

K-1 | Comparing Literary Genres

Rather than analyzing stories and poems in separate lessons, introduce a new facet each day and compare its application within both.

Physical Characteristics	SHORT STORY		POEM
Content & Ingredients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often presented in a book— but doesn't have to be. • Long; includes many pages. • Sentences go across the whole page. • Written in complete sentences and paragraphs. • Always capitalizes and punctuates sentences. • Usually has several illustrations. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Often presented on a single page, piece of paper, screen— but could be in a book. • Short; usually 1-2 pages. • Short lines with a lot of white space. • Words and phrases strung together in short lines and grouped into stanzas. • May not be complete sentences; doesn't always capitalize or punctuate. • Presented in various shapes and forms. • May have a single illustration.
Genres & Formats	<p>Realistic Fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Means real; it <i>could</i> happen. • Fiction means it's made up. • Made-up characters but look and act like real people. • Made-up place/setting but could really exist. • Made-up problem that could happen; it's possible. • Often includes some factual information. • Often funny. 	<p>Fantasy Fiction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Means make believe, imaginary; it could not happen. • Made-up characters and problems that could <i>not</i> exist in real life. • Characters are silly and/or imaginary (e.g., animals talk and wear clothes). • Made-up place/setting that does not exist (e.g., magical places or objects). • Made-up problem that would never happen; it's impossible. • May include some factual information. • Often funny. 	<p>Limerick: A funny, 5-line poem that follows an AABBA rhyme pattern.</p> <p>Acrostic: A poem where the first letter of each line spells out a word vertically.</p> <p>Colorful Concrete: A poem that takes the shape of its subject.</p> <p>Sensory Poem: A poem that describes something using the five senses.</p> <p>Haiku: A 3-line poem that follows a pattern of syllables: 5-7-5 respectively.</p> <p>Narrative Poems: A complete story that is told in poem form.</p>