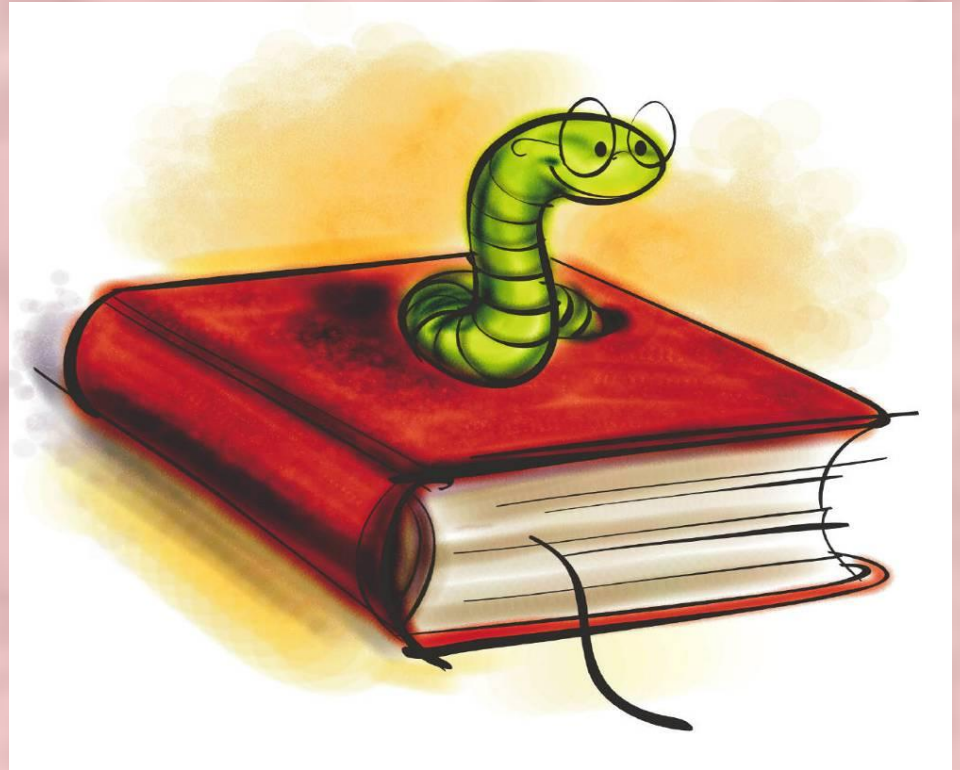


Literary Genres



Literary Genre

is a
particular
style or
type of
writing



Most Common Genres:

<u><i>Fiction</i></u>	<u><i>Nonfiction</i></u>
Fables, Folktales, Fairytale	Biography
Fantasy, Mystery	Autobiography
Myth, Legend	Newspaper Article
Historical Fiction	Essay, Documentary
Realistic Fiction Drama, Poetry	Speeches, Diaries, Letters
Science Fiction	Informational

Fiction

- Writing that tells about imaginary people and events
- Stories that are “made up”

