

Genre Guide: Children's Books

Genre	Definition	Example Title
Contemporary Realism	Realistic fiction set in today’s world	<i>Because of Winn –Dixie</i> by Kate DiCamillo
Fantasy	Magic, mythical creatures, or alternate worlds	<i>Harry Potter</i> series by J.K. Rowling
High Fantasy	Set entirely in a made-up world with its own rules, cultures, and history	<i>The Girl Who Drank the Moon</i> by Kelly Barnhill
Science Fiction	Future tech, space, time travel, AI, or environmental themes	<i>The Wild Robot</i> by Peter Brown
Historical Fiction	Fictional characters in real past events	<i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Adventure	Fast-paced plots with danger, quests, or survival	<i>Hatchet</i> by Gary Paulsen
Mystery	Focused on solving a puzzle or crime	<i>Nancy Drew</i> by Carolyn Keene
Horror / Supernatural	Designed to thrill or scare	<i>Coraline</i> by Neil Gaiman
Humor	Written to entertain or amuse	<i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid</i> by Jeff Kinney
Poetry / Verse Novels	Written in verse form; often lyrical or emotional	<i>Inside Out & Back Again</i> by Thanhha Lai
Literary Fiction	Character-driven with rich language and layered meaning	<i>When You Trap a Tiger</i> by Tae Keller
Multicultural / Identity Lit	Explores culture, heritage, and lived experiences	<i>Eyes That Kiss in the Corners</i> by Joanna Ho
STEM/STEAM	Stories that highlight science, technology, math, and art	<i>Ada Twist, Scientist</i> by Andrea Beaty
Narrative Nonfiction	Real events told with story techniques	<i>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</i> by William Kamkwamba

