

Grade 6 Literacy

Week of November 2 – November 6

Lesson 4: Positive Personal and Cultural Identity

Genres

Stories of all kinds help us to better understand people and cultures, and even to understand ourselves. There are many different genres of fiction. In this lesson, you will learn about some of the popular forms, but there are many more.

Also, it is important to note that although some books and short stories are clearly only dedicated to one genre, there are some that are a mixture of genres.

As you read about genres, complete the activity in your Learning Guide.

2.1D Genres

Directions: Read the following book summaries and see if you can figure out their genres. Some of the books also have questions about personal or cultural identity. All the books listed are by Canadian authors.

1) ***The Prince of Neither Here Nor There*** by Seán Cullen

This book is about Brendan Clair who lives in Toronto and is having an awkward start to high school. As he tries to fit in, a strange woman visits Brendan and he finds out that he is not human – he’s a faerie. Brendan discovers mystical realms in his city and learns his destiny is to help save the human race.

Genre:

How do you think Brendan’s discovery of his identity as a faerie might help him?

2) ***The Tiffin*** by Mahtab Narsimhan

This story is about a boy named Kunal who lives in Mumbai, India. He lives in a difficult foster home and decides he has had enough. Full of hope for a better life, he heads out on a search to find his mother.

Genre:

3) ***Naomi's Road*** by Joy Kagawa

This book looks at the internment of Japanese-Canadians during World War Two through the eyes of a young girl named Naomi. The Canadian government ordered all Japanese-Canadian on the coast of BC to be relocated to labour camps in the interior of BC or in Alberta. Naomi copes with losing her home in Vancouver and the racism of the time period.

Genre:

What was happening in BC during World War Two that was racist and not positive for Japanese-Canadians?

4) ***Quista*** by Aviva Bel'Harold

Danay lives on the water planet of Uma'Three. She feels like an outsider because her skin dries out in the water and she doesn't have second lungs like everyone else. But she realizes her problems are small when the Emperor arrives to perform loyalty tests and her best friend is taken away. Danay must find strength within herself as she does all she can to save her friend.

Genre:

Tell about (describe) a time when you felt like an outsider.

5) ***Barkerville Gold*** by Dayle Campbell Gaetz

Rusty, Katie, and Sheila are budding detectives who are visiting Barkerville – a town known for its gold rush history. The three friends are searching for clues to find a fortune in missing gold, so they can return it to the rightful owners. But could their lives be at risk? There is talk in town that a miner went missing because the gold was cursed a hundred years ago.

Genre:

6) ***28 Tricks for a Fearless Grade 6*** by Catherine Austen

Dave Davidson is on mission to help all his friends lose their fears. But his ideas lead to all sorts of hilarious mishaps and hijinks. A friend says he was afraid of public speaking. Dave's solutions are to get friends to hold up cue cards, get laryngitis or forge a note from a therapist.

Genre:

Describe a fear that is helpful. How is it helpful?

7) **Shipwreck!** By Frieda Wishinsky

Sarah and Albert are two young friends from Liverpool, England who are excited to be sailing to Canada - an adventure of a lifetime back in 1914. It's early in the morning when they feel the ship, *Empress of Ireland*, give a sharp jolt...and then it begins to tilt! Passengers scream and run for lifeboats. Find out how Sarah and Albert survive this disaster at sea.

Genre:

8) What genre was the story, "Each Kindness", from lesson 2.1C? What are two pieces of evidence from the story that support your choice?

Genre:

Evidence:

Evidence:

9) If a writer was going to write a story about something to do with your life, what genre would you like the writer to use? Why?

Genre: