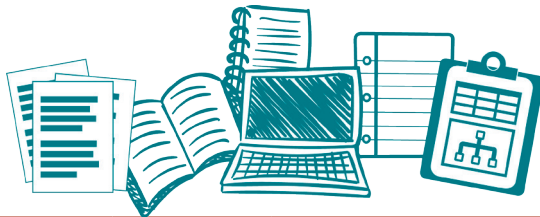


Text Types, Genres and Author's Purpose

Authors write for a specific audience and purpose, so they select an appropriate type of text to meet their purpose. The texts in Short Reads Non-fiction expose students to a variety of text types that model the use of text structures, organisation, non-fiction features and language choices by authors.

Students learn to re-read and look for evidence in the text to gain a deeper level of comprehension and an appreciation for the way an author writes. Students can then use their higher-order thinking skills to respond to texts and to enhance their own writing.



Short Reads Non-fiction exposes students to a range of genres within each text type. The definitions used in Short Reads Non-fiction are detailed below.

Aim	Text Type	Purpose	Genres
Inform	Report	To give factual information about people, places, things or phenomena.	reference book, documentary, guidebook, experimental report, group presentation, fact file, newspaper article, encyclopedia
Inform	Recount	To retell events in chronological order. Recounts can be literary or factual.	journal, diary, newspaper article, historical recount, letter, log, timeline
Inform	Procedure	To give instructions and inform people about how to do something through a series of steps.	instructions, recipe, directions, how to ...
Inform	Explanation	To tell how or why things occur.	scientific writing, spoken presentation, brochure, Q & A book, magazine article, guidebook, essay
Inform	Description	To describe the characteristic features of a person, an object, an image or a place.	observation, speech, analysis
Persuade	Exposition	To persuade a reader for or against a particular point of view.	advertisement, lecture, editorial, letter to the editor, speech, newspaper article, magazine article, essay, research report, brochure
Persuade	Discussion	To present information about different sides of an issue or topic.	debate, conversation, talkback radio, essay
Persuade	Response	To summarise, analyse and evaluate an artistic work.	book review, film review, restaurant review, personal response, interview

Titles (by text-type, genre, reading levels) BOX 1

Text Type	Genre	Title	Lexile*	Reading Levels*
Description	Observation	Look at Frogs	200L	8
Discussion	Email	Busy Day Emails	BR	2
Explanation	Encyclopedia	What Is a Fruit?	150L	5
	Fact File	I See the Weather	BR	2
	Magazine	How Does My Garden Grow?	BR	2
	Q&A Book	Animals of the Sea	BR	2
		Fly, Swim, or Jump?	BR	2
		How Many Animals?	200L	8
		What Do You See?	BR	2
Exposition	Flyer	What Is in the Tree?	160L	6
		Freya's Fresh Fruits	160L	5
		How to Draw a Mouse	170L	6
		How to Mix Paint Colours	140L	4
		Make a Fresh Food Face	200L	8
		Make a Fruit Face	BR	1
		Make a Paper Plate Fish	180L	7
Recount	Diary	My Day at the Airport	150L	5
		My Day at the Park	160L	6
		My Forest	BR	2
		Our Trip to the Farm	BR	1
	Email	Emails from the Beach	160L	6
		My Email to Ben	BR	2
	Scrapbook	My Pet Scrapbook	BR	1
Report	Encyclopedia	Apples	180L	7
		Camels	140L	4
		Trees All Year Long	120L	3
	Fact File	Dog Facts!	BR	1
		Facts About Animal Legs	130L	3
		Farm Animal Sounds	BR	1
		Guide to Fish	BR	1
		Indoor Fun	200L	8
		Painting Is Fun	190L	7
		What a Puppy Needs	140L	4
	Magazine	At Night	BR	2
		Bird Nest Facts	140L	4
		Butterflies	130L	3
		Is This a Real Animal?	120L	3
		What's the Sport?	180L	7
	Newspaper	Dogs in Our Town	150L	5
N/A	Picture Dictionary	Letter B, The	BR	1

