

Lesson Plan: Introducing Genres with *The Not So Quiet Library*

- Overview

In Zachariah OHora's *The Not So Quiet Library*, brothers Oskar and Theodore work together to outwit a monster who is disturbing their reading time. But only books can tame the savage beast! In this information literacy lesson for early elementary ages, students will learn how library books are organized and will work in groups to find books the monster will like.

- Resources & Preparation

- You might wish to schedule time for your class to visit the school library for this lesson. This is an excellent opportunity to collaborate with your school librarian on an information literacy unit.

- Instructional Plan

- State Objectives:

- ELA 2.1.R.3 Students will engage in collaborative discussions about appropriate topics and texts with peers and adults in small and large groups.
- ELA 2.2.R.2 Students will begin to compare and contrast details (e.g., plots or events, settings, and characters) to discriminate Genres.

- Student Objectives:

- Explain the difference between fiction and nonfiction.
- Define "Genre".
- List genres of nonfiction (informational texts, drawing books, cookbooks, craft books, etc.).
- List genres of fiction (adventure, fairytales, science fiction, mysteries, etc.).
- (Optional) Find both fiction and nonfiction books in the school library.


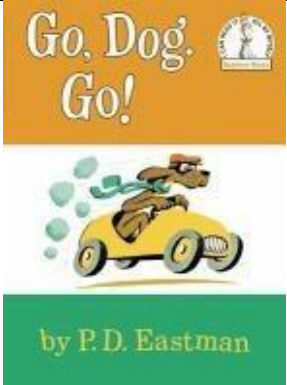
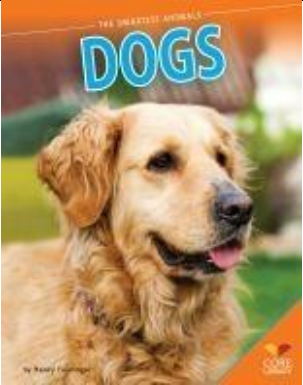
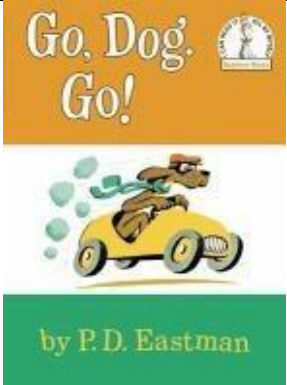
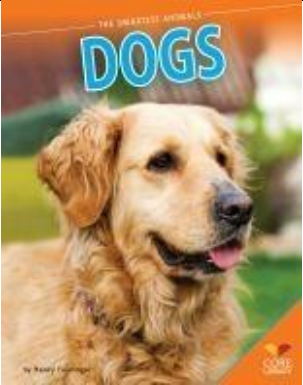
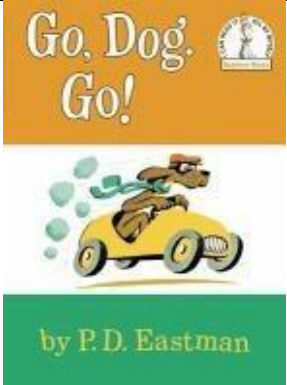
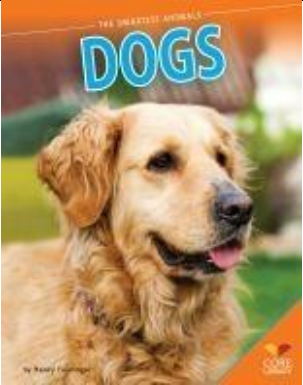

