Genre Overview

Fiction	
Genre	Definition and some examples
FANTASY	A story including elements that are impossible such as talking animals or magical powers. Make-believe is what this genre is all about. Books by Jon Klassen; Willems' <i>Piggy and Elephant</i> stories; Barnett, <i>Shape Trilogy</i> titles; Higgins, <i>We Don't Eat Our Classmates</i> , and others by this author.
REALISTIC	A story using made-up characters that could happen in real life. DiCamillo, <i>Bink & Gollie</i> stories; McDonald, <i>Stink</i> titles; Miles, <i>Puppy Place</i> titles; Idle, <i>Flora</i> titles.
MYSTERY	Suspenseful story about a puzzling event not solved until the end. Sharmat, <i>Nate the Great</i> stories; Keene, <i>Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew</i> series; Roy, <i>A to Z Mystery</i> series.
TRADITIONAL LITERATURE	Stories that are passed down from one group to another in history. Includes legends , fables, fairy tales , tall tales , and myths from different cultures. Authors Pinkney, McDermott, Marshall and Brett are all award winners.
HISTORICAL FICTION	A fictional story that takes place in a particular time period in the past. Often the setting is real, but the characters are made up from the author's imagination. pre2001 <i>Magic Tree House</i> titles by Osborne; Tarshis, <i>I Survived</i> series
SCIENCE	Type of fantasy that uses science & technology (robots, time machines, etc.) Brown, <i>Star Wars</i> graphic novels; Pilkey, <i>Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot</i> series

Nonfiction	
BIOGRAPHY	The story of a real person's life written by another person. Shetterly, <i>Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race;</i> titles in the <i>Who Was</i> series
INFORMATIONAL	Texts that provide facts about a variety of topics (sports, animals, science, history, careers, travel, geography, space, weather, etc.) Magic School Bus titles
POETRY	Poetry is verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader. It often uses rhythm and rhyme to help convey its meaning. Vestergaard, <i>Digger Dozer Dumper</i> ; Archer, <i>Name That Dog!: Puppy Poems from A to Z</i>