

Lesson 1

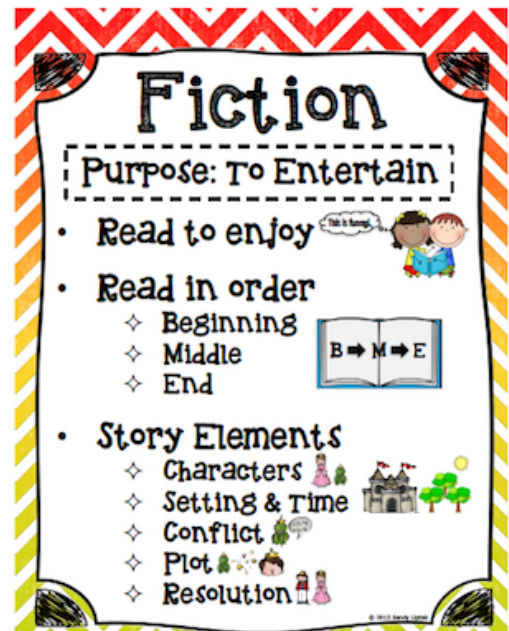
Introducing Non-Fiction

On average, 80% of the reading adults do outside of school is nonfiction. Surprising, isn't it! Let's take a closer look.

What is fiction?

"Fiction" refers to literature created from the imagination.

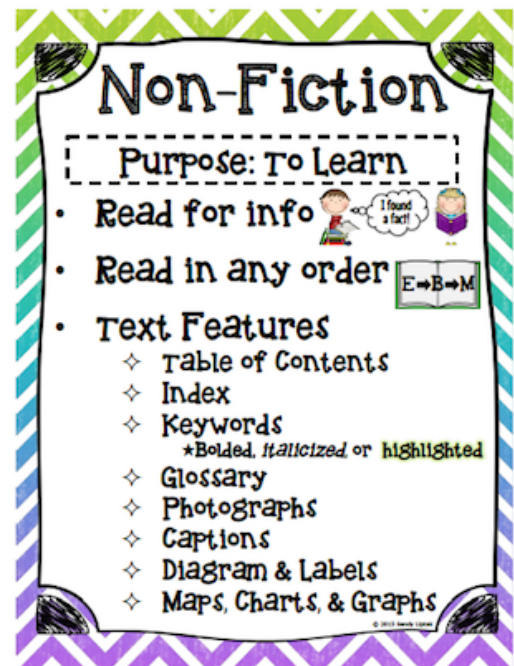
- Mysteries, science fiction, adventure, fantasy, and realistic fiction are all fiction genres.
- It's purpose is to entertain.
- Fiction books all have one main structure - beginning, middle, and end.
- Fiction needs to be read in order.
- Fiction has story elements - character, setting, plot, conflict, and often a theme.



What is nonfiction?

Everything else is non-fiction – which means based in fact. It is the biggest category of reading, writing, and viewing, too. It includes many categories including biography, business, cooking, health and fitness, pets, crafts, home decorating, languages, travel, home improvement, religion, art and music, history, self-help, science, and more.

- Its purpose is to learn or teach - inform, explain, instruct, describe.
- It can be read in any order.
- It has text features you will be learning more about.



Look around your house. What nonfiction can you find? Walk around right now and try this. Don't turn the page until you do.

Categorize the follow as fiction or non-fiction! (Put a check under the correct heading).

	Fiction	Non-Fiction
Recipe		
Fairytale		
Getting Rid of Ants pamphlet		
Map		
Newsletter		
Novel		
Ingredients on food packaging		
Harry Potter book		
Manual for Xbox		
To-Do list		
Biography of Justin Trudeau		

There are *many* kinds of nonfiction texts! Here are five categories:

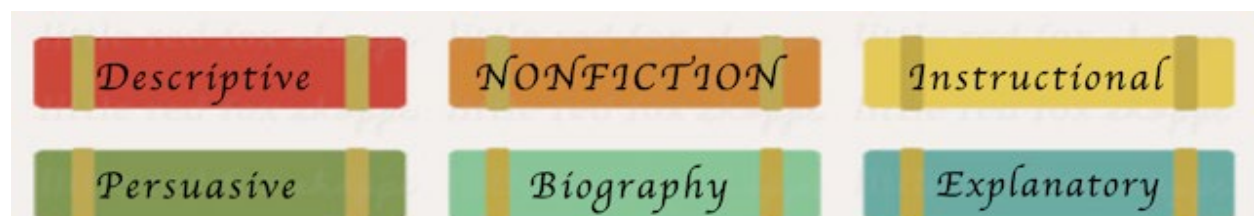
Descriptive – Describe or tell about something (a ladybug, a country).

Instructional – Give instructions on how to do or make something. Usually in chronological order (ordered from first to last). May be numbered or use words like first, next, then, finally. Can have diagrams or pictures. Gives necessary detail and few extra details. Also known as procedural as step-by-step procedures are given.

