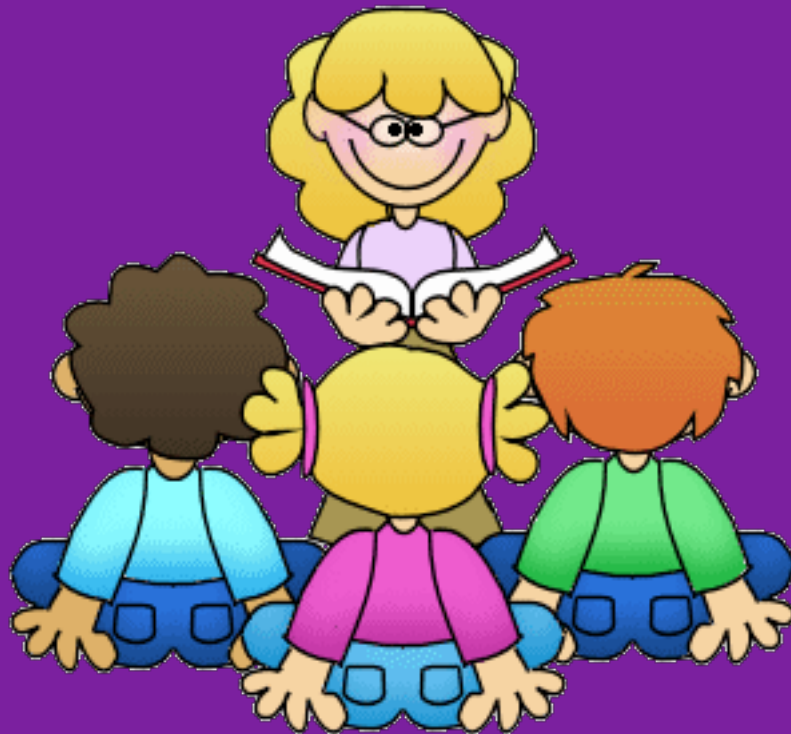


# Genres

Activities, Games  
& Resources



Created by:  
The Clutter-Free Classroom  
[www.CFClassroom.com](http://www.CFClassroom.com)

CHECK OUT MY BLOG FOR  
DAILY TIPS & PHOTOS



[www.CFClassroom.com](http://www.CFClassroom.com)

# table of contents

## POSTERS

Ten 8.5 x 11 inch charts featuring a the name of the genre, a description and images to provide a visual cue using Thistlegirl Designs clipart

## TALLY CHARTS

Two tally charts (one to use as a class and one for students to use as individuals). After reading a book, record it using tallies in the appropriate box to track genres.

## GENRE BINGO

Students cross off a box after reading a book with the goal of getting 5 boxes in a row, column or diagonally across. This was designed to help encourage your readers to branch out in their selections.

## READER RESPONSE SHEETS

Ten pages of response sheets that require students to identify the genre of a book and support it with details from the text.

## GENRE GAME & ACTIVITY CARDS

Printable cards designed to be used with the following activities.

### NAME THAT GENRE (small group or whole class activity)

Give each student a copy of the genre cards. You may want to select a few at a time. Hold up a book from your classroom library and discuss the features. Instruct the children to hold up the correct card.

### GENRE CUBE:

Create a genre cube by attaching the six fiction genre cards onto square boxes or cubes.

### GENRE GO FISH:

Print 4 sets of the genre cards. Play the same way as regular Go Fish, however, the students need to ask for a card by describing the genre and the person being asks responds with, "Yes I have (name of genre being described)" or "No, I don't have (name of genre being described)"

### GENRE SORT:

Print thumbnails of book covers that are familiar to your class / grade level. Use the genre cards as headers and have the students sort the thumbnail cards into the correct category. Program the answer onto the back to make it self-checking. This activity works great with a pocket chart.

## GENRE BOOKMARKS

Printable 2-sided bookmarks.

## GENRE MATCH

Use the cards to play Memory/Concentration by matching the genre card to the correct definition card. This also makes an excellent pocket chart activity center.

## NAME THAT GENRE

Use the colored genre cards as categories. Have the students sort the description cards into the correct category. To make the activity self-correcting you could write the card numbers on the back of the category cards.

