

Expert Pack: Building a House

Submitted by: Milwaukee Public Schools and Cincinnati Public Schools

Grade Band: 2-3

Date: February 2015

Topic/Subject

Building a House

Texts/Resources

Sets may include a number of different types of resources. Include up to 12 – 15 resources total.

Book(s)

1. *Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators*
2. *Homes Around the World*
3. *How a House is Built*
4. *My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors*
5. *The Science Behind Homes*
6. *The Three Little Pigs*

Poem(s)

7. "Here is the House" [poem]

Article(s)

8. "Homes for Wounded Vets"
9. "Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!"
10. "Thinking Green, Building Green"
11. "When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You'll Think He's Crazy. But Awesome Crazy."

Other Media

12. "Different Kinds of Houses" [video]
13. "My House" [video/song]
14. "Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish" [video]

Each expert pack contains a variety of selections grouped to create as coherent and gradual a learning process for students as possible, generally beginning with lower levels as measured by quantitative and qualitative measures, and moving to more complex levels in the latter selections. This graduated approach helps support students' ability to read the next selection and to become 'experts' on the topic they are reading about.

Refer to annotated bibliography on the following pages for the suggested sequence of readings.

Rationale for Sequence

The purpose for this text set is to get students thinking about how and why people build houses. The texts & multimedia resources expose students to some of the science and design aspects that go into building a house. The set also explores different homes around the world, the structure of a house, and how the location of a home might impact how it is built. Lastly, the set begins to touch on the social and environmental aspects of home-building.

1 – Launch the study of this text set with a read-aloud of the article, "Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!", to capitalize on students' interest in this popular virtual building game.

2 – *The Three Little Pigs* is a second "hook" for this text set – it is a familiar story that sets the tone for thinking about the materials used to build homes.

3 – "My House" is a video segment about a lion family, who listen to a song about the different kinds of houses people live in.

4 – *Homes Around the World* widens students’ perspectives of homes people live in, by showing and describing houses/homes from different countries and cultures. The Lexile is a bit below the recommended grade band, to include and support struggling readers.

5 – “Different Kinds of Houses” is a video that shows pictures of houses found in different parts of the world; the video is a nice follow-up to the previous text about the same topic.

6 – *How a House is Built* gives information about the house-building process, including the different stages of building and the various tradespeople that work together to build a house.

7 – Students will watch “Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish” next, where they can see the different stages of house-building and connect them to what they read in the previous text.

8 – “Here is the House” is a silly poem about a house turned upside down when a tornado blows through town. This text gives students an opportunity to develop reading fluency skills in the context of the text set.

9 – The article “When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You’ll Think He’s Crazy. But Awesome Crazy.” is next—it describes how a man in England built a two-story home out of the LEGOs. The photographs show the frame of the house in various stages.

10 – *My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors* is a narrative about a little girl and her dad building a dog house. This text broadens the general idea of building as something others do to something that anyone can do.

11 – *The Science Behind Homes* gets to the heart of the purpose of this text set—focusing on the science & design aspects of home-building.

12 – “Thinking Green, Building Green” introduces the environmentally responsible approach to building homes, describing different design choices and technology that architects consider.

13 – “Homes for Wounded Vets” is slightly beyond the grade band Lexile level for this set; it pushes students to think about the socially responsible impact that building a house can have for some of our nation’s veterans.

14 – *Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators* completes the text set. This is a collection of poetry and short stories that explore the idea of “home” as a feeling of belonging. Although beyond the Lexile range for this grade band, students will be able to pick and choose selections to read, rather than reading this text from start to finish.

The Common Core Shifts for ELA/Literacy:

1. Regular practice with complex text and its academic language
2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in evidence from text, both literary and informational
3. *Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction*

Though use of these expert packs will enhance student proficiency with most or all of the Common Core Standards, they focus primarily on Shift 3, and the highlighted portions of the standards below.

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading Literary and/or Informational Texts (the darkened sections of the standards are the focus of the Expert Pack learning for students):

1. **Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it;** cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
2. **Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development;** summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
10. **Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently**

Annotated Bibliography

and suggested sequence for reading

1480L “Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!” (*whole group read-aloud*)

Author: Meera Dolasia

Genre: informational

Length: 351 words

Synopsis: This article explains how a school in Sweden has included the video game Minecraft as part of the mandatory curriculum for thirteen-year-old students.

Citation: Dolasia, M. (2013). Minecraft as a mandatory subject in school? Sweet! Retrieved November 9, 2014, from <http://www.dogonews.com/>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <http://www.dogonews.com/2013/1/19/minecraft-as-a-mandatory-subject-in-school-sweet> [To avoid distracting internet ads, consider copying and pasting the article into a MS Word document.]

Recommended Student Activities: What Do You Think?

560L *The Three Little Pigs* (*this is a suggested version, any version of the tale will suffice*)

Author: James Marshall

Genre: Fiction; updated version of traditional tale

Length: 32 pages

Synopsis: The classic fairy tale is retold with a modern-day twist as the three little pigs settle into their new houses—one of straw, one of sticks and one of bricks—and find their shelters threatened by the wolf.

Citation: Marshall, J. (2000). *The three little pigs*. New York, NY: Penguin Young Readers Group, an imprint of Penguin Group (USA) Inc.

Cost/Access: \$2.99

Recommended Student Activities: Build It! or Map It!

N/A “My House”

Author: PBS LearningMedia

Genre: Informational

Length: 5:39 minutes for entire video – skip intro and start at 1:00

Synopsis: In this video segment from “Between the Lions”, the Lion family listens to a song about all the different types of houses people live in.

Citation: PBS LearningMedia (2010). *My house* [Video file]. Retrieved on December 28, 2014 from <http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/rtttec13.ela.fdn.house9692-a643e1b1b926/my-house/>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/rtttec13.ela.fdn.house9692-a643e1b1b926/my-house/>

Recommended Student Activities: Venn Diagram

360L *Homes Around the World*

Author: Dona Herwick Rice

Genre: Informational; photographs included

Length: 20 pages

Synopsis: Learn about the different places that people call home—from apartments to cottages and castles to farmhouses. Through photographs and easy-to-read informational text, readers are introduced to different cultures' definitions of "home."

