

## Genres of Literature

A genre is simply a kind of literary work. It's a style that authors use to express their ideas.

Genre	Definition	Examples	Our Example
Fiction	Fiction is a type of writing based on imagination, and not necessarily on fact.	<i>Tuck Everlasting</i> , Natalie Babbitt; <i>Holes</i> , Louis Sachar; <i>The House on Mango Street</i> , Sandra Cisneros	
Nonfiction	Nonfiction is a type of writing based on fact. It might be based in history or in science.	<i>We Were There, Too: Young People in U.S. History</i> , Philip M. Hoose; <i>The Longitude Prize</i> , Joan Dash	
Poetry	Poetry is a type of writing that uses rhythm, and sometimes rhyme, to communicate ideas & feelings	<i>A Light in the Attic</i> , Shel Silverstein; <i>The Dream Keeper &amp; Other Poems</i> , Langston Hughes	
Biography	A biography is an account of someone's life, told by another.	<i>Lincoln: A Photobiography</i> , Russell Freedman; <i>Cesar Chavez: A Hero for Everyone</i> , Gary Soto & Lori Lohstoeter	
Autobiography	An autobiography is an account of someone's life, told by that person.	<i>The Autobiography of Ben Franklin</i> , Ben Franklin; <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> , Maya Angelou	
Historical fiction	Historical fiction is based on imagination (like fiction), but set among actual events or during a specific period of history.	<i>Amos Fortune, Free Man</i> , by Elizabeth Yates; <i>Little House On the Prairie</i> , Laura Ingalls Wilder	
Mystery	A mystery is a piece of fiction that deals with puzzling events & suspenseful situations. Many mysteries involve characters attempting to solve crimes.	<i>Chasing Vermeer</i> , Blu Balliet; <i>The Westing Game</i> , Evelyn Raskin	
Adventure	Adventure could be either fact or fiction. Adventure usually involves a hero or heroine who pursues, against great obstacles, something noble.	<i>Hatchet</i> , Gary Paulsen; <i>The Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> , Scott O'Dell	
Fantasy	Fantasy (which is another form of fiction) involves characters, situations, or settings that could not exist in life as we know it. Many fantasy books involve magic or other-worldly events.	<i>The Lion, the Witch, &amp; the Wardrobe</i> , C. S. Lewis; <i>Harry Potter</i> ; J. K. Rowling; <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> , J. R. R. Tolkien	
Science-fiction	Science-fiction uses the influence of science (both real science & imagined science) on real life. It might be set in the future or outer-space.	<i>The Giver</i> , Lois Lowry; <i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> , Madeleine L'Engle	