Genre Clue Hunt

Sort short texts by the details they give.

5.2.R.2 "Students will identify details in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction texts to distinguish various genres."

NAME _____ DATE _____

FICTION

Fiction tells an invented story. Look for details about made-up events or characters.

The teapot whispered a secret to the moon.

NONFICTION

Nonfiction gives information about the real world. Look for facts you could check.

A magnet can attract objects made of iron.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle FICTION or NONFICTION for each numbered text, then choose two numbers and explain which detail helped you decide for each one.

1.	At midnight, a tiny dragon sneezed snow onto Leo's desk.	FICTION NONFICTION
2.	A whale is a mammal that breathes air through a blowhole.	FICTION NONFICTION
3.	The Nile River flows north through Egypt.	FICTION NONFICTION
4.	The library door opened into a city made of clouds.	FICTION NONFICTION
5.	Mira's shadow ran ahead and saved her a seat.	FICTION NONFICTION
6.	Adult butterflies have six legs and two pairs of wings.	FICTION NONFICTION
7.	The captain's boots argued over which way to sail.	FICTION NONFICTION
8.	A silver fox mailed a letter to the stars.	FICTION NONFICTION

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new two-sentence text for FICTION and one for NONFICTION, using a detail that makes each category clear.

FICTION _____

NONFICTION _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-sentence fiction text that includes one true fact about nature, then write one sentence explaining why your text is still fiction.

ANSWER KEY

Genre Clue Hunt

GRADE 5 · 5.2.R.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	At midnight, a tiny dragon sneezed snow onto Leo's desk.	**FICTION**	A dragon sneezing snow is an invented event.
2	A whale is a mammal that breathes air through a blowhole.	**NONFICTION**	It states a checkable fact about whales.
3	The Nile River flows north through Egypt.	**NONFICTION**	It states a checkable geographic fact.
4	The library door opened into a city made of clouds.	**FICTION**	The door opens into an invented place.
5	Mira's shadow ran ahead and saved her a seat.	**FICTION**	A shadow cannot run or save a seat.
6	Adult butterflies have six legs and two pairs of wings.	**NONFICTION**	It states checkable facts about butterflies.
7	The captain's boots argued over which way to sail.	**FICTION**	Boots cannot argue.
8	A silver fox mailed a letter to the stars.	**FICTION**	A fox mailing a letter to stars is an invented event.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **FICTION**: The snowman borrowed my backpack and walked to school. He stopped to wave at every car.
- **NONFICTION**: Bees collect nectar from flowers. They use nectar to make honey.

Challenge: A seed sprouted in the soil. At sunrise, it asked the gardener for a tiny hat. This is fiction because the seed speaks, even though seeds can sprout in soil.

For Part 2, accept two numbered texts with a specific supporting detail for each. For example, item 3 names a real river and its direction of flow, while item 5 gives a shadow actions it cannot perform.