Optional Read-Aloud Story Books

Many of the lessons include a list of optional read-aloud story books that may be read to children at any point during the lesson. The lessons include all of the information necessary for children to learn and understand the unit concepts. The optional read-aloud books are suggested as additional information to complement the unit if you choose. The books listed can typically be purchased online or found at your local library.

* = Mindi’s top picks
F=Fiction, NF=Nonfiction, B=Biography
K-6=indicates interest level of the book from kindergarten through sixth grade

Lesson 2 - Introduction to Seasons
- A Bear’s Year by Kathy Duval and Gerry Turley [F, K-2]
- Hi, Koo! A Year of Seasons* by Jon J Muth [F, K-6]
- All the Seasons of the Year by Deborah Lee Rose [F, K-2]
- The Little Yellow Leaf by Carin Berger [F, K-3]
- The Seasons of Arnold’s Apple Tree by Gail Gibbons [F, K-2]

Lesson 3 - Why We Have Seasons
- The Reasons For Seasons by Gail Gibbons [NF, 1-4]
- Orbiting the Sun in Our Backyard: Secrets of the Seasons* by Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld [F, K-3]

Lesson 4 - The Earth’s Atmosphere
- Twisters and Other Terrible Storms, Chapter 1, by Will and Mary Pop Osborne [NF, 1-6]

Lesson 5 - What Is Weather?
- What Will the Weather Be? by Lynda DeWitt [NF, K-4]
- Weather Words by Gail Gibbons [NF, K-3]

Lesson 7 - What Is Air?
- Air: A Resource Our World Depends On by Ian Graham [NF, 3-6]

Lesson 11 - Wind
- Feel the Wind* by Arthur Dorros [NF, K-3]
- Twisters and Other Terrible Storms, Chapter 2, by Will and Mary Pop Osborne [NF, 1-6]
- Wind by Marion Dane Bauer [NF, K-2]

Lesson 12 - What Are Clouds?
- Twisters and Other Terrible Storms, Chapter 3, by Will and Mary Pop Osborne [NF, 1-6]
- Clouds by Marion Dane Bauer [NF, K-2]

Lesson 13 - Types of Clouds
- The Man Who Named the Clouds* by Julie Hannah and Joan Holub [B, 2-6]
- Clouds* by Anne Rockwell [NF, K-3]

Lesson 14 - Rain
- Down Comes the Rain by Franklyn M. Branley [NF, K-3]
- Once There Was a Raindrop by Judith Anderson [NF, K-3]
- It’s Raining! by Gail Gibbons [NF, K-3]

Lesson 15 - Thunder and Lightning
- Flash, Crash, Rumble, and Roll by Franklyn M. Branley [NF, K-3]
- Lightning! by Jeff Bauer [NF, K-2]
- Twisters and Other Terrible Storms, Chapter 4, by Will
Lesson 16 - Snow, Hail, and Blizzards
- *Snowflake Bentley* by Jacqueline Briggs Martin [B, K-4]
- *Snow Is Falling* by Franklyn M. Branley [NF, K-2]
- *It’s Snowing!* by Gail Gibbons [NF, K-3]
- *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats [F, K-2]
- *The Story of Snow* by Mark Cassino [NF, K-6]
- *Whiteout! A Book About Blizzards* by Rick Thomas [NF, K-3]
- *Blizzards!* by Lorraine Jean Hopping [NF, 2-6]
- *Twisters and Other Terrible Storms*, Chapter 7, by Will and Mary Pope Osborne [NF, 1-6]

Lesson 17 - Severe Weather: Tornadoes
- *Twister!* by Kris Hirschmann [NF, 2-6]
- *Twisters and Other Terrible Storms*, Chapter 5, by Will and Mary Pope Osborne [NF, 1-6]
- *Tornadoes!* by Lorraine Jean Hopping [NF, K-6]
- *Tornadoes!* by Gail Gibbons [NF, K-3]

Lesson 18 - Severe Weather: Hurricanes
- *Hurricanes* by Gail Gibbons [NF, 1-4]
- *Hurricane Watch* by Melissa Stewart [NF, K-3]
- *Hurricanes!* by Lorraine Jean Hopping [NF, K-4]
- *Eye of the Storm: A Book About Hurricanes* by Rick Thomas [NF, 1-4]
- *Twisters and Other Terrible Storms*, Chapter 6, by Will and Mary Pope Osborne [NF, 1-6]

Lesson 19 - Forecasting Weather
- *Twisters and Other Terrible Storms*, Chapter 8, by Will and Mary Pope Osborne [NF, 1-6]
- *Weather Forecasting* by Gail Gibbons [NF, 1-5]