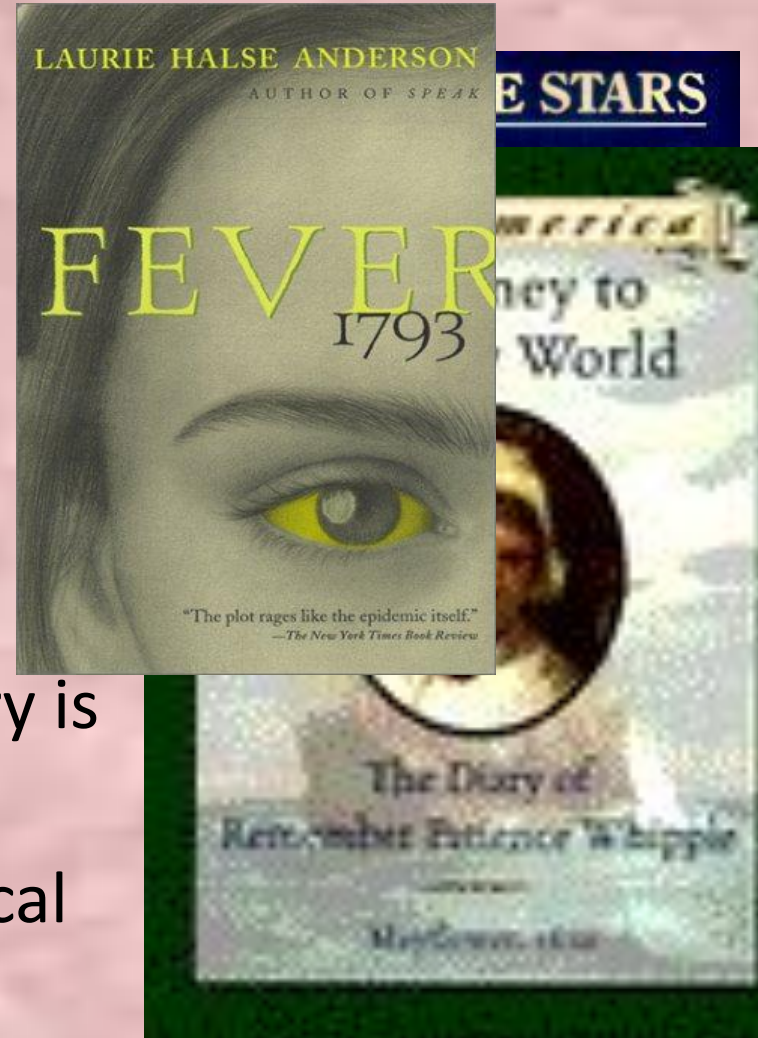
Fantasy

- supernatural occurrences
- characters with magical powers
- things with magical powers
- animals with human characteristics
- real people in fantastic places
- fantastic creatures or characters in real situations



Historical Fiction

- Form of fiction (not true)
- Based on historical events
- Authentic settings
- Characters portrayed in realistic manner
- Some characters may be actual people from history, but the story is fictional
- Artistic mix of fiction and historical fact



Science Fiction

- **fiction (not true)**
- **Contains some sort of scientific element, such as**
 - Outer space
 - Medicine
 - Technology
- **Within the realm of possibility**
- **Characters have some believable traits/qualities**



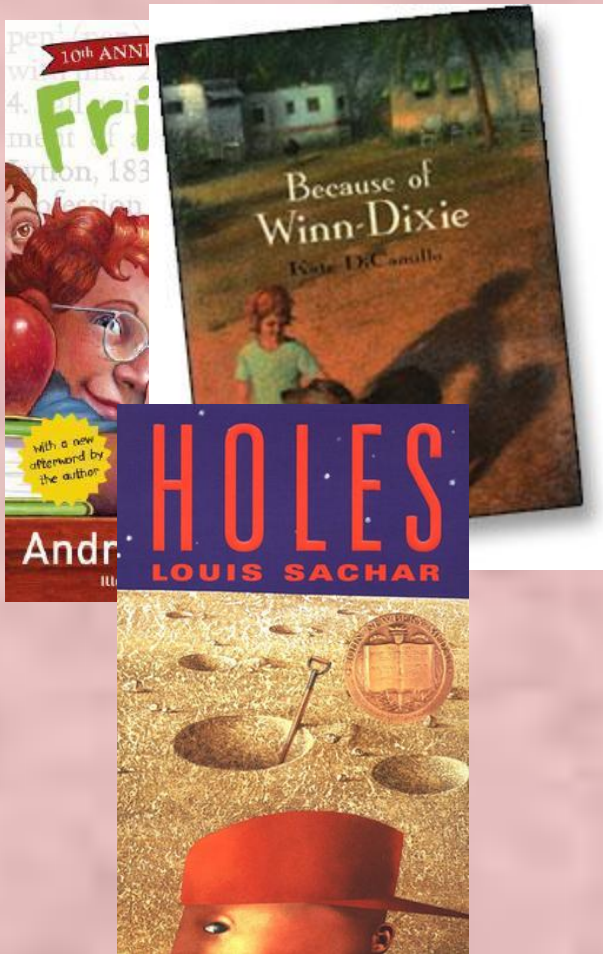
Horror & Mystery



- **Horror** is fiction in which events evoke a feeling of fright in both the characters and the reader.
- **Mystery** is fiction dealing with the solution of a crime or the unraveling of secrets.



