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# How Genre Passports Work

## How Are Passports Assembled and Stored?

Included in this book is the fold-up passport book, pages 12-13. Make copies of it and assemble the passports. Instructions are provided on page 11. When this is completed, display your class' passports in pocket charts, or anything that makes them easily accessible to students.

## How Do Students Identify a Genre?

The posters, pages 39-53, define the elements of 12 different genres.\* A brief summary is also found in the passport itself. Students use these descriptions to complete an activity in the contract titled "The Genre Is . . ." which has them critically examine the elements of genre and provide proof that the book is of the genre they claim.

## How Are Stamps on the Passports Earned?

The teacher needs to set criteria for students to earn a stamp for a specific genre. This will work with a basal series, since most short stories in anthologies contain different genres. The student chooses a book and meets with the teacher to decide which activities in a contract to be responsible for. There are three types of contracts: fiction, nonfiction and biography, each containing activities for exploring the literary elements specific to each genre. After the student reads the selection, he takes a comprehension test or task. A score of 80% or better is the expected outcome. Meeting all of the above requirements, earns a stamp in the passport for the genre completed. Students can stamp their own passports as they finish or at a designated time.

## How Do Genre Passports Fit into Your Language Arts Program?

Besides having a required reading series with an anthology, we use a leveled, self-selected reading program for individual reading practice and run book clubs or literature circles. The genre passport can be easily adapted for use with any type of literature approach.

### Basal Reader

Most anthologies include different genres. As you use the anthology's selections, determine the genre and teach the selection within your regular reading instruction. Add the genre contract for students to complete individually, in pairs or in small groups, depending on the student's abilities. Students take the comprehension quiz that comes with the series, complete the contract and if all the requirements are met, earn a stamp in that genre. It doesn't add much work for the teacher and is more motivating for students.



\*Copy these and post them in the classroom.

# Fiction Contract

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

BOOK TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

AUTHOR \_\_\_\_\_

GENRE \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. PROOF OF GENRE

\_\_\_\_\_ The Genre Is . . .

## 2. CHARACTER (Choose one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Describing the Main Character Web

\_\_\_\_\_ Character Development Story Map

\_\_\_\_\_ Character Trait Map

\_\_\_\_\_ Compare & Contrast Characters

## 3. SETTING (Choose one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Literary Elements of Setting

\_\_\_\_\_ The 5 Ws of Story

## 4. PLOT (Choose one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sequencing Events of Story/Plot

\_\_\_\_\_ Plot Graphic Organizer

\_\_\_\_\_ Cause & Effect

\_\_\_\_\_ Elements of Plot

\_\_\_\_\_ Plot Diamond

## 5. LITERARY CRITIQUES (Choose one.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Literary Reactions

\_\_\_\_\_ Opinion & Support

## 6. END-OF-BOOK PROJECT (Choose one from list.)

STUDENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPREHENSION ACTIVITY SCORE \_\_\_\_\_

CONTRACT COMPLETED \_\_\_\_\_



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Fiction contract

# Character Development Story Map

<b>BOOK TITLE:</b> _____	<b>CHARACTER:</b> _____
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**IN THE BEGINNING . . .**

How does the character act?

How does the character feel?

What happened in the story that caused this change?

**LATER . . .**

How does the character act?

How does the character feel?