Citation: Herwick Rice, D. (2011). *Homes around the world*. Huntington Beach, CA: Shell Educational Publishing.

Cost/Access: \$4.96 for paperback

Recommended Student Activities: Take a Closer Look

N/A “Different Kinds of Houses”

Author: Jana Shahrour

Genre: Informational

Length: 4:48 minutes

Synopsis: The video shows different kinds of houses and the materials they are made from, as well as homes and buildings from the past.

Citation: Shahrour, J. (2012). *Different kinds of houses* [Video file]. Retrieved on October 11, 2014 from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3sSOGYORjg>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3sSOGYORjg>

Recommended Student Activities: Alike and Different

570L *How a House is Built*

Author: Gail Gibbons

Genre: Informational; provides basic, general information without oversimplifying; some illustrations have captions

Length: 30 pages

Synopsis: This text shows how architects, carpenters, plumbers, masons, electricians, painters, and landscapers collaborate to construct a wood frame house and transform it into a home

Citation: Gibbons, G. (1996). *How a house is built*. New York, NY: Holiday House, Inc.

Cost/Access: \$7.99 for paperback

Recommended Student Activities: Match It Up!

N/A “Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish”

Author: Weaver Companies, Inc.

Genre: video

Length: 7:23 minutes, but only view up through 4:45 to see building of exterior

Synopsis: A time lapse project of a custom home built by Weaver Homes, beginning with clearing land and pouring foundation. Original footage was captured over a 6 month period resulting in 45 days of capture and over 70,000 photos.

Citation: Weaver Companies, Inc. (2011). *Time lapse of home constructed from start to finish* [Video file]. Retrieved October 5, 2014 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3il6S7TuCA>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C3il6S7TuCA>

Recommended Student Activities: Check It Off!

470L “Here is the House”

Author: Kenn Nesbitt

Genre: poetry; fiction

Length: 94 words

Synopsis: This is a silly poem, about a house that is turned upside down after a tornado goes through the town.

Citation: Nesbitt, K. (2011). *Here is the house*. Retrieved November 9, 2014, from <http://www.poetry4kids.com/poem-557.html#.VF-w4DTF-So>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <http://www.poetry4kids.com/poem-557.html#.VF-w4DTF-So>

Recommended Student Activities: Things that are Wrong

660L “When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You’ll Think He’s Crazy. But Awesome Crazy.”

Author: unknown

Genre: Informational; includes photographs during building process

Length: 218 words

Synopsis: This article shares the story of James May, who decided to build a two-story house out of Legos.

Citation: When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You'll Think He's Crazy. But Awesome Crazy. (2013). Retrieved October 11, 2014 from <http://www.viralnova.com/lego-house/>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <http://www.viralnova.com/lego-house/> [To avoid distracting internet ads; consider copying and pasting the article into a MS Word document.]

Recommended Student Activities: Dream House

630L *My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors*

Author: Lisa Bullard

Genre: Fiction; narrative setting, includes some building diagrams

Length: 24 pages

Synopsis: Caitlin and her father, an architect, plan and build a house for Lulu the dog. Includes suggestions for drawing a floor plan and making a model house.

Citation: Bullard, L. (2002). *My home: Walls, floors, ceilings, and doors*. Edina, MN: Capstone Press.

Cost/Access: \$4.00 for paperback

Recommended Student Activities: Drawing a Floor Plan

730L *The Science Behind Homes*

Author: Chris Oxlade

Genre: Informational; includes headings and subheadings

Length: 32 pages

Synopsis: This book explores the science behind homes. It looks at topics such as building materials, electricity, water and the machines that help us in the home.

Citation: Oxlade, C. (2012). *The science behind homes*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann-Raintree.

Cost/Access: \$7.06 for paperback

Recommended Student Activities: 3-2-1

730L "Thinking Green, Building Green"

Author: Habitat for Humanity

Genre: Informational; includes text and graphic features: headings, picture w/ caption, sidebar

Length: 554 words

Synopsis: This is a one-page article is taken from a larger lesson plan, which explores decisions and design choices involved in building green homes. [This lesson plan also includes an interview with a builder, discussing the green building practices that Habitat for Humanity follows.]

Citation: Lessons - Elementary school. (n.d.). Retrieved November 8, 2014, from <http://www.habitat.org/youthprograms/resources/lessons-elementary>

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <http://www.habitat.org/sites/default/files/youthprograms-lessons-building-green.pdf>, page 4 [To avoid distracting internet ads, consider copying and pasting the article into a MS Word document.]

Recommended Student Activities: Green Questions

920L “Homes for Wounded Vets”

Author: Kathleen Toner

Genre: Informational; photos & captions

Length: 875 words

Synopsis: This article shares information about *Operation Finally Home*, a nonprofit organization in Texas that builds or remodels mortgage-free homes for wounded American veterans.

Citation: Toner, K. (2013). Homes for wounded vets. Retrieved November 8, 2014 from <http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/06/us/cnnheroes-wallrath-operation-finally-home/>.

Cost/Access: \$0.00 <http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/06/us/cnnheroes-wallrath-operation-finally-home/> [To avoid distracting internet ads, consider copying and pasting the article into a MS Word document.]

Recommended Student Activities: A Picture of Knowledge

900L *Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators*

Author: Michael J. Rosen

Genre: Fiction

Length: 32 pages

Synopsis: Thirty authors and illustrators contribute original stories, poems, and artwork that explore and illuminate the theme of belonging, be it to a physical place or a family group; written in support of Share Our Strength's (SOS) fight against homelessness.

Citation: Rosen, M. J. (1996). *Home: a collaboration of thirty authors and illustrators*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers.

Cost/Access: \$6.29 for paperback

Recommended Student Activities: Home is Where Your Heart Is

Supports for Struggling Students

By design, the **gradation of complexity** within each Expert Pack is a technique that provides struggling readers the opportunity to read more complex texts. Listed below are other measures of support that can be used when necessary.

