

Literary Genres

A genre is a group or collection of books with a similar theme or style.

The following is a brief description of various genres.

What is your favorite?

Try a new one. You may be surprised and really enjoy reading something new!

Picture Books - you will find picture books in the Picture Book section in the library. These wonderful stories can be enjoyed by all ages.

Easy Reader - you will find these books in Picture Book Section with E on the spine. These are stories that have been written at a level for beginning readers.

Fantasy - these books would be in the fiction section of the library - look for the **FIC/PB FIC/JFIC** on the spine label **along with the first three letter of the author's last name**. These types of books contain elements and characters that could not exist in our lives. One would find magical figures such as dragons or talking animals in these types of stories.

Historical Fiction - these books would be in the fiction section of the library - look for the **FIC/PB FIC/JFIC** on the spine label **along with the first three letter of the author's last name**. These types of books give a historically accurate portrayal of life during a specific time in history.

Mystery - these books would be in the fiction section of the library - look for the **FIC/PB FIC/JFIC** on the spine label **along with the first three letter of the author's last name**. These types of books involve a suspenseful event along with clues to encourage the reader to continue reading and solve the mystery.

Realistic Fiction - these books would be in the fiction section of the library - look for the **FIC/PB FIC/JFIC** on the spine label **along with the first three letter of the author's last name**. These books have characters that often find themselves in regular, everyday dilemmas. These stories are set in modern times.

Nonfiction books - are located in a separate section of the library and will have a **call number** on the spine along with the **first three letter of the author's last name**. The *call numbers* are from the *Dewey Decimal System*. These books are informational books filled with factual information. They can explain how things work or teach us about different topics.

Folktales - these stories have been passed down to us over the years by real people. There are several types of folktales. They include fables, tall tales and fairy tales. Books in this genre are in the nonfiction section of the library with 398 on the spine along with the first three letters of author's last name on the spine..

- fables usually teach a lesson or moral
- tall tales usually have an element of exaggeration in them.
- fairy tales usually have magical elements with characters that include fairies, giants or elves.

Poetry - are located in the *nonfiction section* of the library with 811 on the spine along with the first three letters of the poet's last name. These books include verses or poems that may be serious, humorous or lyrical. Some rhyme and some do not.

Biographies - are located in the separate section of the library. The spine of these books will have a **BIO** on it along with the **first three letters of the last name of the subject of the book**. These stories are histories about a person's life. When a person write about his/her own life that is called an autobiography.

Remember - *always asked for help if you can't find what you are looking for in the media center!*