

Welcome to the Apollo Reading web page

Apollo Reading

LightSail builds on its electronic book publishing services, with Apollo Reading. A new series of online non-downloadable fiction and non-fiction books on a variety of topics.

LightSail's editorial team is proud to support schools with a new series of texts geared towards a secondary audience. These texts are aligned with nationally recognized curriculum and classical literature that addresses a wide-variety of topics, genres, and Lexile levels for our middle school and high school students. These fiction and non-fiction texts seek to engage readers with complex subjects while maintaining high engagement through grade appropriate and thought-provoking content.

MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
120 New Complimentary Texts	60 New Complimentary Texts
Lexile Level: 600 - 1000	Lexile Level: 1000 - 1400
Curriculum Alignment: Engage NY, Wheatley, Springboard	Curriculum Alignment: Engage NY, Springboard, KIPP AP for All, College Board
Possible Units: American History, Geography, Immigration, Mythology, Politics, Slavery, Social Justice	Possible Units: Civil Rights, Holocaust, Identity, Tragic Heroes, Multiculturalism, Rhetoric, Shakespeare
Genres: Adventure, Bildungsroman, Legend, Mystery, Myth, Satire, Short Stories	Genres: Biography, Criticisms, Essays, Historical Fiction & Non-fiction, Short Stories
Topics: African American History, Ancient Egypt Dystopia, Endangered Species Exploration, European History Government/Law, Holocaust Myths and Legends, Sports and Athletes, Technology, The United States Military	Topics: The American Dream, Coming of Age Feminism, Genocide History of Slavery, Holocaust Immigration, Justice and Judgment Moments in American History Russian History, Shakespeare

New LightSail Texts:

Myths and Legends: Atlantis
The Harlem Renaissance
The Infamous Trial of Sacco and Vanzetti
The End of the Cubs Curse
Girl Queen Series
Life on Mars Series
The Ethics of Self-Driving Cars
Zora Neale Hurston
A Soldier's Story
Iditarod, The Last Great Race on Earth
The Braxton Family Farm
The Beasts of Tarzan

New LightSail Texts:

Breakdown of Democracy and the Rise of Nazism
Breaking the Silence on Syria
Mistaken Identities: The Story of Nabiya Bashour
Saving the Redwoods
The Changing American Psyche
Joseph Stalin and the Russian Revolution
The Crime of Indifference
The Machiavellian Woman - Lady Macbeth
Glass Ceilings and the Spanish Armada
Emmett Till and the Injustice System
Leadership & Corruption Series
The Antebellum South

Possible Text Connections:

Animal Farm, A Midsummer Night's Dream
A Raisin in the Sun, Bud, Not Buddy
Number the Stars, The Gettysburg Address
To Kill a Mockingbird

Possible Text Connections:

Macbeth, Night
Romeo & Juliet, The Great Gatsby
The Help, The Joy Luck Club
The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

The National Parks Series

Excerpt from "For the Love of Luna:
The Story of Julia Hill"

Lexile: 1150L

Unit Connections: Adversity, Feminism, Identity,
Social Justice, Taking a Stand



"Battles were raging near the California Coast; it was man against nature; industrial progress against the land. Trees were dropping dead on the battlefield - until someone on a mission to save them came to their rescue. For 738 days, Julia "Butterfly" Hill stood her ground atop a 200-foot tall redwood tree, protecting it from angry politicians and saw-wielding loggers camped out at the truck. They had already destroyed forests all over the area, and the 1,500-year-old redwood giant was next on the chopping block. So, Hill climbed up the trunk and refused to come down."

World History Series

Excerpt from "Breaking the Silence
on Syria"

Lexile: 1250L

Unit Connections: Contemporary Politics, Genocide,
Identify, Immigration, Journeys



"Damascus was a buzzing metropolis and a sprawling oasis....Dubbed by historians as "the ancient pearl of the desert", Damascus was a Garden of Eden.

This pearl of a paradise stood for thousands of years. However, under modern warfare, this cradle of life fell in less than four years. It survived the Roman Empire but it couldn't survive Assad's regime. This now transformed hell had been purged of its former beauty and replaced with devastation."

Shakespear Series

Excerpt from "Burning Down the House:
Shakespeare and the Globe Theater"

Lexile: 1150L

Unit Connections: Shakespeare, European History,
World History, Arts and Theater



"Commoners and gentry alike had gathered for the performance. The gentry peered down from their seats in the covered balconies. The commoners, or "groundlings," milled around on the floor in an open-air pit, drinking, laughing, and heckling the actors. It was London theater in high form, the crowd lit with booze and every bit as boisterous as a crowd at a modern-day sporting event. The venue - the Globe Theater. On the stage, under a thatched roof, a canon boomed, announcing the entrance of Henry VIII. But sparks from the canon fire ignited the thatching in seconds, and the theater burst into flames. Guests scrambled toward the exits as fire engulfed the building. In just over an hour, the most famous theater in London had burned to the ground."

Race & the Justice System Series

Excerpt from "Emmett Till
and the Injustice System"

Lexile: 1350L

Unit Connections: Race, Racism, Adversity, Injustice,
Civil Rights, and Social Justice



"At 2:30 a.m., a green and white pickup truck rolled into the driveway of the Wright household in Money, Mississippi. Roy Bryant and J.W. Milam stepped out of their pickup and searched the home's beds, their boots leaving trails of dust on the wooden floor. They found 14-year old Emmett Till and told him to get dressed. Bryant and Milam drove Emmett Till 75 miles to the west, towards the Mississippi River, before turning back towards Money, Mississippi where Bryant and Milam took Emmett into a barn and ruthlessly whipped and beat him. They threw him into the back of their pickup, and a witness recalls seeing the truck around 6:00 a.m. that morning, blood pooling in the bed and dripping onto the ground. Wright and Bryant told the witness they had gone deer hunting."