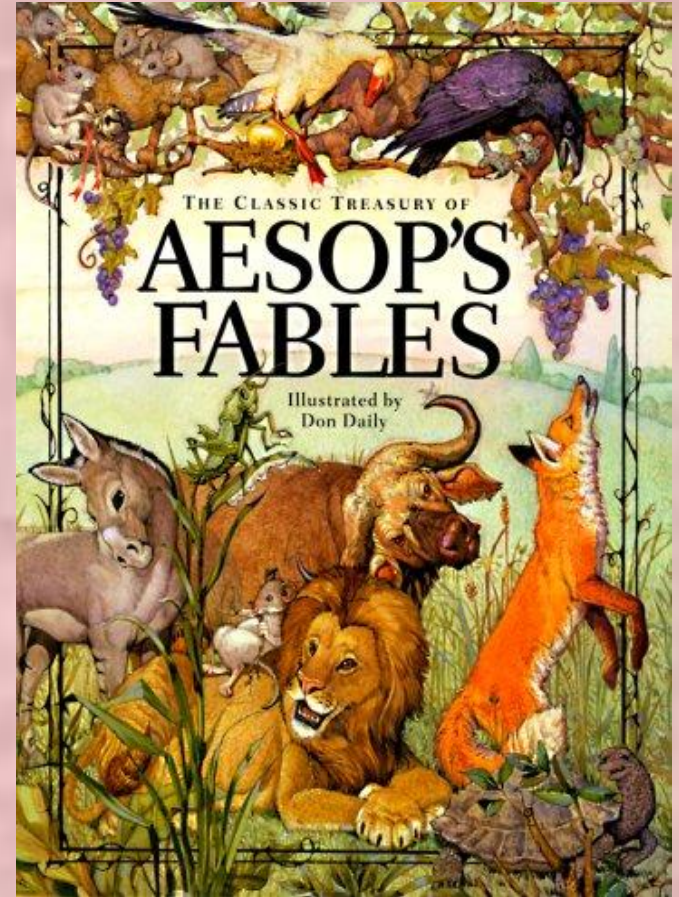
Realistic Fiction



- Stories that could actually “happen” in real life.
- The setting is realistic
- The characters speak and act like real people
- The story describes real-life problems and events

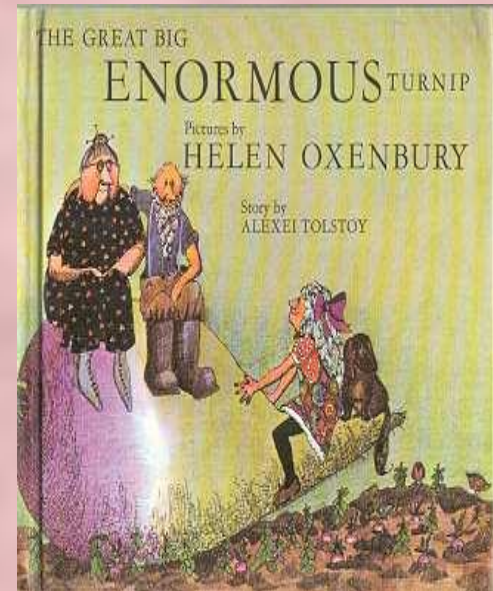
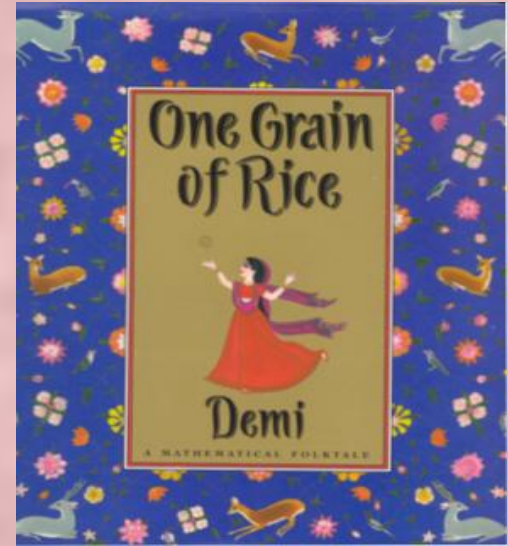
Fable

A short story, usually with animal characters, that teaches a lesson about what is important in life.

