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Saddle Up 'N' Read! VOCABULARY LIST

Here are a few of the words and concepts we **may** introduce/reinforce in the course of the **Saddle up 'N' Read** program. The words are presented in context and then defined which helps in creating a meaningful reason for the children to assimilate the information.

adventure – the main character has unusual experiences that are often terrifying and dangerous

animal story – can have a realistic animal as the main character or an unrealistic one with human characteristics

antagonist – is the “bad guy” or villain. It can also be a thing such as bad weather

appendix – an optional segment in a book that may provide helpful charts, tables, maps and graphs

author – the person who creates the story using words

autobiography – is a true story you write about yourself

bibliography – a list of books that were used to research every fact

biography – the story of a person’s life

Caldecott Medal - is an award given to the artist with the most distinguished American picture book for children

chapter book – is a story book intended for intermediate readers, unlike a picture book, a chapter book tell the story primarily through words, rather than pictures

characters – are the people or animals in a story

comedy – a story with funny situations

compare – to show how things are similar to one another

conclusion – used at the end of a story

conflict – is a problem in the story that needs to be solved

contrast – to show how things are different from each other



dialogue – is the words the characters in a story say to each other

dictionary – a book containing words and their meanings

editor – a person responsible for looking at the strengths and weaknesses of a story in terms of plot, theme, characters, pace, setting and point of view.

fairy tale - is a fictional story that may feature characters such as fairies, goblins, elves, trolls, giants, gnomes, and talking animals

fantasy – a made-up story is a fantasy, fantasies usually have strange settings and unusual characters

fiction – is a made-up story, but it could be based on truth

foreshadowing – when an author uses clues or hints to tip off the reader that something which has just occurred is going to matter later

flashback – when an author wants the reader to be aware of something that happened before the story began

graphic novels – this is a type of comic book, usually with a lengthy storyline similar to a novel

glossary – provides the meanings of words unique to a book

historical fiction – about a fictional character who lives through an interesting time in the past or an important historical event

illustrations – drawings, paintings, photographs and other visuals the depict parts of a story

illustrator – person who creates the pictures for a story (drawings, paintings, photographs, etc.)

index – words alphabetically listed with page numbers so the subjects can be located in the book

introduction – the beginning of a story

metaphor – is created when one thing is compared to another, such as, “You’re a grumpy bear today!”

mystery – stories with fictional whodunits, puzzling detective stories and unexplainable circumstances

Newbery Medal – is a literary award given to the author for their great writing



nonfiction – stories and books that are true

novel – a long work of fiction, such as a chapter book

picture books – a book that consists primarily of pictures

plot – the action or plan of the story

publisher – is the group, organization, company or individual responsible for the production of a publication

pun – is a clever play on words

realistic fiction – stories where everyday life is described in an interesting way

romance – stories about characters who overcome many difficulties before they find each other and fall in love

science fiction – stories that are usually set in the future with characters who often solve their problems logically using devices and theories based on scientific concepts

setting – the place and time of the story

simile – compares the similarity of two different things, generally using the word “like” or “as”

style – is how the author uses language to set a tone or mood

table of contents – a list of titles of the chapters, topics or sections in a book

theme – the subject, main idea or message of a story

title – the name given to a book or story