## THE GENRE CHALLENGE

## FICTION VS NON-FICTION CARDS

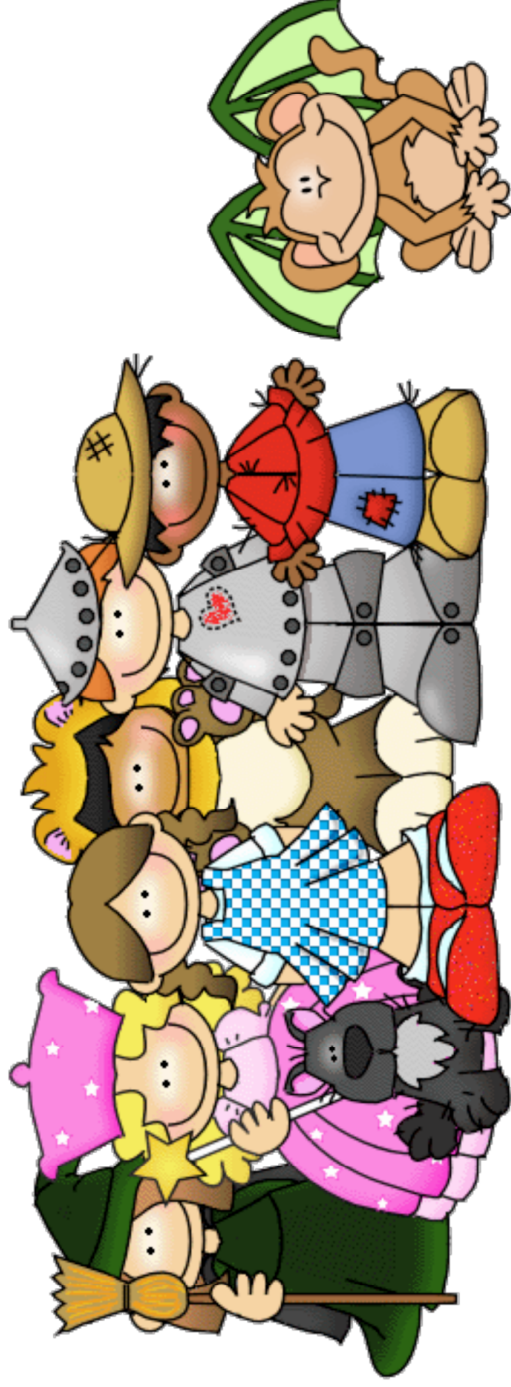


# MYSTERY



**a suspenseful story about a  
puzzling event that is not solved  
until the end of the story**

# FANTASY



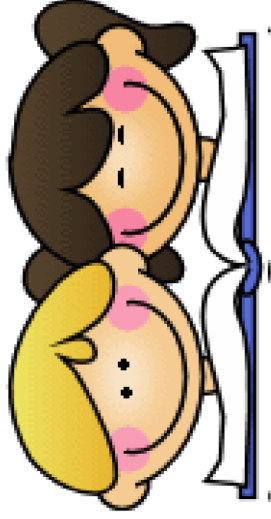
**a story that is not possible and  
may include talking animals or  
magical powers**

# AUTOBIOGRAPHY



**the story of a real person's life  
that is written by that person**

# BIOGRAPHY



**the story of a real person's life  
that has been written by  
another person**

# INFORMATIONAL



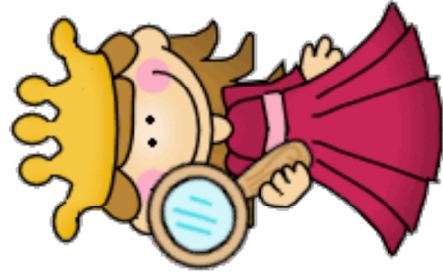
**texts that provide facts about a  
variety of topics**



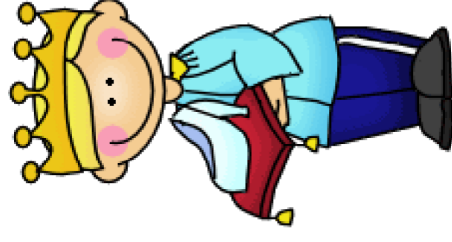
# REALISTIC FICTION



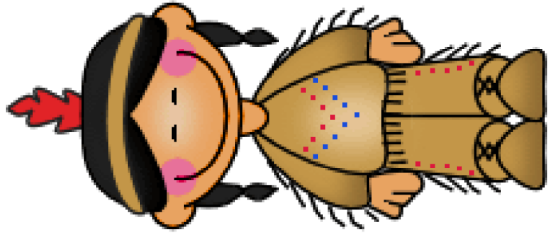
**a story that uses fictional  
characters, but could happen**