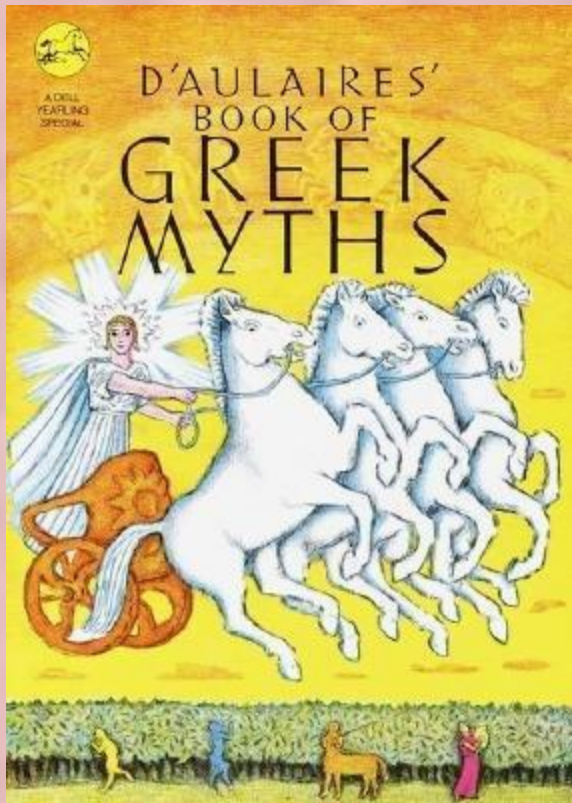


Folk Tale

- Story told generation to generation, usually by word of mouth.
- Sometimes different versions in different cultures
- Original storyteller is unknown
- Can involve animals, wishes, magic, trickery and often the number 3



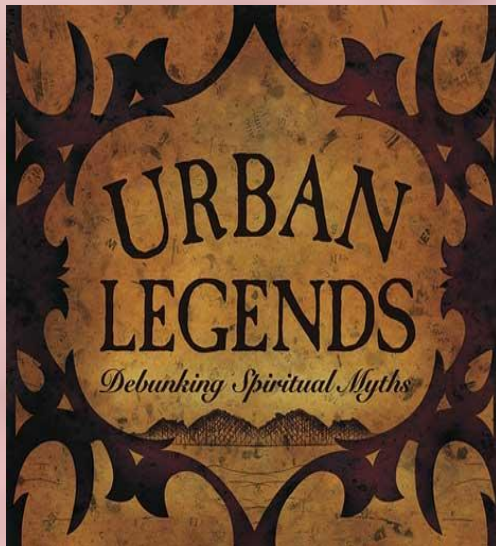
Myths



- Myths are early people's way to explain the universe.
- Many gods and goddesses are present in myths
- The gods, goddesses, and heroes are super human in nature.
- Human emotions are experienced by the gods.
- Magic is often present in myths.
- Gods sometimes appear in disguised form

Legend

- Form of fiction (not true)
- Stories written about a real life hero and his/her mighty deeds
- Mix of fiction and historical facts that have been creatively altered to encourage moral conduct and right choices
- Leaves questions/wonder in the reader's minds (Did Mike Fink really wrestle a grizzly bear?)





Fairy Tales



Often begins with
"Once upon a time"
or "Long, long ago..."

