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 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]
Meteorology is the scientific study of the atmosphere that focuses on weather processes and forecasting. Meteorological phenomena are observable weather events which illuminate and are explained by the science of meteorology. Those events are bound by the variables that exist in Earth's atmosphere. They are temperature, pressure, water vapor, and the gradients and interactions of each variable, and how they change in time. The majority of Earth's observed weather is located in the troposphere. Meteorology is the study of the atmosphere, atmospheric phenomena, and atmospheric effects on our weather. The atmosphere is the gaseous layer of the physical environment that surrounds a planet. Earth’s atmosphere is roughly 100 to 125 kilometers (65-75 miles) thick. Gravity keeps the atmosphere from expanding much farther. Meteorology is a subdiscipline of the atmospheric sciences, a term that covers all studies of the atmosphere. A subdiscipline is a specialized field of study within a broader subject or discipline.