# TRADITIONAL LITERATURE



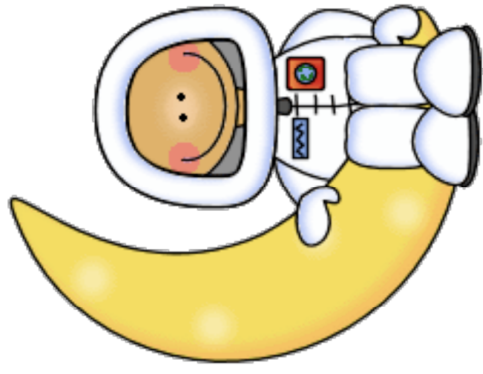
stories that are passed down  
from one group to another;  
(includes fairy tales, folk tales,  
myths, fables and legends)



# HISTORICAL FICTION



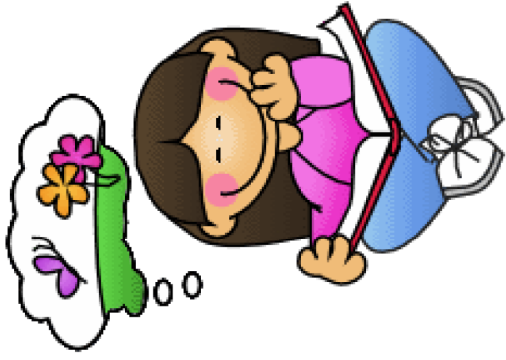
**a fictional story that takes place  
in a specific time period; often  
the setting is real, but the  
characters are made up**



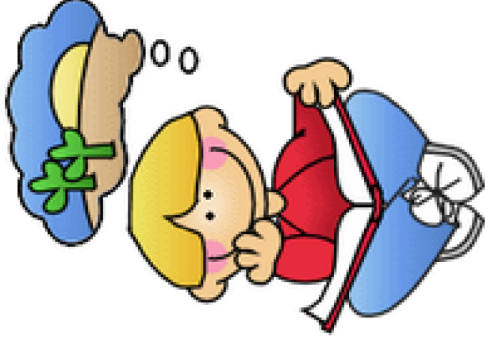
# **SCIENCE FICTION**



**a type of fantasy that uses  
science and technology  
(robots, time travel, machines)**




# POETRY



**verse written to create a  
response of thought and feeling  
from the reader; it often uses  
rhythm and rhyme**

# CLASS GENRE TALLY CHART



**MYSTERY**

a suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story

**REALISTIC FICTION**




a story that uses fictional characters, but could happen

**FANTASY**




a story that is not possible and may include talking animals or magical powers

**INFORMATIONAL**




texts that provide facts about a variety of topics




**SCIENCE FICTION**

a type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time travel, machines)




**AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

the story of a real person's life that is written by that person




**HISTORICAL FICTION**

a fictional story that takes place in a specific time period; often the setting is real, but the characters are made up



**BIOGRAPHY**

the story of a real person's life that has been written by another person



**TRADITIONAL LITERATURE**

stories that are passed down from one group to another; (includes fairy tales, folk tales, myths, fables and legends)




**POETRY**



verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader; it often uses rhythm and rhyme

# MY GENRE TALLY CHART



**MYSTERY**

a suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story

**REALISTIC FICTION**




a story that uses fictional characters, but could happen

**FANTASY**




a story that is not possible and may include talking animals or magical powers

**INFORMATIONAL**




texts that provide facts about a variety of topics




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a type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time travel, machines)

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a fictional story that takes place in a specific time period; often the setting is real, but the characters are made up

**BIOGRAPHY**



the story of a real person's life that has been written by another person



**TRADITIONAL LITERATURE**

stories that are passed down from one group to another; (includes fairy tales, folk tales, myths, fables and legends)



**POETRY**



verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader; it often uses rhythm and rhyme