Magic or
something
enchanted

Setting is
often a forest
or a castle



a good character
and a bad (evil)
character

Involves a
problem that is
solved and the
good people live
happily ever
after

Drama/Plays



actions in italics

say

- Has a cast of characters
- May have a narrator who gives important information
- Parts called acts or scenes
- Has props to help support action
- Dialogue that tells what the actors

A Fairy Tale (based on the story written by Becky Port)

Characters:

Mum
Mr. Diver (Principle)
Benjamin
Teacher

Scene (Dolly shot)

In lounge, mum on couch reading. Ben walks in.

Benjamin: (Throws arms down dramatically) Why me?

Mum: Come on benny it won't be that bad.

Benjamin: Everyone will laugh at me, its not fair!!!

Mum: (crossly) Listen Ben ,you will be in the school play weather you like it or not not!!!

Benjamin: (yelling) Mum!!!

Mum: (smiles and folds arms) I've already enrolled you.

Benjamin: What!!!

Mum: Your are the lead ballerina fairy!!!

Benjamin: How could you? (Storms out the room)

Mum: (yells after ben sarcastically) I was expecting a thank-you

Scene (Crane shot)

Ben in room, collapses on bed.

Benjamin: (rolls over ready to go to sleep) How could she? I can't believe it. (muttering) Ballet Fairy.

Scene (Tracking shot)

Ben walking into class (angrily, with his head down) (Class sniggering and whispering)

Teacher: (Looking at ben) Hello Tinker bell(clears throat)I mean Benjamin.
(Ben walks to his table drops his bag, sits and sulks) (Medium shot)

Scene (Medium shot)

In the school office, Principle talking onto the loud speaker.

Principle: (Over the loud speaker) Sorry for the interruption everyone, could Ben from room 29 please report to the principles office to collect your Ballerina outfit for the school play. That's all thank you.

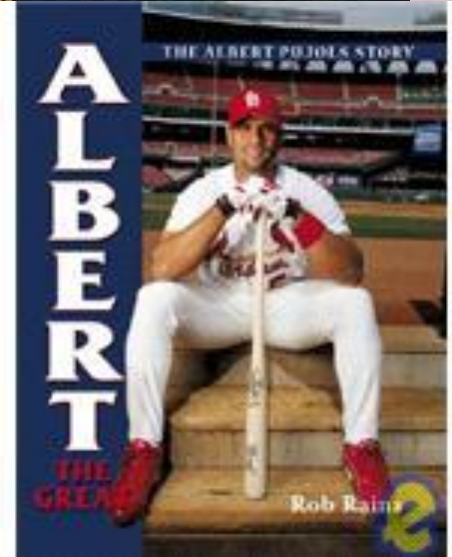
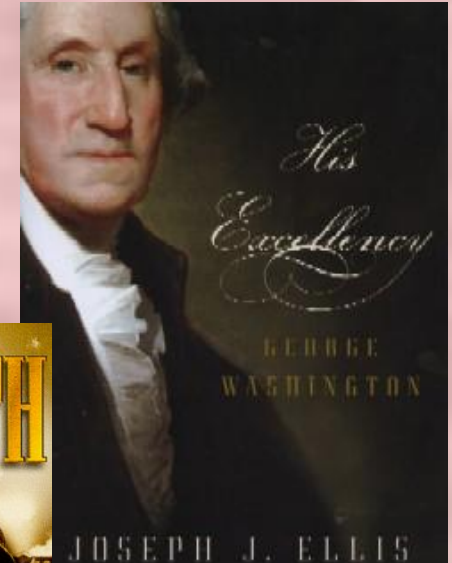
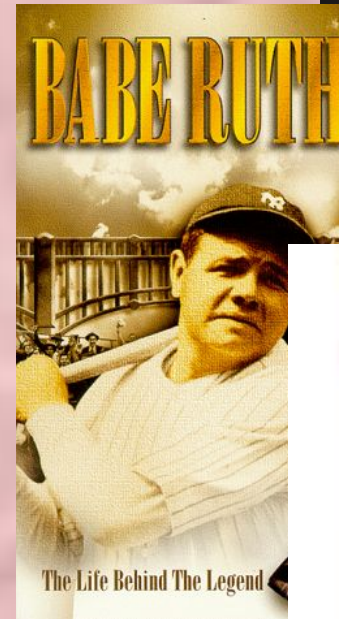
Non-Fiction

accounts of real people, places and events

Fact, NOT fiction...