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Text Type	Genre	Title	Lexile*	Reading Levels*
Description	Encyclopedia	Penguins	300L	13
	Fact File	Lions	240L	9
		Oh, No! Mosquito!	230L	10
		Shore, The	250L	11
	Reference Book	Animal Look-Alikes	320L	14
Discussion	Email	Emails: Hot and Cold	240L	9
		Emails: The Air Show Is Here!	230L	10
Explanation	Encyclopedia	Shadows of the Sun	360L	15
		Teeth: Open Wide!	260L	11
	Fact File	Phones on the Move	380L	17
		Travelling on Two Wheels	360L	16
	Magazine	Do Butterflies Like Turtle Tears?	310L	13
		Growing and Changing	300L	13
		Turn Off That Tap!	240L	10
Exposition	Encyclopedia	Jane Goodall	350L	15
	Flyer	When Water Comes in Bottles	360L	15
	Magazine	Cars for the Future	390L	17
		Repurposing	370L	17
Factual Response	Interview	Interview: Author Doreen Cronin	320L	14
	Magazine	Drums Around the World	390L	17
	Q&A Book	Science Tools for Observing	320L	14
		What Is a Volcano?	360L	16
Procedure	Instructions	Chocolate Mining	390L	18
		Draw a Cartoon Monkey	280L	11
		Grow a Bean Plant	240L	10
		Make a Paper Bag Puppet	270L	11
		Make a Symmetrical Bug	230L	9
		Mixing Science and Art	280L	12
Recount	Postcard	Postcards from Across the Sea	260L	12
	Timeline	Watching the Moon	280L	12
Report	Encyclopedia	Polar Bears	400L	18
	Fact File	African Elephants	340L	15
		All About Me	230L	9
		Crocodilians	280L	12
		Super Birds	360L	16
		Strange Plants	360L	16
	Guidebook	Very Strange Fish	320L	13
		Lot to Crow About!, A	400L	18
	Newspaper	Animal Surprises	400L	18
	Webpage	Insect: Friend or Foe	320L	14

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BOX 3

Text Type	Genre	Title	Lexile*	Reading Levels*
Explanation	Encyclopedia	Solar Eclipse	570L	23
	Fact File	Reef Predators	600L	24
	Guidebook	Guide to Clouds	570L	23
	Magazine	Does Yellow Make You Smile?	490L	21
		Fire!	560L	23
		Keep Cool, Koala!	450L	20
		Oops! Stories Behind Inventions	600L	24
	Q&A Book	Kites	430L	19
		Matter of Taste	540L	22
		Water	520L	22
Exposition	Brochure	Bicycle Academy	440L	20
		Dinosaur Days	540L	22
		Fluff & Feathers Poultry Farm	480L	21
		Purrfect Pals Cat Rescue	410L	19
	Essay	Amazing Inventions of Thomas Edison	600L	24
		Be Careful, Not Scared!	570L	23
		Chess Through the Ages	530L	22
		Story of Ping-Pong	430L	20
Factual Response	Interview	Interview with a Dog Trainer	520L	22
		Interview with a Weather Reporter	570L	23
		Interview with a Wild Animal Expert	490L	21
		Interview: Scientist Jeremy Owen	430L	20
	Q&A Book	What Is a Zoo Nutritionist?	580L	24
Procedure	Instructions	How to Build a Birdhouse	470L	21
		How to Grow Sweet Potatoes	430L	19
		How to Make an Origami Fish	410L	19
		Make a Garden in a Jar	560L	23
		Make Your Own Wrapping Paper	530L	22
Report	Encyclopedia	Great Barrier Reef	590L	24
		Musical Instruments	480L	21
	Fact File	Oceans	580L	24
		Reptiles	510L	21
		Whales and Dolphins	410L	19
	Guidebook	Animals of the Rainforest	560L	23
		Desert Animals	600L	24
		Giant Panda	580L	23
	Magazine	On to Mars!	460L	20
	Newspaper	Eiffel Tower Is 125 Years Old	460L	21
		Grizzly Bear Sends Man Up a Tree	520L	22
		World's Largest Ferris Wheel	600L	24