# GENRE BINGO

mystery



fantasy



historical  
fiction



biography



informational



traditional  
literature



biography



informational



realistic  
fiction



science fiction



science fiction



historical  
fiction



FREE SPACE

mystery



fantasy



realistic  
fiction



traditional  
literature



fantasy



informational



realistic  
fiction



biography



informational



realistic  
fiction



fantasy



historical  
fiction





Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET  
**REALISTIC FICTION**



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is realistic fiction. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET

# MYSTERY



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is a mystery. \_\_\_\_\_

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Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENRE RESPONSE SHEET

# FANTASY



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is a fantasy book. \_\_\_\_\_

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Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET  
**SCIENCE FICTION**



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is science fiction.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET

# TRADITIONAL LITERATURE



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is traditional literature. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET  
**HISTORICAL FICTION**



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is historical fiction. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET  
**INFORMATIONAL**



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is informational nonfiction.** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET

# BIOGRAPHY



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is a biography. \_\_\_\_\_

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Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE RESPONSE SHEET  
**AUTOBIOGRAPHY**



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is an autobiography.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENRE RESPONSE SHEET

# POETRY



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write about the elements, using specific details from the text, that let you know this book is poetry.** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Did you enjoy this genre? Why or Why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

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# GENRE GAME & ACTIVITY CARDS

## With Colors

### REALISTIC FICTION



a story that uses fictional characters, but could happen

### BIOGRAPHY



the story of a real person's life that has been written by another person

### POETRY



verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader; it often uses rhythm and rhyme

### Name that Genre Class Activity

Give each student a copy of the genre cards. You may want to select a few at a time.

Hold up a book from your classroom library and discuss the features.

Instruct the children to hold up the correct card.

#### TIPS:

Cut out cards.

Mount on cardstock.

Laminate.

Create a genre cube by attaching the six fiction genre cards onto square boxes or cubes.



# MYSTERY



a suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story



# HISTORICAL FICTION



a fictional story that takes place in a specific time period; often the setting is real, but the characters are made up

# FANTASY



a story that is not possible and may include talking animals or magical powers



# TRADITIONAL LITERATURE



stories that are passed down from one group to another; (includes fairy tales, folk tales, myths, fables and legends)



# SCIENCE FICTION



a type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time travel, machines)

# INFORMATIONAL



texts that provide facts about a variety of topics

GENRE GAME & ACTIVITY CARDS  
Black and White for Printing/Copying



## MYSTERY



a suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story



## HISTORICAL FICTION



a fictional story that takes place in a specific time period; often the setting is real, but the characters are made up

## FANTASY



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a story that uses fictional characters, but could happen

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verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader; it often uses rhythm and rhyme

## Name that Genre Class Activity

Give each student a copy of the genre cards. You may want to select a few at a time.

Hold up a book from your classroom library and discuss the features.

Instruct the children to hold up the correct card.

### TIPS:

Cut out cards.

Mount on cardstock.

Laminate.

Create a genre cube by attaching the six fiction genre cards onto square boxes or cubes.

# Genre Bookmarks

**Print the following page(s) and fold in half.  
Laminate for durability. Use as a bookmark. There are  
color bookmarks and also blacklined for cheaper printing.**



## MYSTERY



a suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story



## HISTORICAL FICTION



a fictional story that takes place in a specific time period; often the setting is real, but the characters are made up

## FANTASY



a story that is not possible and may include talking animals or magical powers



## TRADITIONAL LITERATURE



stories that are passed down from one group to another; (includes fairy tales, folk tales, myths, fables and legends)



## SCIENCE FICTION



a type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time travel, machines)

## INFORMATIONAL



texts that provide facts about a variety of topics

## REALISTIC FICTION



a story that uses fictional characters, but could happen

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY



the story of a real person's life that is written by that person

## BIOGRAPHY



the story of a real person's life that has been written by another person



## POETRY



verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader; it often uses rhythm and rhyme





## MYSTERY



a suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story



## HISTORICAL FICTION



a fictional story that takes place in a specific time period; often the setting is real, but the characters are made up

## FANTASY



a story that is not possible and may include talking animals or magical powers



## TRADITIONAL LITERATURE



stories that are passed down from one group to another; (includes fairy tales, folk tales, myths, fables and legends)