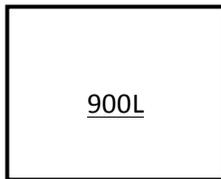
- Provide a brief **student-friendly glossary** of some of the academic vocabulary (Tier 2) and domain vocabulary (Tier 3) essential to understanding the text
- Download the Wordsmyth widget to classroom computers/tablets for students to access student-friendly definitions for unknown words. <http://www.wordsmyth.net/?mode=widget>
- Provide brief **student friendly explanations** of necessary background knowledge
- Include **pictures or videos** related to the topic within and in addition to the set of resources in the pack
- Select a small number of texts to **read aloud** with some discussion about vocabulary work and background knowledge
- Provide **audio recordings** of the texts being read by a strong reader (teacher, parent, etc.)
- **Chunk the text** and provide brief questions for each chunk of text to be answered *before* students go on to the next chunk of text
- Pre-reading activities that focus on the **structure and graphic elements** of the text
- Provide **volunteer helpers** from the school community during independent reading time.

Text Complexity Guide

Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators edited by Michael J. Rosen

1. Quantitative Measure

Go to <http://www.lexile.com/> and enter the title of the text in the Quick Book Search in the upper right of home page. Most texts will have a Lexile measure in this database. You can also copy and paste a selection of text using the Lexile analyzer.



2-3 band	420 -820L
4-5 band	740 -1010L
6-8 band	925 - 1185L
9 -10 band	1050 – 1335L
11 – CCR	1185 - 1385

2. Qualitative Features

Consider the four dimensions of text complexity below. For each dimension*, note specific examples from the text that make it more or less complex.

<p>This collection of prose and poetry explores the meaning of “home” from a variety of perspectives and viewpoints. Each piece supports the idea that “home” is more about how you feel than where you are. Also, unlike most of the previous texts in this set, this is a collection of literary texts where interpretation is required.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Meaning/Purpose</p>	<p>The pieces in the collection are only 1-2 pages in length, each with its own unique structure, some poetry and some prose. An illustration is included with each piece to help support meaning.</p> <p>Structure</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Language</p> <p>The language and rhythm of each selection vary from piece to piece, based on style of writing and rhyme scheme. Some of the language used will be complex, depending on the setting(s) and students’ familiarity with different home environments: <i>Examples: “I crouch and count ingots of silver, bars of gold,... brocades and silks from strange bazaars.” “Open the door and it’s a symphony. A jazz treat. Look, the eggs are keeping the beat.”</i></p>	<p>Knowledge Demands</p> <p>Settings include a city stoop, an apartment building, a housing project, a garden, a closet, an attic, a back porch, a farm and a refrigerator. Each of these varied settings taps into different life experiences and cultural knowledge. The collection builds the understanding that “home” can mean different things to different people.</p>

3. Reader and Task Considerations

What will challenge students most in this text? What supports can be provided?

- The other texts in this set are primarily informational. The poetry in this book will be a challenging switch for students. Time spent exploring different elements of poetry will help to support comprehension.
- Students may not be able to directly relate to some of the settings in the book; student conversations where peers share their own sense of “home” might be helpful to build understanding.
- Encouraging students to focus on what each author is describing as “home” will help them see that “home” can be many different things.
- The understanding of “home” as a feeling is an abstract concept that will be challenging for students. A discussion about what makes a house a home would be a good way to develop this understanding.

*For more information on the qualitative dimensions of text complexity, visit

http://www.achievethecore.org/content/upload/Companion_to_Qualitative_Scale_Features_Explained.pdf

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Grade Band: 2-3

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Learning Worth Remembering

Cumulative Activities – The following activities should be completed and updated after reading each resource in the set. The purpose of these activities is to capture knowledge building from one resource to the next, and to provide a holistic snapshot of central ideas of the content covered in the expert pack. *It is recommended that students are **required** to complete one of the Cumulative Activities (Rolling Knowledge Journal or Rolling Vocabulary) for this Expert Pack.*

1. Rolling Knowledge Journal

1. Read each selection in the set, one at a time.
2. After you read *each* resource, stop and think what the big learning was. What did you learn that was new *and important* about the topic from *this* resource? Write, draw, or list what you learned from the text about (topic).
3. Then write, draw, or list how this new resource added to what you learned from the last resource(s).

Sample Student Response

Title	Write, Draw, or List	
	New and important learning about the topic	How does this resource add to what I learned already?
1. "Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!"	Schools in Sweden are thinking about making kids play Minecraft in school to practice building things.	n/a
2. <i>The Three Little Pigs</i>	Houses can be made of different materials. A solid built house provides more protection.	A variety of materials can be used to build homes.
3. "My House"	People live in all kinds of different houses.	Homes have different shapes, sizes, and colors.
4. <i>Homes Around the World</i>	All over the world, people live in different kinds of homes.	The types of home people live in is determined by people's needs and the surrounding environment.
5. "Different Kinds of Houses"	Some homes from the past are different than homes now.	Homes all over the world are made from many different materials.
6. <i>How a House is Built</i>	There are a lot of different people that need to work together to build a house.	Each part of a house needs different materials to make it.
7. "Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish"	You can see an actual house being built.	I could see all the different people working on the different parts of the house using the different materials.
8. "Here is the House"	Weather can damage a house. A tornado can turn a house upside down.	The environment can determine the needs of a house.

9. "When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You'll Think He's Crazy. But Awesome Crazy."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • put LEGOs together to make a brick • put bricks together to make a wall • put walls together to make a room • put rooms together to make a floor • put floors together to make a house 	LEGOs are another type of material that a home can be built from. It is kind of like real-life Minecraft.
10. <i>My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors</i>	A doghouse has similarities and differences from a person's house.	People live in all kinds of places but they all know how to make their homes special.
11. <i>The Science Behind Homes</i>	Science is working all over a house.	<p>Science can be used to make a home special and safe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science to build a house • science to warm and cool a house • science to power a house • science to put water in a house • science in machines in a house
12. "Thinking Green, Building Green"	When they build a house, builders can make choices that are good for the environment.	Houses can be made from a lot of different materials. Choosing materials that are good for the earth is responsible.
13. "Homes for Wounded Vets"	Wounded soldiers have a difficult time becoming civilians. Many times their home needs to be remodeled to accommodate their needs, like building a ramp for a wheel chair.	Houses are built to meet the needs of the individual.
14. <i>Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators</i>	Home is more than just the place you live. It's also how you feel about the place where you live.	House and home don't always mean the same thing.

