolis: "Is the Dead Sea Deadly?"
	Wonderopolis: "Why is the Sea Salty?"
When you turn on the faucet, where does the water come from?	Newsela: Central Valley groundwater depletion may be causing earthquakes
Can we make it rain?	Newsela: "The Water Cycle"
	Newsela: "Drought-ridden L.A. tries rainmakers to tap storm clouds"
How can you save a town from a hurricane?	Newsela: "Hurricane Florence hits the Carolinas with a frenzy"
	Ocean Today: <u>"Fuel for the Storm"</u>

Unit: Earth & Space Patterns

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How fast does the earth spin?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
Who set the first clock?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
How can the sun tell you the season?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)
Why do the stars change with the seasons?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
Why does the moon change shape?	None (Mystery Science reading still available in <i>Unit Readings</i>)

Unit: Stars & Planets

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
How can the sun help us explore other planets?	None (This lesson did not have a reading extension previously)
Why is gravity different on other planets?	ReadWorks: "What Is Gravity Really?"
	ReadWorks: "What's It Like in Space?"
	NASA Space Place: "Why Are All Planets Round?"
Could there be life on other planets?	Newsela: "The sun, an engine of nuclear energy"
	Newsela: "Kepler-186f is the most Earth-like planet ever found. scientists say"
	Newsela: <u>"A star 39 light-years away may have 7 planets capable of supporting life"</u>
	Newsela: <u>"Planet orbiting distant red star has water, temperatures right for life"</u>

Unit: Chemical Reactions & Properties of Matter

Lesson	Archived Reading Extensions
Are magic potions real?	Wonderopolis: "Can You Turn Iron into Gold?"
	Newsela: <u>"From Alchemy to Chemistry: The Origins of Today's Science"</u>
Could you transform something worthless into gold?	ReadWorks: "The Penny Experiment"
	ReadWorks: "The Allure of Gold"
What would happen if you drank a glass of acid?	ReadWorks: "Chemical Weathering of Rocks"
	ReadWorks: "Inside and Outside Carlsbad Caverns"
What do fireworks, rubber, and Silly Putty have in common?	Kids Discover: "Weird Science: The Accidental Invention of Silly Putty"
Why do some things explode?	Wonderopolis: "How Does an Engine Work?"
	Kids Discover: "What Common Gas Do Swiss Cheese and Pop Rocks Have in Common?"
	Newsela: "Old space dust gives scientists a new view of the Earth's atmosphere"