Explanatory – Tell how or why something happens. Often uses cause and effect language – because, if, therefore. May have technical vocabulary. (how rainbows are formed, why leaves change colour, or why snakes shed their skins)

Persuasive – Try to convince you to do something, buy something, or go somewhere. Tell you what to do and try to convince you to do that. Might try to convince with words or pictures.

Biography – Tell the events of a real person (birth, family, childhood, adulthood, significant contribution to the world). May have quotations, may be lively in tone. Often in chronological (ordered from first to last)



Your Task:

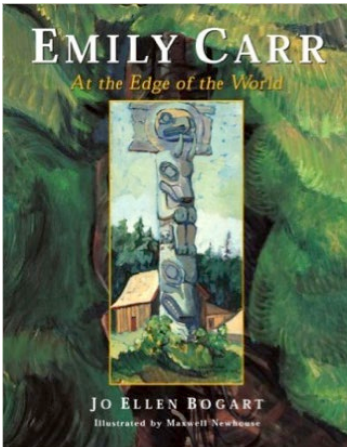
Read the following book descriptions and determine in which non-fiction category they belong. Give a short reason why you categorized the way you did (*hint* use the category definitions above!).

<p>Which type of non-fiction is the following book? Descriptive, instructional, explanatory, persuasive, or biography?</p>	<p>Your answer</p>
<p>Horrible Science - Fatal Forces by Nick Arnold</p>  <p>For those who can stomach the squeamish side of science! Why and how do your ears stop you from falling off your bike? How could a little bit of gravity make you lose your head? What exactly can make your fillings explode? In this volume, the Horrible Science team takes on the forces of physics!</p>	<p>Category:</p> <p>Reason:</p>
<p>How To Draw Comics The Marvel Way by Stan Lee</p> <p>One of the first and still one of the best, Stan Lee's <i>How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way</i> has been the primary resource for any and all who want to master the art of illustrating comic books and graphic novels.</p>  <p>Stan Lee, the Mighty Man from Marvel, and John Buscema, active and adventuresome artist behind the Silver Surfer, Conan the Barbarian, the Mighty Thor and Spider-Man, have collaborated on this comics compendium. Using artwork from Marvel comics as primary examples, Buscema graphically illustrates the mysterious methods of comic art. <i>How to Draw Comics the Marvel</i></p>	<p>Category:</p> <p>Reason:</p>

Way belongs in the library of everyone who has ever wanted to illustrate his or her own comic strip.

Emily Carr At The Edge of the World

by Jo Ellen Bogart



The brilliant artist Emily Carr lived at the edge. When she was born, in 1871, Victoria, British Columbia was a small, insular place. She was at the edge of a society that expected well-bred young ladies to marry. For years, she was at the edge of the world of artists she longed to join.

Emily Carr's life was not an easy one. She struggled against a family that did not approve of her art and against poor health. She found her pleasures in her many pets. Later, she would meet the artists of the Group of Seven and among them find her soul mates.

When illness put a stop to her painting, she found expression and comfort in her writing. Her book *Klee Wyck* received Canada's highest literary honor – the Governor General's Award. This is her life story.

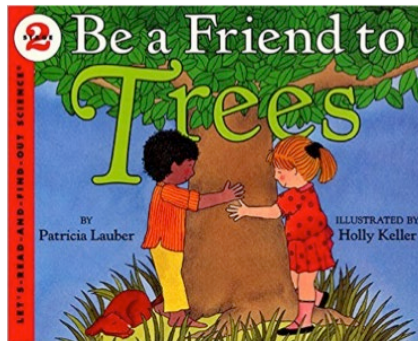
Category:

Reason:

Be A Friend To Trees

By Patricia Lauber

Why should you be a friend to trees? This book will try to convince you of their importance. Trees are a valuable natural resource. People depend on trees for food, and animals depend on trees for food and shelter. But most important, we depend on trees because



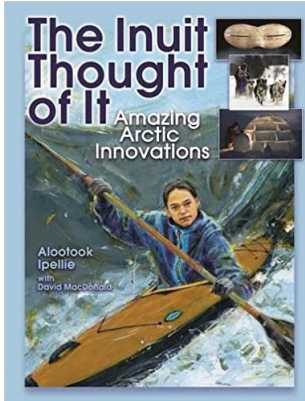
Category:

Reason:

they add oxygen, a gas we all need, to the air. While trees give us many wonderful products, we must also protect them because we can't live without them.

The Inuit Thought of It

by Alootook Ipellie and David MacDonald



The Inuit have been surviving in a harsh landscape for thousands of years with nothing but the land and their own ingenuity. The authors explore the amazing innovations of traditional Inuit and how their ideas continue to echo around the world.

Some inventions are still familiar to us: the one-person watercraft known as a kayak retains its Inuit name. Other innovations have been replaced by modern technology: slitted snow goggles protected Inuit eyes long before sunglasses arrived on the scene. And other ideas were surprisingly inspired: using human-shaped stone stacks (Inunnguut) to trick and trap caribou.

Category:

Reason:

Extension:

How many types of non-fiction can you find in your home?