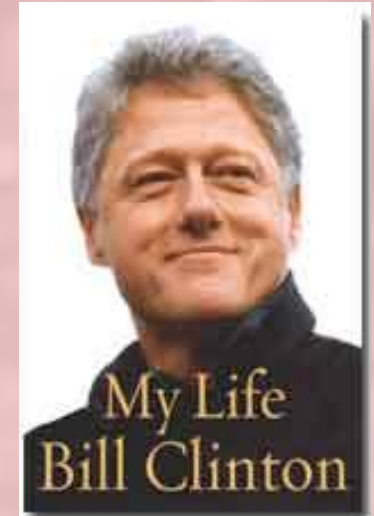
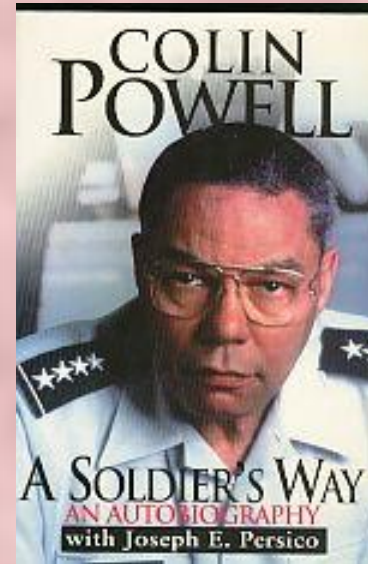
Biographies

- A biography is a true story about a person's life or parts of his/her life
- Written in 3rd person point of view (he or she)



Autobiographies

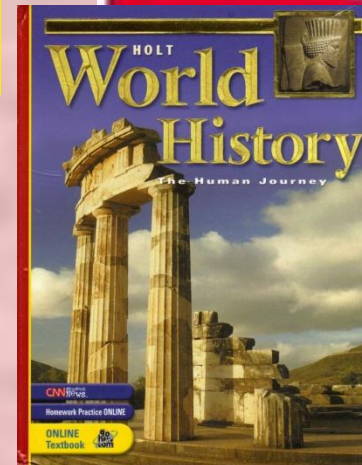
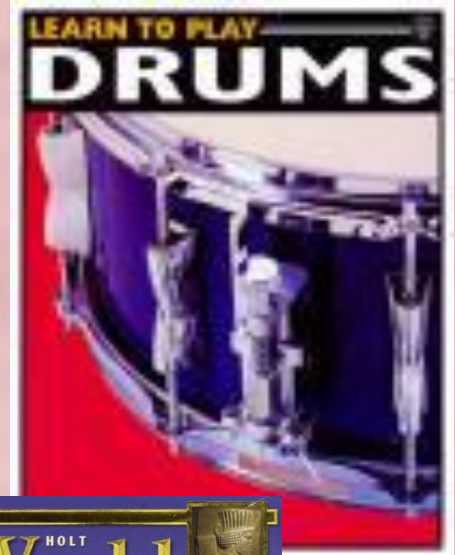
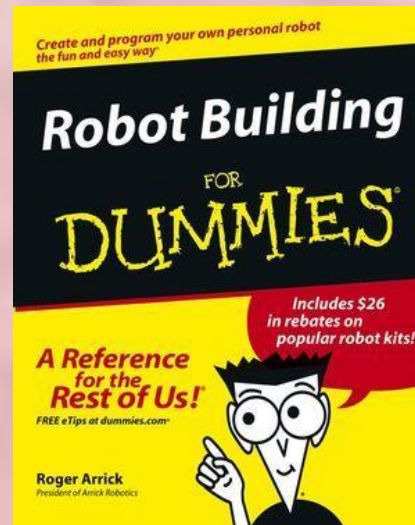
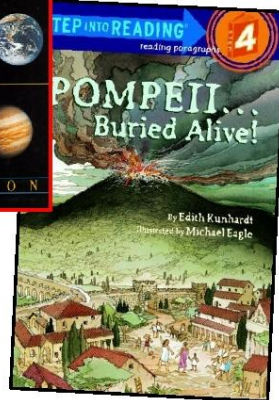
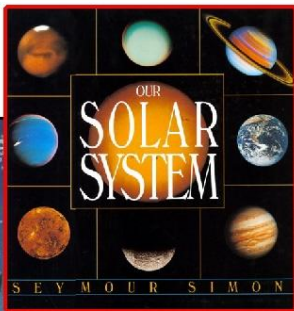
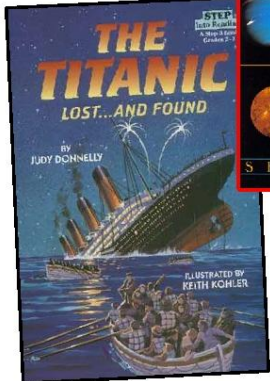
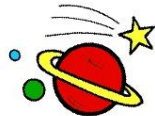
- Autobiographies are books that people write about their own life.
- Written in 1st person point of view (I, me, my)



