

Grade 5 English Language Arts

Week of November 9 – November 13

Lesson 1: Literature & Genres - Who Do You Admire?

Literature



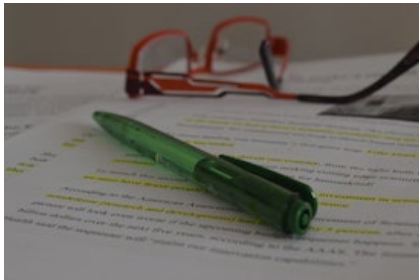
English is about the study of **literature**. This is a fancy way of saying good quality writing that has lasting importance.

This includes novels, poems and short stories that help you learn more about human nature and your world.

Literature can be broken down into many different **genres** – which is another way to say different types or categories.

Learning about the different genres helps you when you read. If you know what genre a story is, you will know what to expect as you read and this makes reading easier. Reading a variety of genres also widens your view of what is available in the world of literature.

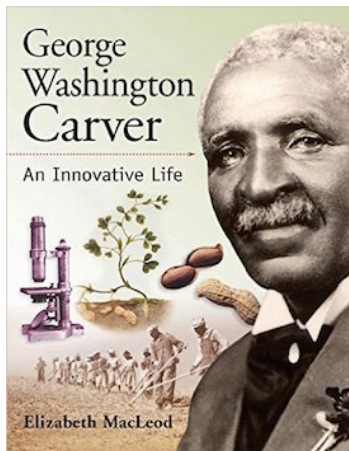
Literary Non-Fiction



Nonfiction is writing that is based on facts. It is about real people, places, and things. Authors of nonfiction do research and interviews. They search for facts and details. Their goal is to write the truth about a person, place or event.

Literary nonfiction is writing that is both informative and entertaining. It might have all the elements of a good story – but everything written about really happened. Literary nonfiction includes biographies, autobiographies, and essays.

Biography



A biography is a book written by an author about someone else's life. It is based on research and facts about this person. Usually it tells the life story of this person. An unauthorised biography means that the person did not agree to have their life story written by this author. Biographies are usually written about famous people or people involved in well-known events in history.

Here is an example of a biography called *George Washington Carver: An Innovative Life* by Canadian writer Elizabeth MacLeod.

This book will give you interesting facts about George Washington Carver (1864-1943). He's known as the "peanut scientist" because he created more than 325 products from peanuts. His inventions and research impacted the lives of everyday people and particularly farmers. He made breakthroughs in farming that helped many Black farmers in the southern United States.

If someone writes about their own personal life story, this is called an autobiography. Both biographies and autobiographies are nonfiction.

Now complete the activity: "Who Do You Admire?"

