

Genres of Children's Literature

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Types of Books

- **Picture book:** Content is conveyed through the use of words and pictures in combination or through pictures alone.
 - Differs from an illustrated book because the pictures form an essential part of the book
- **Chapter book:** Story book for readers ages 7-10 where the story is communicated mainly through prose (not picture)
 - Chapter books for young readers typically contain illustrations, though the illustrations are not an essential part of the story

Types of Picture Books

- **Board Books:** Use cardboard pages to survive wear and tear from small children
 - Designed for the youngest readers
- **Concept Books:** Introduce a theme such as the alphabet, counting, colors or shapes
- **Wordless Books:** Stories are told completely by the pictures
 - Having the child create a story by the pictures is a good emergent literacy activity

Genre: Identifies the book by content

- **Prose:** Written in paragraphs
- **Poetry:** Written by lines and can include rhyme and/or rhythm
- **Fiction:** Created by the imagination
- **Nonfiction:** Based on fact
- **Biography:** Story of an actual person's life
- **Informational:** Factual information about the world

Genre: Identifies the book by content

- **Fantasy:** Events, settings, or characters are outside the realm of possibility
- **Historical Fiction:** Set in a historical time period that combines authentic historical settings and facts with imaginary characters and plot
- **Contemporary Realistic Fiction:** Stories that could happen to people or animals
- **Traditional Literature:** Ancient stories or poems of a culture

