

# Literary Genres

Definition: *categories used to group different types of literary work, such as non-fiction, fiction and poetry.*

What are some other types of genres?



Franklin

## Non-Fiction

This can also be called  
“informational” material. These  
types of books provide  
information that is factual.  
Nothing is *make-believe* in these  
types of materials. More specific  
examples of this type of genre  
would be . . .

**Biographies:** *A true account of a person's life written, composed, or produced by another.*



**Autobiographies:** *The biography of a person written by that person.*



# Fiction

In this type of work, the author can make up the whole entire story. Authors can also choose to include factual information in a made-up story. The author can have wizards creating magic spells or it can be about a 12 year old girl who has a secret crush.



# Different types of fiction

**Historical Fiction:** *The story takes the reader back to a particular time period where they learn about the everyday life of a person. The character may interact with actual historical characters, but usually, the main character is not based on a real person.*



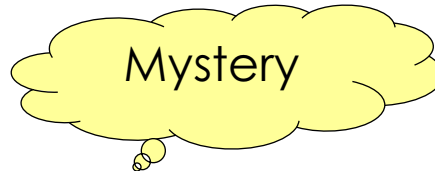
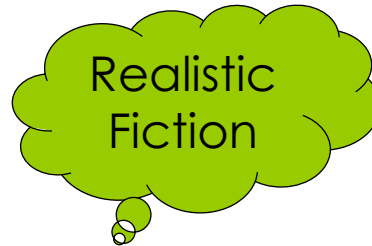
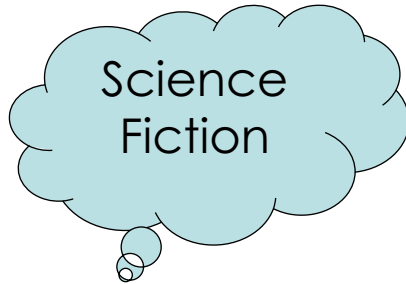
**Realistic Fiction:** *The story usually presents a problem to be examined that could be from anybody's life. They may cover such topics as family situations, peer relationships, and cultural differences.*

**Science Fiction:** *This is a type of modern fantasy. It explores scientific fact and can pose ethical questions about current scientific trends and predictions. The author focuses on the adventure of exploring the unknown and the wonder of discovering new worlds and people.*

**Mystery:** *There are different types of mystery stories, but usually a crime has been committed and the reader wants to try to figure out “whodunit”. There is usually a great deal of suspense and intrigue abounds.*

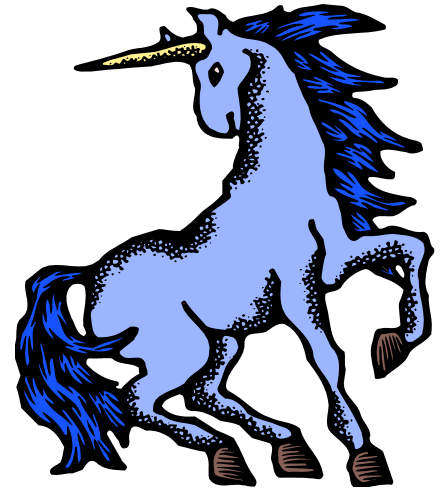


What category of fiction would  
you put your favorite story in?  
Why?



# Fantasy

In this type of story, the author has created a magical world where anything is possible. There are many types of fantasy, from fables to fairy tales and may include magical beings, talking animals and gods and goddesses.





**Traditional Fantasy:** When we think of this type of fantasy story, we often consider stories such as Cinderella. This genre includes folk tales, tall tales, fables, and myths. These are stories that have been told over and over, sometimes for hundreds or even thousands of years!

**Fairy Tales:** We often know we are reading or hearing a fairy tale with the words, “once upon a time . . .” Fairy tales often feature a fight between good and evil. Evil always loses to a triumphant hero or heroine. We also know it’s a fairy tale because most end with “and they lived happily ever after.”



## **Fables and Myths:**

- Fables: These stories usually have a moral that is being taught. It often uses animals that speak and act like humans.

- Myths: a story or group of stories that form part of the traditional knowledge of a society. Myths often use imaginative plots and characters to explain how the world began and why nature and people behave the way they do.



**Modern Fantasy:** *The events in modern fantasy are outside the realm of possibility. These stories cannot happen in real life but even though we know the events can't happen, they are very believable. These stories allow us to live in an imaginary world where anything is possible.*

