Fiction/Narrative and Non-Fiction/Informational Books  
(Part 1 of 2)

Skills Category  
Introduce the difference between Fiction/Narrative and Non-Fiction/Informational Books

Grade Level  
1st

Time Required  
15 minutes

Objectives  
To identify Fiction/Narrative and Non-Fiction/Informational books.

Materials Needed  
Fiction/Narrative or Easy & Non-Fiction/Informational books on the same topic. 
Have at least four books, but no more than eight.

Example: Frogs
Froggy Eats Out by Jonathan London
Frog and Toad are Friends by Arnold Lobel
Frogs Life Cycles by Julie Murray
Frogs and other Amphibians by World Book

Two boxes large enough to hold several books

Preparation  
Gather books needed. Select books that are obviously either Fiction/Narrative or Non-Fiction/Informational.

Prepare the two boxes:
One box has a green label that says: Non-Fiction/Informational
One box has a yellow label that says: Fiction/Narrative

Place prepared boxes on a table or on the floor in front of students.

Procedure  
There are two types of books. Some books tell about real things in our real world. Give examples. When you learn about how milk gets from the cow to your breakfast table, that is real information. We call these kinds of books Non-Fiction/Informational books.

Some books have stories we make up in our head or in our imagination. Stories we make up can be like real things that happen, or they can be things that do not really happen. Give examples. A dog that has wings and flies is a fun story, but it does
not happen in real life. A book with this type of story would be called a Fiction/Narrative book.

Point to the boxes and explain: “Our box with the green label says Non-Fiction/Informational, and the box with the yellow label says Fiction/Narrative.

“What kinds of books are Non-Fiction/Informational?”

“What kinds of books are Fiction/Narrative?”

Hold up a selected book and tell the students a little about the content.

“What kind of book is this?”

“How did you decide that?”

Place the book in the appropriate box.

Repeat with additional examples.