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Grade-Level Science Books – Grade 3 Leveling Chart

Book Title	Summary	Level
Unit A		
Save Our Park Trees	This story if a 200-year-old oak tree will prompt readers to question why people would want to cut the tree down.	M
Claws and Wings and Other Neat Things: Animals and Their Special Body Parts	Animals can do some incredible things, most of which would not be possible without claws, wings, legs, tails, fur, and tongues.	N
Sharks	Straightforward text and black-and-white photographs provide a close up view of a variety of sharks, with a special look at the great white, whale sharks, and unusual sharks.	O
Unit B		
Kit Foxes	Two kit foxes find a den and raise a family of young foxes. The young foxes eventually grow up and leave the den to start families of their own.	N
The Wolves' Winter	As winter approaches, a wolf pack comes down from the mountain in search of food. Because there is too little food for the large pack, a pair of young wolves leads a number of other wolves in search of food and a new home.	K
Rescue At First Encounter Beach	A pod of pilot whales becomes beached, and rescuers work hard to save them. Three of the surviving whales are babies, which are fed, cared for, and later released back into the ocean.	J
Unit C		
Acoma: The Sky City	This book describes the history and traditions behind Acoma Pueblo, an 800-year-old Native American village in New Mexico. Students can understand how lifestyle can be related to the topography of an area.	N
The Old Swimming Hole	When Nick and Grandpa discover that the swimming hole of Grandpa's youth has become a dump, they get the town involved and clean it up. This book prompts students to find out about efforts to clean up local pollution.	O
The Hurricane Hero	By flying a plane into a hurricane, Joe Duckworth opened the way for scientists to learn more about hurricanes so they can better predict them and help save lives. Students can wonder what being in a hurricane would be like and can value the achievement of a real-life hero.	K
Unit D		
Stormy Weather	From severe storms such as tornadoes and thunderstorms, the book goes on to describe some unusual historic events – a turtle in a hailstone, a red rainfall, and crabs and herring falling from the sky.	N

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Mars Discovery	Students will be taken on a journey to the Red Planet, Mars, and learn about its moons and landforms. The text is supported by dramatic NASA photography from recent missions to Mars. Students will want to discuss what would be needed for humans to survive in Mars.	M
Up, Up, & Away! The Mae Jemison Story	This book tells the story of the first African American woman to go into space. When Mae Jemison's flight on the <i>Endeavor</i> came to an end, she and the other astronauts had spent almost eight days in space.	K
Unit E		
Get A Grip!	A group of friends use their knowledge of simple machines and friction to build cars to enter in the Soapbox. This book can inspire students to design their own machines.	O
Machines That Build	A construction site is used to illustrate the fundamental concepts of simple machines such as the lever, the inclined plane, and the wedge. Students explore how cranes and dumpsters are built from levers.	P
There and Back, Then and Now	Students explore the history of travel and modes of transportation, from buses, automobiles, trains, ferries, airplanes and more! Historical photography adds to the fascination of what traveling was like a century ago.	R
Unit F		
A Ride Over the Serengeti	An African American boy and his sister accidentally take off in a hot air balloon over the beautiful Serengeti. The children must use their knowledge of gravity, mass, matter, and temperature to make a safe landing.	K
Ben Franklin	This biography recounts the many inventions and accomplishments of American statesman Benjamin Franklin, including his interest in electricity and his starting the first fire department in Philadelphia.	O
I Can't Believe My Eyes: Extraordinary Photos of Ordinary Things	Students will love these highly magnified photos of familiar objects and the riddles that accompany them. This book explores properties of matter and of light.	L