2. Rolling Vocabulary:

- Read each resource then determine the 6 words from each text that most exemplify the central idea of the text.
- Next use your 6 words to write about the most important idea of the text. You should have as many sentences as you do words.
- Continue this activity with EACH selection in the Expert Pack.
- After reading all the selections in the Expert Pack, go back and review your words.
- Now select six words from ALL the word lists.
- Use the six words to summarize the most important learning from this Expert Pack.

Title	Six Vocabulary Words & Sentences
"Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!"	<p>curriculum, imagination, mandatory, structures, subject, virtual</p> <p>Reading and math are part of my school curriculum.</p> <p>When you make things up, you are using your imagination.</p> <p>My mom said it was mandatory for me to clean my room before going outside to play.</p> <p>Workers build structures at the zoo for the different animals.</p> <p>Math is my favorite subject in school.</p> <p>In Minecraft, you get to create your own virtual world.</p>

<p><i>The Three Little Pigs</i></p>	<p>straw, sticks, load, bricks, firm, solid</p> <p>A house made of straw is not a good idea because it is not strong or sturdy. You should think twice before building a house made of sticks. Building a house made of brick is a good idea. A load of bricks is very heavy. The houses made from straw and sticks were not very firm. A house made from bricks is solid and provides protection.</p>
<p><i>“My House”</i></p>	<p>mansion, cabin, dome, stilts, houseboat, thatched roof</p> <p>A mansion is very expensive. Cabins are made out of wood, like log cabins. A dome is a round roof. Stilts are used to support houses above water. Some people live in houseboats on the water. A thatched roof is made out of straw or reeds.</p>
<p><i>“Homes Around the World”</i></p>	<p>buildings, travel, leaves, adobe, world, yurt</p> <p>There are many types of buildings. Motor homes are on wheels so when people are ready to travel they just pack up and go. Homes that are in warm, rainy places have roofs made of leaves. An adobe home is made from a kind of clay. When you take a tour around the world you will see different kinds of homes. A yurt is a home that you can take with you when you move.</p>
<p><i>“Different Kinds of Houses”</i></p>	<p>materials, modern, mud, past, stones, wood</p> <p>Houses can be made from lots of different materials. Modern houses are built right now. In some places, mud is used to build houses. Homes in the past were different than they are now. Building a house with stones makes it very sturdy. A lot of houses are built with wood.</p>
<p><i>How a House is Built</i></p>	<p>foundation, concrete, deck, walls, roof, chimney</p> <p>First you have to dig a hole for the foundation of the house. The basement is made of concrete. The deck is the floor of a house. Walls are built with wood. The roof starts with boards and then shingles are put on. The mason builds the chimney.</p>
<p><i>“Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish”</i></p>	<p>**Teacher note: There is no text in this video, words are pulled from video title.</p> <p>constructed, time lapse</p> <p>We constructed a snow fort out of buckets of snow. Taking time lapse pictures is a fun way to show something that takes a long time to happen.</p>

<p>“Here is the House”</p>	<p>town, ceilings, reach, basement, crawl, confusing</p> <p>A tornado blew through a town. The people slept on ceilings. They could not reach their beds. The basement was the attic. They climbed up a ladder to crawl through the door. Everything was upside down which made things very confusing.</p>
<p>“When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You’ll Think He’s Crazy. But Awesome Crazy.”</p>	<p>LEGOs, adores, bricks, stories, versatile, fanatic</p> <p>A man in England built a house out of LEGOs. He adores LEGOs so much that he wanted to build something really big. First he put a bunch of LEGOs together to make bricks. Then he put the bricks together to make walls that were two stories tall. Everyone knows LEGOs are versatile, but James May really proved it! He might be the biggest LEGO fanatic ever!</p>
<p><i>My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors</i></p>	<p>architect, dog house, backyard, strong, roof, connected</p> <p>Caitlin’s dad is an architect who draws plans to show builders how the rooms fit together. Caitlin and her daddy are going to build a doghouse. The doghouse is going to be in the backyard. First they put down a strong floor. They had a roof on top to keep the rain out. Caitlin’s house has two floors that are connected by stairs.</p>
<p><i>The Science Behind Homes</i></p>	<p>structure, frame, insulation, electricity, sewer, appliances</p> <p>Builders have to think about how they’re going to build a strong structure. The builders put up the frame of a house first. Before the walls are closed up, insulation goes in the walls to keep the house warm. When the walls and roof of a house are up, the electricity gets put in so the family that lives there has energy. Houses have pipes that are connected to the sewer, to let clean water in the house and dirty water out of the house. A finished house has a lot of appliances that run on electricity and help make life easier.</p>
<p>“Thinking Green, Building Green”</p>	<p>environment, green, architects, insulating, choices, energy</p> <p>The world around us is our environment. Green is a color, but it also means thinking about the environment. Architects are people that design houses. Builders keep homes warm by insulating the roof and walls. Building green means making choices about what is good for the environment when building a house. Sunlight can help give a home energy.</p>
<p>“Homes for Wounded Vets”</p>	<p>wounded, veteran, mission, mortgage free, young, donations</p> <p>Many soldiers were wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan. A veteran is a person who has served in the military. Dan Wallraft had a mission to build or remodel homes for injured vets. The new homes were given mortgage free. Most of the wounded vets were young people. Suppliers and contractors made donations, which lowered the cost of building these homes.</p>

<p><i>Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators</i></p>	<p>stoop, comfortable, attic, porch, apartment, home</p> <p>You can greet people in your neighborhood when sitting on the stoop. Home is a place where you feel really comfortable. Sometimes a house has an attic, where people put stuff they don't need. Animals like to crawl under the porch in our backyard. My sister lives in an apartment downtown. Home is my favorite place to be!</p>
<p>Sensational Six</p>	<p>architect, house, foundation, frame, environment, home</p>
<p>Summary: An architect draws a plan when a new house needs to be built. Then builders make the foundation and frame of the house. It's important to think about the environment when you build a house, so that you make choices that are good for the Earth. No matter where you live or what your house is made of, the people in it that you love make it feel like home.</p>	

Learning worth Remembering

Singular Activities – the following activities can be assigned for each resource in the set. The purpose of these activities is to check for understanding, capture knowledge gained, and provide a variety of ways for students to interact with each individual resource. Students may complete some or none of the suggested singular activities for each text. Singular activities should be assigned at the discretion of the teacher.