Informational Writing

Informational

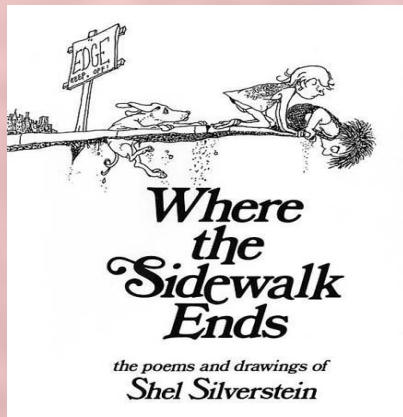
Texts that provide facts about a variety of topics (sports, animals, science, history, careers, travel, geography, space, weather, etc.)



OTHER TYPES OF WRITING...

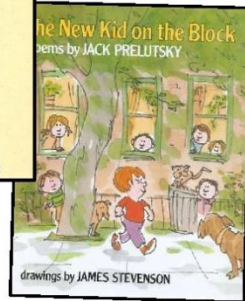
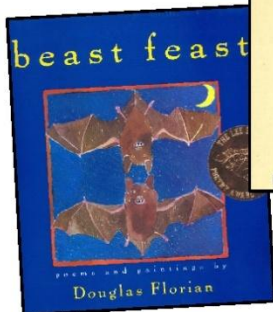
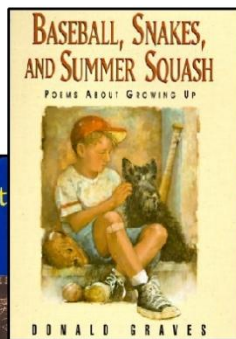


Poetry



Poetry

Poetry is verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader. It often uses rhythm and rhyme.



- lines of poetry (verses) are written in stanzas
- may include patterns of rhyme to capture the reader's interest
- uses carefully selected words and phrases to create vivid pictures in the reader's mind

Your Turn...

Name the “genre” of literature for each selection

1. A book titled “How to be the Best Gardener”
2. A novel about a boy who grows up in the city and learns about life the hard way.
3. A book titled “All About My Life”
4. A story about two robots who find a ray gun and take over the planet
5. “George Washington, the President” by Adam Wessel
6. Shaden dropped the magic ring to the ground and said “Be gone dragons!”
7. Andy and Madeline solved the mystery....it was Old Man Winters all along!
8. The moral of the story, The Ant and the Grasshopper is “Plan Ahead!”

Autobiography Non-Fiction Realistic Fiction Fable Science Fiction Mystery Fantasy Biography

High Fantasy

- Form of fiction (not real)
- Good vs. evil (supernatural/evil forces)
- Story written in a series of books/ volumes
- Coming- of- age themes
- Include fantastical elements, such as:
 - Elves and dwarves
 - Magic
 - Wizards
 - Invented languages
 - quests

Tall Tale

- **E**xtraordinary person - the main character is better at things than an ordinary person
- **E**xaggeration - makes something greater or bigger than it really could be
- **E**xplanation - explains how something came to be

