



# Contents

*Acknowledgments ix*

**SECTION 1**

**An Inquiry Approach to Genre Study 1**

---

**CHAPTER 1**

**An Inquiry Approach to Genre Study:  
Learning from Mentor Texts 2**

What Is Genre? 2

Purpose, Genre, and Audience 3

The Role of Genre in Understanding Reading and Writing 4

A Workshop Approach 5

An Inquiry Approach to Learning About Genre 5

Understanding Mentor Texts 7

Goals and Purposes of This Book 8

Suggestions for Professional Development 9

**CHAPTER 2**

**What Is Genre Study? 10**

Genre Study and Comprehension 11

Genre Study in Action 14

Suggestions for Professional Development 18

**CHAPTER 3**

**What Students Need to Know About the Genres of Texts 19**

Genres and Forms of Literature 19

Fiction Texts 21

Nonfiction Texts 24

Hybrid Texts 26

Text Structures 26

Forms of Prose and Poetry 27

Plays 27

Literacy and New Media 27

The Expanding World of Literature 29

Suggestions for Professional Development 30

<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	<b>A Workshop Approach to Genre Study</b>	<b>31</b>
	Interactive Read-Aloud	31
	Books in Relation to Readers	35
	Assessment	38
	Curriculum for Teaching and Learning About Genre	39
	Suggestions for Professional Development	41
<b>CHAPTER 5</b>	<b>Learning to Process Fiction and Nonfiction Texts</b>	<b>42</b>
	Ways of Thinking About Texts	43
	Systems of Strategic Actions for Comprehending Texts	45
	Strategic Actions as an Integrated System	53
	Learning to Read by Reading	53
	Suggestions for Professional Development	54

**SECTION 2**

**Understanding Genres** 55

---

<b>CHAPTER 6</b>	<b>Understanding Fiction Texts: Exploring Realism and Fantasy</b>	<b>57</b>
	A Comparison of Fiction and Nonfiction Texts	58
	Fiction Genres	58
	Elements of Fiction	61
	Classic Fiction	69
	Suggestions for Professional Development	72
<b>CHAPTER 7</b>	<b>Realism in Fiction Texts: Contemporary Realistic and Historical Fiction</b>	<b>73</b>
	The Value of Realistic Fiction	75
	Contemporary Realistic Fiction	75
	Historical Fiction	78
	Types of Realistic Fiction	80
	Realism: Learning About Ourselves and Others	87
	Suggestions for Professional Development	88
<b>CHAPTER 8</b>	<b>Fantasy in Fiction Texts: Traditional Literature and Modern Fantasy</b>	<b>89</b>
	Motifs in Traditional Literature and Modern Fantasy	90
	Traditional Literature	93
	Modern Fantasy	99
	Traditional Literature and Modern Fantasy in the Classroom	109
	Suggestions for Professional Development	110

<b>CHAPTER 9</b>	<b>Understanding Biography: Learning from the Lives of Others</b>	<b>111</b>
	Full Biographies	112
	Partial Biographies	112
	Distinguishing Between Biography, Autobiography, and Memoir	114
	Biography	115
	Autobiography	120
	Memoir	121
	Elements of Biography	123
	Suggestions for Professional Development	126
<b>CHAPTER 10</b>	<b>Nonfiction Texts: Purpose, Organization, and Audience</b>	<b>128</b>
	Value of Nonfiction Texts	131
	Narrative vs. Non-Narrative Structure	132
	Categories of Nonfiction Texts	133
	Underlying Structural Patterns in Nonfiction Texts	141
	The Importance of Text Structure	145
	Suggestions for Professional Development	147
<b>CHAPTER 11</b>	<b>Nonfiction Texts: Analysis of Design</b>	<b>148</b>
	Design Features of Nonfiction Texts	150
	Analysis of a Text	162
	Special Sets of Nonfiction Texts	163
	Demands of Nonfiction Texts on Readers	166
	Evaluating Nonfiction Texts	166
	Suggestions for Professional Development	170
<b>CHAPTER 12</b>	<b>Reading Across Genres: A Close Study of Hybrid Texts, Graphica, and Multigenre Text Sets</b>	<b>171</b>
	The Benefits of Reading and Thinking Across Genres	172
	Hybrid Texts	172
	Graphica	179
	Using Multigenre Text Sets	188
	Exploring New Genres and Forms	188
	Suggestions for Professional Development	190
<b>CHAPTER 13</b>	<b>Poetry</b>	<b>191</b>
	The Elements of Poetry	192
	Variety in Poetry	196
	Poetry Workshop	197