1. **What Do You Think?** (Recommended for “Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!”)
Your teacher just read an article about how schools in Sweden are considering making the game “Minecraft” a subject in school. Do you think this is a good idea? Share your opinion in a paragraph, using the format below.



O	State your opinion.
R	Give a reason why you think this.
E	Add an example that supports your reason.
O	Restate your opinion.

2. **Build It!** (Recommended for *The Three Little Pigs*)
Design and make a shelter for three pigs that the wolf cannot blow down.
 - Provide a variety of construction materials for students to use to construct a shelter, such as: toothpicks, straws, rolled paper, popsicle sticks, glue, stapler, paper clips, brads, tape.
 - Students can work individually or in teams.
 - Have each shelter undergo a “wind test”—put it in front of a fan for a period of time to see how sturdy it is.
 - After the test, each team should discuss its house and the reasons it stood or fell when the fan blew.

Map It! (Recommended for *The Three Little Pigs*—alternate activity)

Complete the Story Map using text details from the story. Compare your Story Map with one of your classmates.

Story Map

The Three Little Pigs

The Main Characters

The Supporting Characters

The Setting

The Problem

The Solution

For a PDF Story Map, [click here](#).

3. **Venn Diagram** (Recommended for “My House”)

- Choose two kinds of houses: mansion, cabin, dome, houseboat, apartment, hut, yurt, adobe
- Write the characteristics of house 1 in the space on the left.
- Write the characteristics of house 2 in the space on the right.
- Write the characteristics that both houses have in common in the space in the center.
- Analyze the data you have entered.
- Write your conclusions on the lines below.

For a PDF Venn Diagram [click here](#).

4. **Take a Closer Look** (Recommended for *Homes Around the World*)

Choose a home from the book and answer the following questions.

- Who lives in this type of home?
- What environment is the home built in?
- What material(s) is the home made from?
- Does the home move? If so how?
- List two reasons people build this kind of home.
- Draw a picture.

5. **Alike and Different** (Recommended for “Different Kinds of Houses”)

After watching the video, list 3 ways the houses shown are the same, and then list 3 ways they are different.

Alike	Different
1. <i>All the houses were built by people.</i>	1. <i>The homes were made of different materials.</i>
2. <i>All of the different houses have windows and doors.</i>	2. <i>Some of the homes were very old, and some of them were new.</i>
3. <i>All of the houses had room for a lot of people.</i>	3. <i>The houses are all in different parts of the world.</i>

6. **Match It Up!** (Recommended for *How a House is Built*)

Draw a line to connect each person to the job they do to help build a house.

architect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who plants grass, flowers, bushes, and trees to make the outside of a house look nice
general contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who runs wires through the walls to outlets and switches, and hooks up light fixtures
surveyor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who installs pipes that bring water to faucets and carry waste out of the house, and puts in the bathtub, toilets, and sinks
carpenter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who builds the chimney
plumber	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who is in charge of building the house, including hiring workers and keeping everything on schedule
mason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who measures for the foundation of the house
electrician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who draws plans for the house
landscaper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a person who hammers boards into place, to make the floor, walls, and roof

7. **Check It Off!** (Recommended for “Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish”)

Some of the different steps for building a house are listed below. Read each step to make sure you understand it. If you don’t know what some of the steps are, look back at *How a House is Built*. Then watch the video, and make a check mark (✓) on the line by each step as you see it happen in the video—don’t worry about the steps being out of order. If you miss some steps, watch the video again. After you have found all of the steps, label them in order from number 1 to 7.

- _____ framing the walls of the house
- _____ digging the foundation and pouring concrete
- _____ laying plywood for the first floor of the house
- _____ framing the roof of the house
- _____ putting stone on the front of the house
- _____ laying plywood for the second story of the house
- _____ putting shingles on the roof

8. **Things that are Wrong** (Recommended for “Here is the House”)

Choose a stanza from the poem and illustrate what is happening and how things are wrong with the house.

9. **Dream House** (Recommended for “When You See the House This Guy Built up Close, You’ll Think He’s Crazy. But Awesome Crazy.”)

James May is a toy fanatic who liked LEGOs so much that he decided to build a house out of them. Think about something you really like that could be used to build a house. Describe what you would use, and how you would use it to build a house. Add a picture of your finished house.

10. **Drawing a Floor Plan** (Recommended for *My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors*)

To draw a floor plan you need a pencil, an eraser, and some paper. Graph paper works best but if you don’t have graph paper, you can use any other kind of paper.

- Think about the rooms you want in your house. Which room will be the biggest? Which rooms will be next to each other? Will there be hallways or closets between the rooms? Where will the doors be?
- Begin drawing your floor plan. If your house has more than one floor, draw each floor on a separate piece of paper.
- Once you have the floor plan of the house, you can draw in the furniture and add color to the rooms.

11. **3-2-1** (Recommended for *The Science Behind Homes*)

Using information from the book, write:

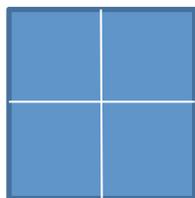
- **3** ways that science is used in a home
- **2** ways to keep yourself and others safe from harm
- **1** thing in the book that you’d like to learn more about

12. **Green Questions** (Recommended for “Thinking Green, Building Green”)

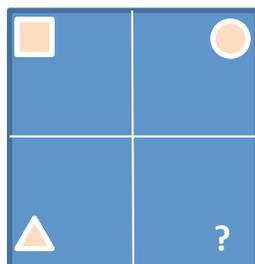
Answer the questions in the green box at the end of the article. Compare your responses with a classmate.

