

Literary Genres

Genre	Definition	Example
Fiction	a story that is made up by the author	
Historical Fiction	a story that takes place during an actual time period in history; many of the characters are fictional and many of the events actually happened	
Realistic Fiction	a story that could actually happen, but it did not, it is made up by the author, it takes place in modern times	
Science Fiction	a story that uses science (often technology) to create extraordinary plots	
Fantasy	a story that is imaginary and could include characters such as talking animals or characters with magical powers	
Folklore (includes fairy tales, tall tales, legends, myths, fables)	these stories were passed down from generation to generation verbally; often to explain something in nature or to teach a moral lesson	
Nonfiction	a true story	
Informational	books that give factual information on a variety of topics	
Autobiography	the story of a person's life written by that person	
Biography	the story of a person's life written by someone else	
Fiction and Nonfiction		
Mystery	a story based on a puzzling crime where the main character tries to solve the crime using clues	
Adventure	a story that has fast moving action	
Poetry	is written in verse and often evokes thought and feeling from the reader	