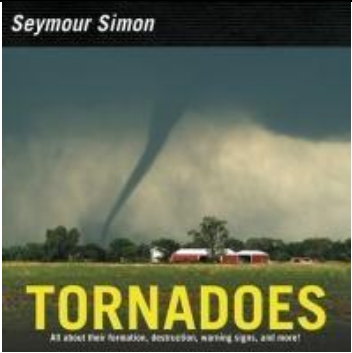
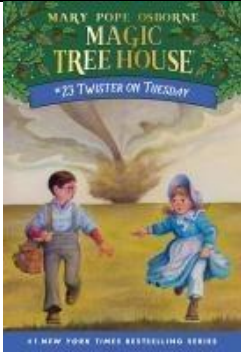
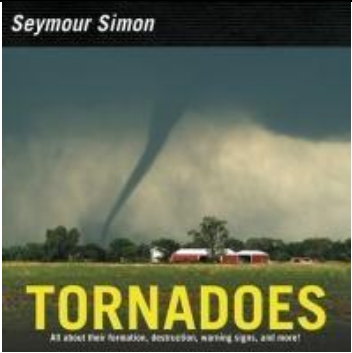
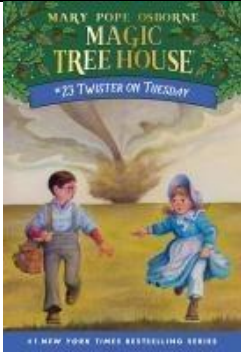
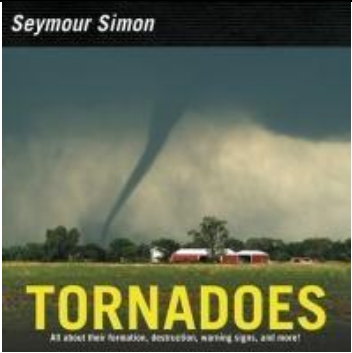
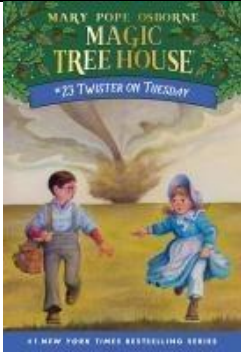
1. As a class, read *The Not So Quiet Library* by Zachariah OHora. "Today, we're going to talk about the types of books in the library."
2. Start by writing the words "Fiction" and "Nonfiction" on the board (leave space above them. See step 3). Ask students if they know what these words mean (this is usually covered in Kindergarten, but students might need a refresher). Write student definitions beneath each word. For example, beneath fiction, you might write "fake," "made up", "not real," "just a story." Nonfiction could include, "true," "facts," "real things," etc.
3. When you feel your students have explained fiction and nonfiction, write the word "Genre" at the top of the board. Ask students if they know that word. "A genre is a category of art. We use genres to classify movies, books, video games, and other sorts of entertainment."
4. Give a few examples of fiction genres, such as adventure or fairy tale, with a brief explanation of what stories in these genres have in common. If possible, use stories you


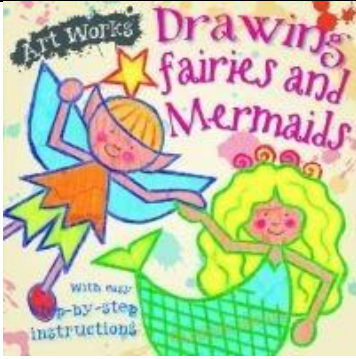
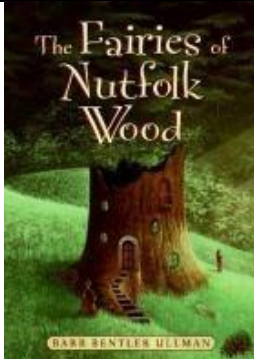

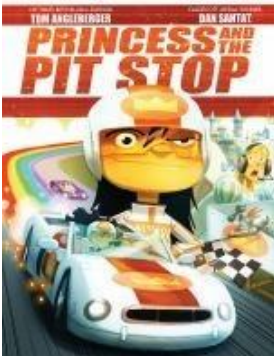



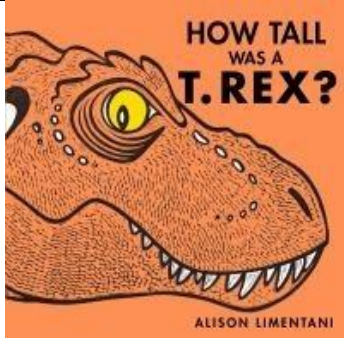
have recently read as a class as examples. Ask students if they can think of more genres of fiction. Add your examples to the board under “Fiction”.

5. Next, give examples of nonfiction genres, such as poetry and jokebooks. Ask students if they can think of other genres or types of nonfiction (you may need to give more hints here; in my experience, students have more trouble thinking of examples at first but they get into it as the list grows longer).
 6. Optional: if you are collaborating with your school librarian, this is a good place to explain how your school library is organized, the Dewey Decimal System, and what library call numbers look like. A very easy way to tell fiction from nonfiction at a glance is by using the library call numbers.
 7. Give students time to work alone or in groups to complete the “Monster vs. Genres!” worksheet. Go over the answers together as a class. The worksheet includes simple call numbers as examples – these can be edited to better resemble the call numbers used in your school library or they can be deleted if you are not including a library component to your lesson.
- Additional Resources
 - Monster vs. Genres! worksheet

Monster vs. Genres!