13. **A Picture of Knowledge** ((Recommended for “Homes for Wounded Vets”)

- Take a piece of paper and fold it two times: once across and once top to bottom so that it is divided into 4 quadrants.



- Draw these shapes in the corner of each quadrant.



1. Square
2. Triangle
3. Circle
4. Question Mark

- write!

Square: What one thing did you read that was interesting to you?

Triangle: What one thing did you read that taught you something new?

Circle: What did you read that made you want to learn more?

Question Mark: What is still confusing to you? What do you still wonder about?

- Find at least one classmate who has read “Homes for Wounded Vets” and talk to each other about what you put in each quadrant.

14. **Home is Where Your Heart Is** (recommended for *Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators*)

Imagine that you are an author, and you’ve been asked to add a piece of writing to this book. Write a short poem or story about what home means to you.

Expert Pack: Building a House

Submitted by: Milwaukee Public Schools and Cincinnati Public Schools

Grade Band: 2-3

Date: February 2015

Expert Pack Glossary

“Minecraft as a Mandatory Subject in School? Sweet!” *(whole group read-aloud)*

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
apprehensive	Apprehensive means nervous or scared about something. A person might be apprehensive about taking a test or walking down the street alone. A basketball team might be apprehensive about playing in a championship game.
augments	Augment means to improve something, to make it better. Wearing makeup augments a girl’s face. Painting the walls augments the look of a room or house.
curriculum	The subjects that kids learn in school are the curriculum. Sweden is thinking about adding Minecraft to the elementary curriculum. Reading, writing, and math are the most important subjects in school curriculum.
drastic	Drastic means very serious or extreme. Deciding to quit school would be a drastic decision. Spending a lot of money on something without thinking about for a little bit would be a drastic choice.
impact	The word impact means influence, or having an effect on something. Reading a good book can have an impact on someone’s life. If the power goes out, that will have an impact on how you spend your day.
mandatory	Mandatory means something is required or has to happen. It is mandatory to wear shoes when you go to a restaurant. Reading, writing, and math are mandatory subjects in school.
radical	When something is really different or a little bit crazy, people might describe it as radical. When someone gets their hair cut really short, that is a radical change. Making a video game a required subject in school is a radical idea.
virtual	Virtual means something that isn’t real, even though it seems real. In Minecraft, players build a virtual world. Some places offer virtual tours on their websites, where you can see all parts of a place without actually going there.

The Three Little Pigs

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
bricks	Bricks are small, hard blocks of baked clay that are used to build structures (such as houses). Houses made of bricks are strong structures and last a long time. There are many brick houses that are over 100 years old.
fireplace	A fireplace is a space made of stone or brick in a room where a fire can be built. The third little pig built a fire in the fireplace. The wolf went down the chimney and landed in the pot that was in the fireplace.
house	A house is a building in which a family or individual lives. There are many different kinds of houses. Houses are solid structures and cannot be blown down by a wolf.
roof	A roof is the cover or top of a building. The wolf climbed onto the roof of the brick house. The brick house had a chimney that stuck up through the roof.
solid	Something that is solid is firm or hard. A brick is solid material. The third little pig built a solid house made of brick. When ice melts it passes from a solid to a liquid form.

sticks	Sticks are cuts of broken branches or twigs. The house made of sticks was not a strong structure. The wolf was able to blow down the house made of sticks.
straw	Straw is the dry stems of wheat and other grain plants. The house made of straw was not a strong structure. The wolf was able to blow down the house made of straw.

“My House”

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
cabin	A cabin is a small house or cottage made out of wood. A cabin is also a room that you can sleep in on a ship or boat. A cabin is the part of an airplane in which the passengers sit.
clubhouse	A clubhouse is a meeting place used by a club for club activities. Lionel decided to move into the clubhouse. The clubhouse is small and only has a table and a chair.
dome	A dome is a building with a rounded roof. There is a dome on top of the Capitol building. A dome is also a stadium with a roof.
mansion	A mansion is a large expensive house. The rich and famous live in mansions. We do not have any mansions in our neighborhood.
stilts	Stilts are long pieces of wood or metal used to support a structure so that it is above the ground or above water. Houses by a river are built on stilts to protect them from floods. Stilts are also long poles with platforms for feet that people can stand on to walk high above the ground.

Homes Around the World

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
adobe	Adobe is a type of clay made from a mixture of mud and straw that is dried by the sun. Many adobe buildings look like castles. Some adobe homes are like apartments, where many families live in one building.
apartment	An apartment is a rented room or set of rooms that is part of a building and is used as a place to live. Often people live in an apartment before buying a house.
castle	A castle is a large building usually with high, thick walls and towers that was built in the past to protect against attack. Castles are very expensive. Kings and queens live in castles.
clay	Clay is a heavy, sticky material from the earth that is made into different shapes and becomes hard when it is baked or dried. Some homes are made out of clay. The sun dries the clay and then the family moves in.
cottage	A cottage is a small house in the country. Many cottages are near lakes or beaches. People like to rent cottages for vacations.
farmhouse	A farmhouse is a house on a farm. A farmhouse is one of several kinds of buildings on a farm. Many times there is a barn built close to the farmhouse.
home	A home is the place where a person lives. There are many different kinds of homes. Homes are made of a variety of materials.
hut	A hut is a small and simple house or building. Huts can be made of mud or sticks. Huts are sometimes referred to as shacks.
mobile home	A mobile home is a house that is built in a factory and then moved to the place where people will live in it. Mobile homes are built out of aluminum.
tent	A tent is a portable shelter that is used outdoors. It is made of cloth (such as canvas or nylon) and is held up with poles and ropes. People who live in tents move often and

	their tent goes with them. People use tents when on a camping trip.
yurt	A yurt is a portable, bent dwelling structure used as a home. A yurt is a simple but hardy design. Yurt homes are easy to move from place to place.

