

GENRES

READING BOOKS FROM
DIFFERENT GENRES
BUILDS YOUR READING
EXPERIENCE!



ADVENTURE

Exciting and dangerous journeys!

- Fast paced, action packed, full of twists and turns
- Main characters - heroes, heroines, villains
- Characters tests limits, overcomes fears or weaknesses, are brave, bold and determined
- Race against time, good deeds win the day
- Stories can be realistic or intertwined with fantasy or mystery genres

ANIMAL STORIES

Realistic or human qualities!



Realistic animal stories

- Animal characters are true to life - pets, farm animals or wild animals
- Strong connection with human characters - respond to needs, help or save humans in times of trouble

Fantasy animal stories

- Animal characters have human qualities - can talk, have emotions and personalities
- Animals act in human ways - wear clothes, carry out tasks such as drink tea, go shopping
- They are often wise and offer guidance to others

The term **anthropomorphism** is used to describe animal characters that have human qualities!

FANTASY

Imagined places, fantastical creatures & magic!

Types of Fantasy

1. Set in a real world with magic introduced
2. Starts in the real world and moves to a fantasy world
3. Starts and ends in an alternative or fantasy world

- Characters and objects may have special powers or qualities and move between realistic and imagined worlds
- Time-slip, time travel or futuristic worlds
- May follow a journey or quest
- Magical animals and beasts
- Animals have human qualities
- Often based on the need to win or be in control



FOLK & FAIRY TALES

Magical kingdoms, witches & wizards!



Folk & fairy tales

- Characters with disguises and magical powers
- Mysterious and magical characters - fairies, trolls, giants, elves and animal characters that can talk and perform magic
- Complication, journey and happy ending
- Emotions are a focus - jealousy, worry, greed, love
- Often set in dark forests, castles, magical lands
- Spells, tricks and foolish actions are common



GRAPHIC NOVELS

A book in comic-strip format!

- Either realistic, fantasy or science fiction
- Pages are designed in sequenced panels
- Layout contains frames that create borders
- Captions, call out speech and thought bubbles are used for narration and dialogue
- Sound effect words are bold and enhanced by the use of graphic art

HISTORICAL

Stories set in a specific time & place in the past!

- Includes dates, names and descriptions of real historical events
- Characters names and actions represent a way of life at the time in the past
- Living conditions, clothes, food, objects, travel are visually described
- Significant and extraordinary events are a focus
- Characters often show acts of courage, bravery and determination



HUMOUR

Stories that entertain and amuse!

- Characters actions and appearances are exaggerated and unusual
- Characters actions and emotions feel life-like and can be embarrassing and surprising making the reader laugh
- Language may include nonsense words, exaggeration and humorous tones
- Actions can be viewed as ridiculous or gruesome
- Often presents serious issues in an amusing way

MYSTERY

Secrets, excitement and tension!



- Characters involved in investigations where they plan and carry out detective work
- Clues are intertwined in the story leading the character into mysterious and surprising situations
- Caves, tunnels, dark alleyways, islands, tall building stairwells or lifts often included
- Fantasy mystery may involve mirrors, characters travelling through time, and unusual creatures

MYTHS, LEGENDS, FABLES

Explanations of how things were created, heroic characters, and morals!

Myths

- Ancient or traditional stories that explain mysterious natural events and creations
- Supernatural characters

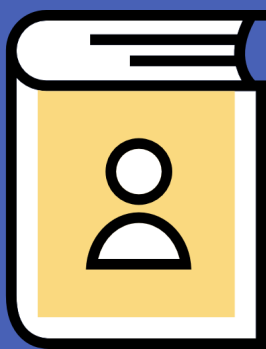


Legends

- Tales that focus on characters who perform courageous and brave actions

Fables

- Short stories with animal characters that carry out acts to demonstrate sensible choices
- Moral or message a focus at the end of the story



REALISTIC

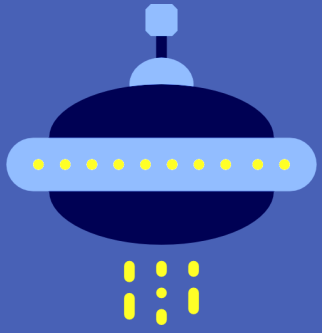
Stories that feel real and represent real life experiences!

- Life like characters
- Set in the present day
- Settings, situations and characters are easy to identify
- Language, terms and expressions are familiar
- Family relationships and friendships are a key focus
- School, social or cultural issues represented - bullying, peer groups, conflict, family breakdown, refugees

Diaries

- A recount or reflection of an event or social situation
- Often includes dates and drawings
- Text can appear hand written





SCIENCE FICTION

Futuristic settings,
extraordinary adventures!

- Presents life in galaxies and other universes
- Focuses on scientific discoveries and technological inventions
- Characters and creatures involved in battles to save others from evil
- The plot may involve natural or nuclear disasters and focus on survival in difficult and demanding surroundings and situations

VERSE NOVELS

Stories organised in
poetic formation!



- Arranged in short chapters or sections
- Written in rhyme or free verse
- Often describes emotional experiences, feelings, and actions
- Themes often examine social issues - bullying, family breakdown, illness
- Mostly told in the first-person, other narrators allow different characters to be heard
- Often focuses on social issues portraying the character's personal reflection

Realistic and fantasy fiction are the main literacy narratives. Many stories will have a main genre but cross over and include additional genres.

**Reading books from different genres
builds your reading experience!**



Reference:

McDonald, L. (2018). A Literature Companion for Teachers. Primary English Teaching Association Australia (PETAA).

Created by libraryowl.edublogs.org