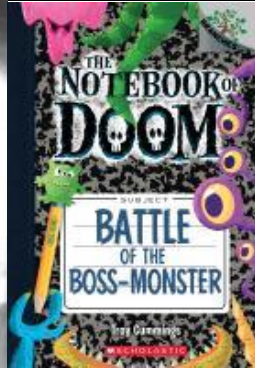
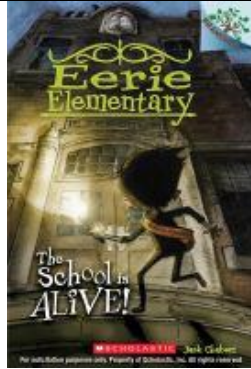
There's a monster in the library! Can you help each of his heads find a book he will enjoy? Circle the picture of the best book for each monster head.

Fiction vs. Nonfiction			
	<p>Bob would like to learn true facts about dogs. Which of these books is nonfiction?</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="670 527 954 909">  <p>Go, Dog, Go! by P.D. Eastman</p> <p>Go, Dog, Go! F EAS</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1076 527 1377 909">  <p>THE SMARTEST ANIMALS IN THE WORLD DOGS</p> <p>Dogs 636.7 FUR</p> </td> </tr> </table>	 <p>Go, Dog, Go! by P.D. Eastman</p> <p>Go, Dog, Go! F EAS</p>	 <p>THE SMARTEST ANIMALS IN THE WORLD DOGS</p> <p>Dogs 636.7 FUR</p>
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	<p>Chuck wants an exciting story about tornadoes. Which of these books is fiction?</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="638 1104 987 1455">  <p>Seymour Simon</p> <p>TORNADOES ALL ABOUT THE TORNADOES, BOSTONIAN, WARNING SIGNAL, AND MORE!</p> <p>Tornadoes 551 SIM</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1105 1104 1344 1455">  <p>MARY POPE OSBORNE MAGIC TREE HOUSE #23 TWISTER ON TUESDAY</p> <p>Twister on Tuesday F OSB</p> </td> </tr> </table>	 <p>Seymour Simon</p> <p>TORNADOES ALL ABOUT THE TORNADOES, BOSTONIAN, WARNING SIGNAL, AND MORE!</p> <p>Tornadoes 551 SIM</p>	 <p>MARY POPE OSBORNE MAGIC TREE HOUSE #23 TWISTER ON TUESDAY</p> <p>Twister on Tuesday F OSB</p>
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	<p>Winston would like a fairy story. Which of these books looks like a fiction story?</p>		

	 <p>Drawing Fairies and Mermaids 743 FRA</p>	 <p>The Fairies of Nutfolk Wood F ULL</p>
	<p>Seymour would like a book about real race cars. Which of these books is nonfiction?</p>	
	 <p>The Princess and the Pit Stop F ANG</p>	 <p>Race Cars 629 WES</p>
	 <p>Tiny T. Rex and the Impossible Hug Hug F STU</p>	 <p>How Tall was a T. Rex? 567 LIM</p>
<p>Which genre is it?</p>		



Bob recently enjoyed these books. Can you guess which genre of fiction is his favorite?



Eerie Elementary More Scary Stories Notebook of Doom

1. Adventure
2. Romance
3. Horror
4. Mystery



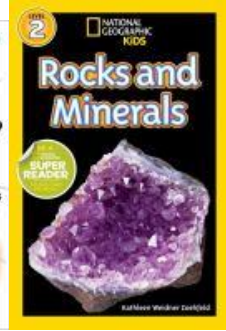
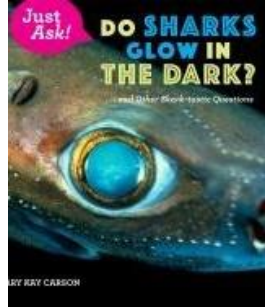
Here's Chuck again! He checked out these books today. Can you guess which genre they are?



Dragon Masters The Wizard's Wand The Fairy Bell Sisters

1. Horror
2. Fantasy
3. Historical
4. Mystery

Welcome back, Winston! What kind of nonfiction books is Winston reading today?



Do Sharks Glow in the Dark?

Space!

Rocks and Minerals

1. Poetry
2. History
3. Dictionaries
4. Science