Learning About Poetry from Poetry	200
An Environment to Foster Poetry	210
Collecting Poems	211
Finding Joy in the Teaching of Poetry	212
Suggestions for Professional Development	213

**SECTION 3**

**Expanding Reading Power Through Understanding Genres** 215

---

<b>CHAPTER 14</b>	<b>Thinking and Talking About Genre: Interactive Read-Aloud and Literature Discussion</b>	217
	Selecting Texts	218
	Developing a Shared Language for Talking About Texts	220
	Using Interactive Read-Aloud to Study Literary Genres	222
	Using Book Clubs (Literature Discussion) to Study Literary Genres	231
	Learning Over Time	237
	Suggestions for Professional Development	238
<b>CHAPTER 15</b>	<b>Learning About Fiction Genres Through Minilessons and Group Share</b>	239
	The Structure of Genre Study	241
	The Structure of Readers' Workshop	241
	Genre Study in Readers' Workshop	249
	Using Minilessons and Group Share to Support Genre Study	249
	Mapping a Sequence of Minilessons	273
	Using Inquiry and Readers' Workshop to Study Historical Fiction	278
	Using Inquiry and Readers' Workshop to Study Traditional Literature	278
	Suggestions for Professional Development	285
<b>CHAPTER 16</b>	<b>Learning about Nonfiction Texts Through Minilessons and Group Share</b>	286
	Types of Nonfiction Texts	287
	Interactive Read-Aloud and Readers' Workshop	289
	Genre Study for Nonfiction Texts	289
	Minilessons to Learn About Expository Nonfiction Texts	294
	Learning About Narrative Nonfiction	303
	Using Minilessons and Group Share to Learn About Biography	304
	Differentiating the Types of Nonfiction Texts	304
	Constructing the Curriculum	310
	Suggestions for Professional Development	312



- CHAPTER 17** Developing Understandings About Genre Through Reading Conferences and Independent Reading 313
- Independent Reading 314
  - An Environment for Reading 315
  - Readers' Workshop as a Setting for Individual Conferring 318
  - Intentional Teaching in the Reading Conference 327
  - The Role of Facilitative Talk in Helping Students Learn about Genre 330
  - Suggestions for Professional Development 333
- CHAPTER 18** Writing about Reading in a Reader's Notebook 334
- Using *Reader's Notebook* 335
  - Using *Reader's Notebook: Advanced* 335
  - Parts and Tools of the *Reader's Notebook: Advanced* 336
  - Studying Genre Through Writing About Reading 342
  - Functional Writing About Reading 343
  - Narrative Writing About Reading 359
  - Nonfiction Writing About Reading 363
  - Poetic Writing About Reading 373
  - Teacher Reflection on Writing about Reading 373
  - Self As Reader and Writer 374
  - Suggestions for Professional Development 377
- CHAPTER 19** Using Guided Reading to Develop Understandings About Genre 378
- A Text Gradient to Support Effective Teaching 379
  - Begin with Assessment 379
  - Using Guided Reading to Support Genre Study 380
  - Connecting Guided Reading to Genre Study 388
  - Using Specific Language to Support Strategic Actions 390
  - Suggestions for Professional Development 391
- CHAPTER 20** The Reading-Writing Connection 392
- A Seamless Approach to Reading and Writing Genres 393
  - The Writing Process 394
  - The Structure of Writers' Workshop 396
  - Purpose and Genre 400
  - Narrative Genres 404
  - Non-Narrative Genres 417
  - Poetic Genres 433
  - Functional Genres 435
  - Writing and Its Connection to Reading 439
  - Suggestions for Professional Development 440

APPENDIX A	Mentor Text Lists	442
APPENDIX B	Glossary	474
APPENDIX C	Analyzing Text Factors forms	483
APPENDIX D	List of Children's Books	486
APPENDIX E	Professional References	500

<i>Index</i>	503
--------------	-----

**Access to Additional Resources on the F&P Resources Site, including:**

- Lists of series and sequels books
- Links to sites listing various award-winning books
- Printable Genre Thinkmarks

**How to Access the *Genre Study* F&P Resources Site**

- STEP 1.** Go to [www.fountasandpinnell.com/resources](http://www.fountasandpinnell.com/resources)
- STEP 2.** Follow the directions on the site to login and register for access to your e-product
- STEP 3.** When prompted use `fpgenreappendix12` as the "Product Code"