## SCIENCE FICTION



a type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time travel, machines)

## INFORMATIONAL



texts that provide facts about a variety of topics

## REALISTIC FICTION



a story that uses fictional characters, but could happen

## AUTOBIOGRAPHY



the story of a real person's life that is written by that person

## BIOGRAPHY



the story of a real person's life that has been written by another person



## POETRY



verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader; it often uses rhythm and rhyme

# GENRE MATCH

**Print a copy of each of the following pages. For added durability, print onto cardstock and laminate. Cut out the cards.**

**Use the cards to play Memory/Concentration by matching the genre card to the correct definition card. This also makes an excellent pocket chart activity center.**

**poetry**

**informational**

**biography**

**autobiography**

**fantasy**

**science fiction**

**historical  
fiction**

**mystery**

**traditional  
literature**

**realistic fiction**

**Texts that provide facts about a variety of different topics.**

**Verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader. It is often written in rhyme.**

**The story of a real person's life that is written by that person.**

**The story of a real person's life that is written by another person.**

**A type of fantasy that uses science and technology.**

**A story including elements that are not possible such as talking animals and magic powers.**

**A suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story.**

**A fictional story that takes place in the past. The events and setting are real, but the characters are made up.**

**A story using made up characters, but it could happen in real life.**

**Stories that are passed down from one group to another. This genre includes fairy tales, fables, myths and legends.**

# NAME THAT GENRE

**Print a copy of each of the following pages. For added durability, print onto cardstock and laminate. Cut out the cards.**

**Use the colored genre cards as categories. Have the students sort the description cards into the correct category. To make the activity self-correcting you could write the card numbers on the back of the category cards.**

**poetry**

**informational**

**biography**

**autobiography**

**fantasy**

**science fiction**

**historical  
fiction**

**mystery**

**traditional  
literature**

**realistic fiction**

**a group of children travel in a  
time machine to visit  
Ancient Egypt**

card 11-name that genre

**a spaceship lands at the beach  
and aliens go surfing**

card 12-name that genre

**a fictitious family travels to  
Plymouth on the Mayflower  
with the Pilgrims in 1692**

card 13-name that genre

**a made up character takes part  
in the Civil War**

card 14 -name that genre

**cookies are missing from the  
cookie jar and a team of children  
use clues to discover who took  
them**

card 15-name that genre

**a detective solves the case of  
the broken mirror**

card 16 -name that genre

**a boy named Jack climbs a  
beanstalk**

card 17-name that genre

**a fable that explains why people  
believe that skunks have white  
stripes on their backs.**

card 18-name that genre

**two girls start a club at school  
for children who like horses**

card 19-name that genre

**a group of boys play on a Little  
League baseball team and win a  
big game**

card 20-name that genre

**the writing contains stanzas**

card 1-name that genre

**the text is written with rhythm  
and rhyme**

card 2-name that genre

**an article that tells about the  
life cycle of a frog**

card 3-name that genre

**a passage that provides facts  
about our solar system**

card 4 -name that genre

**a book about Walt Disney  
written by his brother**

card 5-name that genre

**the life story of a famous  
baseball player composed by a  
sports writer**

card 6 -name that genre

**a non-fiction book about Rosa  
Parks that was written  
by Rosa Parks**

card 7-name that genre

**a book about President Obama's  
life that he wrote himself**

card 8-name that genre

**the main character is a pig that  
sings and dances**

card 9-name that genre

**the story ends when a wizard  
casts a spell on a dragon and it  
turns into a mushroom**

card 10-name that genre



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# The Genre Challenge

Read a book from each genre. Record the title on the chart below.

GENRE	TITLE	Did you enjoy this genre?	
		yes	no
Fantasy			
Science Fiction			
Realistic Fiction			
Mystery			
Traditional Literature			
Historical Fiction			
Biography			
Autobiography			
Poetry			
Informational			

# Fiction vs. Nonfiction

Print the cards below. Attach back-to-back using a popsicle stick in the center to create a two-sided sign. Pass them out to the students. Hold up a book for the students to see. Read an excerpt from the book. Have the students hold up either the fiction or nonfiction side of the sign to show which they think it is.

## FICTION



## NONFICTION