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Text Type	Genre	Title	Lexile*	Reading Levels*
Description	Observation	Patterns All Around	720L	27 
Explanation	Fact File	Signs and Symbols	720L	27 
	Letter	Letter from E. B. White	770L	28 
	Magazine	More Precious Than Gold?	710L	27 
	Q&A Book	Money	780L	28 
		What Are Symmetrical Shapes?	680L	26 
	Science Journal	Ancient Honey	800L	28 
Exposition	Brochure	African Plains Safaris	760L	28 
		Oak Street Farmers' Market	660L	26 
	Essay	Cockroaches: Born Survivors	640L	25 
		Cyberbullying	780L	28 
		Wake Up!	730L	27 
		Words! Words! Words!	670L	26 
	Magazine	Oil from the Earth	730L	27 
Factual Response	Interview	Animal Keeper	610L	25 
		Interview with Avi	690L	26 
	Q&A Book	Forest for the Trees	650L	25 
		What Are Maglev Trains?	710L	27 
		What's So Funny?	630L	25 
Procedure	Instructions	Do the Robot	730L	27 
		Plant and Light Experiment	710L	27 
		Smile and Say Kimchi!	620L	25 
Recount	Historical	Madame Curie	790L	28 
	Newspaper	Machine That Flies	750L	28 
	Timeline	Robots	710L	27 
Report	Encyclopedia	Deserts of the World	610L	25 
	Fact File	Fantastic Fish	630L	25 
		Incredible Invertebrates	760L	28 
		Weather	640L	25 
		Wetlands	680L	26 
		X-Treme Sports	800L	28 
	Guidebook	Extreme Weather	780L	28 
		Guide to Desert Birds	660L	26 
		Guide to Owls	720L	27 
	Magazine	Creatures of the Deep	660L	26 
		Thunderstorm!	630L	25 
	Newspaper	On This Day, April 14, 1912	670L	26 
	Reference Book	Animal Record Breakers	680L	26 
		Astounding Amphibians	710L	27 

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Text Type	Genre	Title	Lexile*	Reading Levels*
Explanation	Magazine	Australia's Amazing Animals	980L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Crime Scene Investigations	980L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Endangering Wildlife Habitats	1190L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Q&A Book	Tesselations	820L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Trapped in Time	910L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Who Needs Maths/Science?	930L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exposition	Brochure	Genghis Khan's Mongolia	1240L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Essay	Body Language Made Simple	1160L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recycling: A System That Works!	970L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Viking Voyages	860L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Volcano That Shook the World	880L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		What Killed the Dinosaurs?	1000L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Letter	Leonardo da Vinci Applies for a Job	1460L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Magazine	Foods with a Difference	1130L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Just How Smart Are Animals?	850L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Speech	Moon Speech	1550L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Wangari Maathai Nobel Lecture	1150L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Telegram	Cousins in Conflict	1130L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
Procedure	Instructions	Acid Effect	830L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Grow Your Own Egg Crystal Geodes	910L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		How Surfers Catch a Wave	980L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Magic Touch	840L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recount	Diary	Anne Frank Diary Entry	850L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Great Fire of London	1170L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Letter	Helen Keller	1110L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Letter from Rachel Carson	1060L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
Report	Encyclopedia	Invasive Species	970L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Fact File	Health & Wellness	920L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Solving Crime	990L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Guidebook	Guide to Extreme Structures	940L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Guide to Russia's Extreme Sites	830L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Rivers of the World: Asia	860L	29 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		South America's Extreme Sites	990L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Magazine	Frank O. Gehry: Outside In	900L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Newspaper	Blizzard of 1888	1260L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Reference Book	Earthquakes	1140L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
		Navigators and Maps	920L	30 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Response	Book Review	Jack London Book Reviews	1560L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Interview	Elementary, My Dear Watson	1120L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>
	Letter	Lincoln's Letter to the King of Siam	1340L	30+ <input type="checkbox"/>

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