

Wondrous Creatures is a rich resource that strongly supports the Common Core State Standards Initiative. Written at the 4th grade reading level, the text directly aligns to the following skills:

- **RI.4.4.** Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a *grade 4 topic or subject area*.
- **RI.4.5.** Describe the overall structure (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/solution) of events, ideas, concepts, or information in a text or part of a text.
- **RI.4.6.** **Compare and contrast a firsthand and secondhand account of the** same event or topic; describe the differences in focus and the information provided.
- **RI.4.7.** Interpret information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, or interactive elements on Web pages) and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text in which it appears.
- **RI.4.10.** By the end of year, read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, in the grades 4–5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

In addition, *Wondrous Creatures* provides ample opportunities to practice the following skills at the 4th grade level:

- **RI.4.1.** Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
- **RI.4.2.** Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.
- **RI.4.3.** Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
- **RI.4.8.** Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text.
- **RI.4.9.** Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
- **W.4.2.** Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and

information clearly.

- Introduce a topic clearly and group related information in paragraphs and sections; include formatting (e.g., headings), illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
- Link ideas within categories of information using words and phrases (e.g., another, for example, also, because).
- Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
- Provide a concluding statement or section related to the information or explanation presented.

As a resource, *Wondrous Creatures* can also be used to support the Grade 6-8 Science and Technical Subject Standards:

- **RST.6-8.1.** Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of science and technical texts.
- **RST.6-8.2.** Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; provide an accurate summary of the text distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- **RST.6-8.4.** Determine the meaning of symbols, key terms, and other domain-specific words and phrases as they are used in a specific scientific or technical context relevant to *grades 6–8 texts and topics*.
- **RST.6-8.5.** Analyze the structure an author uses to organize a text, including how the major sections contribute to the whole and to an understanding of the topic.
- **RST.6-8.6.** Analyze the author’s purpose in providing an explanation, describing a procedure, or discussing an experiment in a text.
- **RST.6-8.7.** Integrate quantitative or technical information expressed in words in a text with a version of that information expressed visually (e.g., in a flowchart, diagram, model, graph, or table).
- **RST.6-8.8.** Distinguish among facts, reasoned judgment based on research findings, and speculation in a text.
- **RST.6-8.10.** By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend science/technical texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

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