The Different Genres of Children’s Literature
1. Always have elements that are made-up.
2. May be based on actual events or people.
3. May be totally made-up or fictional.

There are many different types or different genres of fiction...
Historical Fiction

- Historical fiction books take place during a certain time in the past.
- Often the setting is real, and the characters are made-up or fictional.
- Sometimes the setting is fictional and the characters are real.
Mystery Fiction

- Usually realistic
- About a crime or unsolved event
- Not solved until the end of the book
- May be scary or suspenseful
Horror Fiction

• A story with elements that may be scary.
Humor

• A funny story or book.
- Fantasy is completely made-up such as talking animals and magical powers.
- Contains no realistic elements
Science Fiction

- Futuristic Technology
- Scientific Facts
- Fictional Element
Folk Tales

- Folk Tales have no known creator.
- Passed down verbally
- Sometimes based on real people but the story is fictional.
- Include: Fairy Tales, Tall Tales and Fables.
Fairy Tales

- Fairy Tales are folk tales about heroic deeds.
- They are stories created to teach children how to behave in a way they find amusing.
- Typically include magic and happy endings.
• Tall Tales are Folk Tales but the character is "bigger" than life.

Examples:
• Pecos Bill
• Paul Bunyan
• Johnny Appleseed
• Fables are Folk Tales
• It’s a story that tries to teach the reader a lesson.
• Usually have animal characters that act human.

Aesop’s Fables are the most popular.
Myths

• Usually explains how the world started
• Gods and supernatural beings are involved in these stories.
Non-fiction

- All proven facts
- Nothing is made-up
- Can be about any subject

History
Plants
Weather
Architecture
Art
People
Biography

• A story about a real person written by someone else
• Usually about the person's life or something the person has done

Autobiography

• A story someone writes about themselves
Written in verse in a way that makes the reader feel emotions. May or may not rhyme. May be fictional or based on facts.
Made for 3rd graders
By Christine Bailey
ENH291 - 2493