

Book Terms

Lexile#: The reading level of the book (see above). Your own Lexile score comes from the SRI Test or another reading test you may have taken. This tells you your reading level.

Call#: Where you find your book in a library—a decimal number tells you a book is nonfiction, while sets of letters tell you the book is fiction. Ask a librarian if you need help finding the book.

Pages: Look under “Publication Format” and then “Format” and find the number next to the letter “p.” On websites for bookstores and other libraries, look under the book details.

Genre: See the list below. When trying to figure out what your book is, look for clues on and in your book, as well as online. See if you can tell what it is by reading the publication page and/or the book summary.

- **Fiction:** stories that come from the author’s imagination.
 - **Historical Fiction:** based on a person or event from history.
 - **Science Fiction:** dealing with aliens, the distant future, or advanced technology
 - **Fantasy:** containing monsters, magic, or other supernatural elements.
 - **Realistic Fiction:** a story that could have happened, but didn’t.
- **Nonfiction:** writing that is true or factual
 - **Informational:** provides information on a topic
 - **Persuasive:** attempts to influence the reader
 - **Autobiography:** the story of one’s life told by oneself
 - **Biography:** the story of one’s life told by another
- **Drama:** writing that is meant to be acted on a stage (a play)
 - **Comedy:** has a happy ending
 - **Tragedy:** ends in death and sadness
- **Poetry:** writing that is concerned with the beauty of language
- **Folklore:** stories handed down through speech from generation to generation
 - **Fairy Tale:** a story with magic, monsters, and/or talking animals (like fiction / fantasy, but part of the oral tradition)
 - **Fable:** a very short story that has a moral or life lesson; usually has talking animals as main characters
 - **Myth:** has gods or goddesses and often accounts for how something came to be
 - **Legend:** an exaggerated story about something that may have been real at one time
 - **Tall Tale:** stories set in the Wild West; the main character’s strengths, skills, or size have been exaggerated and the tone is funny