“Different Kinds of Houses”

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
materials	Materials are things that you can use to make or build or do something. You need special materials to do a science experiment. An artist needs special materials to create a piece of artwork.
modern	Modern means close to the present time, right now. Events that happened in the 2000s are part of modern history. Modern homes are homes that have been built in the last 10-20 years. Smartphones and tablets are modern technology because people didn’t have them a long time ago.
past	Past refers to a time before now, or long ago. Museums show us what the world was like in the past. People take pictures of happy times because they want to look back at them later and remember the past.

How a House is Built

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
adobe	Adobe is a mix of clay and straw, that is dried and used for building. Some Native Americans built homes out of adobe when there was no wood around to use. Adobe can be made into bricks, which can be used to build walls or taller structures.
architect	An architect is a person who creates the plan to build something. Architects draw blueprints, which builders use to build a house. A landscape architect plans what the yard of a house will look like.
crew	A crew is a group of people working on or doing the same thing. “America’s Best Dance Crew” was a show about teams trying to win a dance contest. Highway crews work to make better roads.
ducts	Ducts are pipes or tubes that air, water, or electricity can go through. Hot air flows through a heating duct to warm up a house. A person’s eyes have tear ducts that tears come out of.
enclose	Enclose means to put something around something else. Important things in a museum are enclosed in glass cases to keep them safe. Some people decide to enclose their yards with a fence.
foundation	The foundation of a house is a strong surface that the house is built on. Most houses have a foundation of concrete, but some are built on rock. A house built on a strong foundation will last for many years.
frame	A frame is the skeleton of a something, the parts that hold something up. Builders put up the frame of a house first, to make sure that all the parts fit together. A bicycle’s frame is usually made of metal.
install	Install means to set up something so it is ready to use. New apps need to be installed on smartphones and tablets. When people buy a new washer and dryer, workers need to come to the house to install the new machines.
interior	Interior means the inside of something. Cars have interior lights and headlights. People use paintings and artwork to decorate the interior of their homes.
materials	Materials are things that you can use to make or build or do something. You need

	special materials to do a science experiment. An artist needs special materials to create a piece of artwork.
schedule	A schedule is a plan of things that need to be done, and the times that they will happen. In school, your teacher follows a daily schedule of classes. Buses, trains, and planes try to travel on a schedule so people aren't late.

Time Lapse of Home Constructed Start to Finish

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
time lapse	Time lapse is a way of filming something where many pictures are taken over a long period of time and then are shown quickly so that something slow looks like it's happening really fast. Even though it takes days or weeks for plants to grow from seeds, a time lapse video could show a plant growing in only a few minutes.

"Here is the House"

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
ceiling	A ceiling is the inside surface at the top of a room. A house can have low or high ceilings. Many people hang fans from the ceiling.
floor	A floor is the part of a room on which you stand and walk. Floors can be made from a variety of materials. We walk on floors, not walls or ceilings. If a building has more than one level, you may need to take an elevator to the next floor.
stairs	Stairs are sets of steps that go up and down from one level or floor to another. Children like to play on the stairs. A house that has more than one story has stairs. When the bedrooms are on the second floor, people need to use stairs to go up and down.
street	A street is a road in a city or town that has houses or other buildings on one or both sides. Streets have names, and the name is used as part of our address. Many streets have only one way out—they are referred to as dead end streets.
town	A town is a place where people live and work that is smaller than a city. A town has many houses, shops, and places of entertainment.

"When You See The House This Guy Built Up Close, You'll Think He's Crazy. But Awesome Crazy."

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
approximately	Approximately is a word you might use when you're making an estimate. It means "close to" or "about how many". The human body has approximately 200 bones. School will be over in approximately 2 hours.
fanatic	A fanatic is someone that likes something <u>so much</u> that they do unusual or crazy things. People who paint their faces at sports games are fanatics for their favorite teams. Fanatic soccer players might practice for hours and hours. The word fanatic is often shortened to "fan".
practical	Something is practical if it makes good sense, if it's not unusual. Saving part of your allowance instead of spending all of it is practical. Reading a book instead of watching video games all day long is a practical choice.

stories	The LEGO house was two stories tall. A story is another word for floor, so the LEGO house was two floors tall. The tallest building in the world has 163 stories.
versatile	If something is versatile, that means you can do a lot of things with it, rather than just one. A pocketknife is a versatile tool because you can use it in many ways. "Awesome" is a versatile word because you can use it to describe a lot of things.

My Home: Walls, Floors, Ceilings, and Doors

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
architect	An architect is a person whose job is to design new buildings and make certain that they are built correctly. Architects draw blueprints, which builders use to build a house. Architects' blueprints have a lot of details.
floor plan	A floor plan is a drawing that shows the shape, size, and arrangement of rooms in a building. A floor plan can be one room, apartment, or entire floor of a building. You can make a floor plan to determine where to put the furniture in your bedroom.
houseboat	A houseboat is a boat that people use as their home. A houseboat is often kept in one place on a river or lake. A family might live on their houseboat during the summer.
nail	A nail is a long, thin piece of metal that is sharp at one end and flat at the other end, and is used to attach things to wood or other building materials. Nails can be from a fraction of an inch to several inches long. You use a hammer to hit the flat end of the nail to fasten or join something.

The Science Behind Homes*

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
gravel	Gravel is a mix of small stones and sand. Many driveways are made of gravel. Some people put colored gravel on the bottom of their fish tanks.
grit	Tiny pieces of sand or dirt are called grit. Someone who works outside in the hot sun will probably be covered in grit. When you walk on sand or gravel, you might get grit in your shoes.
produces	Produces is another word for makes. A windmill produces wind energy. Chickens produce fresh eggs.
supply	A supply is an amount of something ready to use. Students should have a supply of sharpened pencils to do their work. When people go camping, they have to make sure they have a full supply of clean water.

