

Fiction

Code	Genre	Definition
F	Fantasy	A story including elements that are impossible such as talking animals or magical powers. Make-believe is what this genre is all about.
RF	Realistic Fiction	A story using made-up characters that could happen in real life.
My	Mystery	A suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story.
TL	Traditional Literature	Stories that are passed down from one group to another in history. This includes folktales, legends, fables, fairy tales, tall tales, and myths from different cultures.
HF	Historical Fiction	A fictional story that takes place in a particular time period in the past. Often the setting is real, but the characters are made up from the author's imagination.
SF	Science Fiction	A type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time machines, etc.) Include in this category: dystopian (creation of a degraded society) & utopian (creation of an ideal society)

Nonfiction

Code	Genre	Definition
I	Informational	Texts that provide facts about a variety of topics (sports, animals, science, history, careers, travel, geography, space, weather, etc.)
B	Biography	The story of a real person's life written by another person.
AB	Autobiography	The story of a real person's life that is written by that person.

Other Genre

Code	Genre	Definition
P	Poetry	Poetry is verse written to create a response of thought and feeling from the reader. It often uses rhythm and rhyme to help convey its meaning.
GN/GP	Graphic Novel/Graphic Picture Book	Any book in a comic format that resembles a novel in length and narrative development.
Pi	Picture Books	Many picture books are a blend of many genres. Some are not really fantasy (i.e.: animals that are very human-like that are always portrayed in their series with human characteristics), could be concept books (i.e.: counting, ABC). Designate picture books as such and add another genre if needed.
Mu	Multicultural Books	Not a stand-alone genre but another way to look at children's literature when you are identifying books in your own collection.