**These words are in addition to the bolded words found in the text, which are defined on their respective pages and in the glossary on p. 28-29.*

"Thinking Green, Building Green"

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
advise	When you advise someone, it means you give them a suggestion or share your opinion. Teachers advise their students to listen well and work hard so they can be successful. Doctors advise people to eat healthy and get plenty of exercise.
appliances	Appliances are pieces of equipment that help you get things done at home. Some important household appliances are refrigerators, washing machines, and microwaves. Appliances make life easier for us.

generations	A group of people born and living during the same time are a generation. A house can be passed down in the family from one generation to another. Kids that are in school today are part of a new generation.
industry	Industry is another word for business. The movie industry makes a lot of money because people like to go to movies when they're bored. The automobile industry gives jobs to a lot of people.
insulating	Insulating means adding some kind of material to something to keep it warm. We insulated our house to save money on our heating bill. I wear a jacket with extra insulating when I'm going to be outside for a long time.
pollution	Pollution is anything that is harmful to the environment. In big cities with lots of cars, trucks, and buses, some people worry about air pollution. Sometimes you can't swim in Lake Michigan because of high levels of water pollution.

"Homes for Wounded Vets"

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
carpenter	A carpenter is a person whose job is to make or fix wooden parts of a building. We used a carpenter to fix the broken door. The carpenter built beautiful cabinets for the kitchen.
contractor	A contractor is a person who is hired to perform work or to provide goods at a certain price or within a certain time. They hired a contractor to build a ramp so the veteran could get in and out of the house easier. The contractor said the house would be finished in 30 days.
custom homebuilder	A custom homebuilder is a person who builds a house to fit the needs of a particular person. A custom homebuilder built new homes for wounded veterans. The custom homebuilder builds homes for wounded vets as a way of saying thanks.
mortgage	A mortgage is a legal agreement in which a person borrows money to buy property (such as a house) and pays back the money over a period of time. People usually borrow money from a bank to buy a house and pay a monthly mortgage bill until the loan is paid back. It takes several years of making mortgage payments to pay back the loan.
plumber	A plumber is a person whose job is to install or repair sinks, toilets and water pipes. We need to call a plumber to fix the leaking faucet. The plumber installed all the pipes in the new house.
remodel	Remodel is changing the structure, shape, or appearance of something. Sometimes people choose to remodel their home instead of buying a different one. I want to remodel my kitchen.
supplier	A supplier is a person or company that provides goods or services that is wanted or needed usually in large quantities. Many suppliers donated materials for the new or remodeled homes.
supplies	Supplies are the amount of something that is available to be used. It takes a lot of supplies to remodel or build homes. They will go to the hardware store to purchase supplies for the bathroom.

Home: A Collaboration of Thirty Authors & Illustrators

<i>Word</i>	<i>Student-Friendly Definition</i>
bazaars	A bazaar is an outdoor market where lots of people are selling things. Bazaars are usually found in other countries. When people visit a bazaar, they try to bargain down the prices to get a good deal.
brood	Brood means to sit and worry, or to be mad or sad about something. If you tell a lie to your parents, you might sit and brood about what you did. After getting in trouble at recess, Joey sat at his desk brooding.
collaboration	Collaboration happens when a group of people work together to do something. Kids could work in collaboration to solve their math problems. The players on a team have to collaborate to win the game.
compartment	A compartment is a smaller part of a larger thing. Backpacks usually have a zippered compartment for things that are smaller than books. People keep maps and other papers in the glove compartment of their cars.
croon	Croon is another word for sing. Mothers croon to their babies to get them to sleep. People like to listen to birds croon in the summertime.
crouch	Crouch means to bend down, to try to make yourself smaller. Runners crouch down when they're waiting to start a race. During a game of hide-and-seek, I found my little sister crouching under the table.
damp	Things that are a little bit wet are damp. After you take a bath, your towel is probably damp. On summer mornings, the grass is damp with dew.
den	A den is a place where people or animals live, kind of like a home. A group of bears go out and hunt during the day and then bring their food back to the den. A group of robbers might bring their loot back to a den to divide things up.
dwellers	Dwellers are people or animals that live in a certain place. Fish and frogs are pond dwellers. People that live in big cities are city dwellers.
embrace	Embrace means to hug, or hold something close. People embrace their family to show that they love them. A little girl embraces her favorite toys so that she doesn't lose them.
fragile	Things that are fragile are easy to break or damage. When people pack up glass objects, they write "fragile" on the box. Older people have to be careful because they have fragile bones.
fragments	Fragments are pieces of something. I found fragments of my favorite sweater after my dog chewed it up. The tacos we had for dinner were so good that there were only fragments left on the table.
fragrant	When something smells good, you can say it is fragrant. A bunch of flowers is a fragrant gift. When someone is cooking something really good, the kitchen is fragrant.
hollow	A hollow is an empty space inside of something, like a hole. Squirrels keep their nuts in the hollow of a tree. The farmer sent his cows out to graze in a grassy hollow in his field.
lair	The place where a wild animal sleeps is called a lair. A hunter might try to track animals back to their lair. Squirrels collect nuts and bring them back to a lair.
plot	Plot means make a plan to do something, usually a secret plan. The kids thought of a plot to get extra cookies after dinner. Jamal sat under a tree and plotted about what he would do on summer vacation.
project	A project is a group of apartments or houses that are built for people and families that don't have a lot of money. A family might move into a housing project for a few years until they can buy their own house.

scheme	Scheme is another word for plan or plot. Violet schemed to borrow her sister's t-shirt. Dad figured out a scheme to get Mom to come to her surprise party.
stoop	A stoop is like a porch, a place at the front of a building outside the front door. When the weather is nice in spring, people like to sit out on the stoop and enjoy the nice weather. The mailman might leave packages on the stoop for someone who isn't home.
symphony	A symphony is a lot of different instruments playing together to create music. You can go to see a symphony concert. I like going to the symphony to see all the different orchestra instruments.
tenants	Tenants are people that live in an apartment building. The tenants in a building keep an eye out for each other. The landlord collects the rent from each tenant at the start of the month.
tread	Tread means to step or walk on something. My dad told us not to tread on the new grass in the yard. I like to tread on leaves on the ground in fall to hear them crunch.