

# A **F**ABULOUS LESSON **F**EATURING....

## Forms of Fiction

(Yes, the title is an example of **alliteration**, but that's just an added bonus.) Now for the main event...

# Forms of Fiction/Genre

How many different kinds of fiction are there?

How can we identify or classify them?

How important are characters and setting to the various forms of fiction?



# Forms of Fiction

Fables

MYTHS

Science Fiction

Historical Fiction

*Fantasy* Folk Tales

Realistic Fiction

# Fables

- Animals are often the characters



Remember the one about the  
country mouse and the city  
mouse?



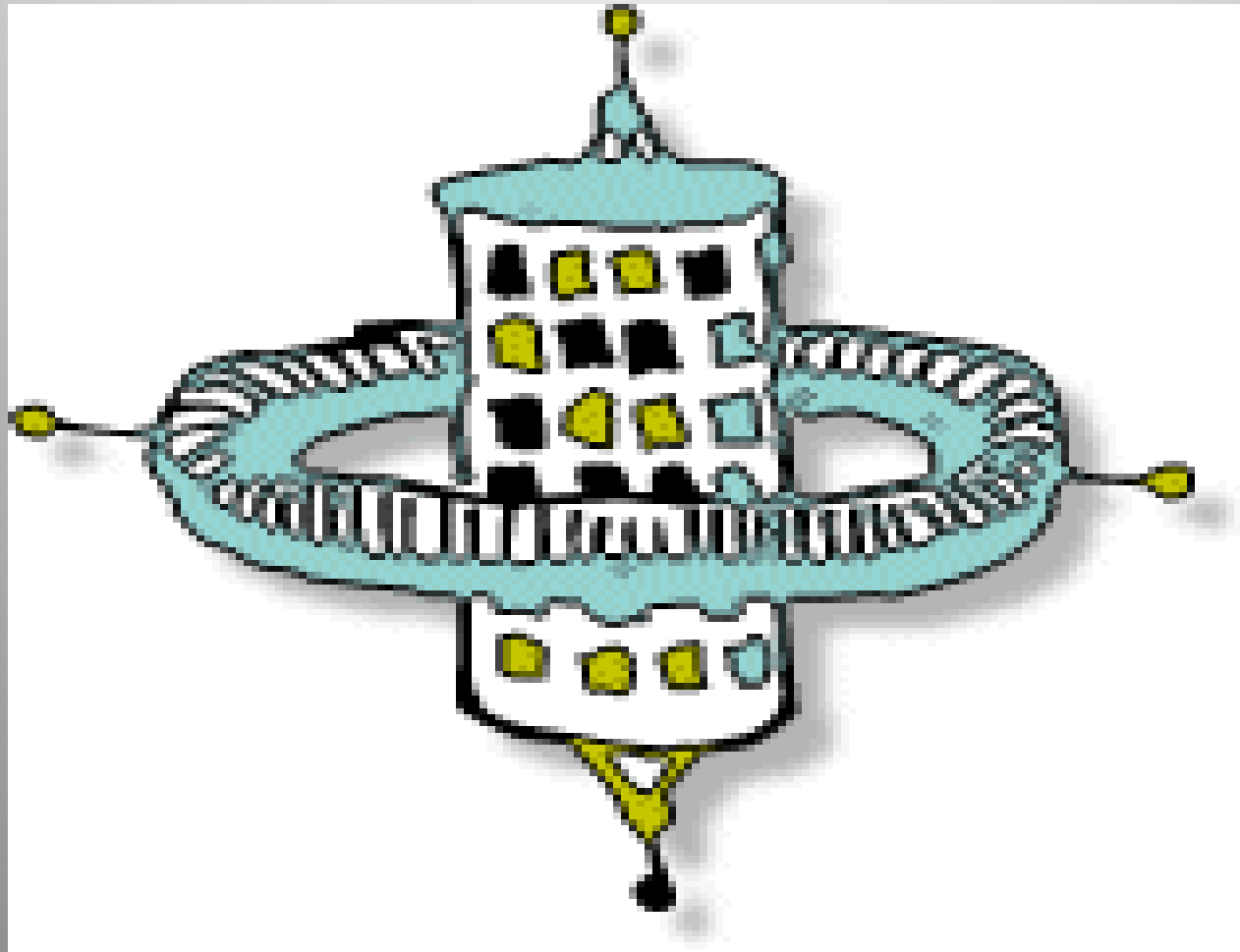
# Elements of **Fables**

- They are **short**, not the animals, the stories.
- They always end with a **moral** (a lesson learned) “Look before you leap!”
- **Aesop**, from ancient Greece, is the most famous creator of fables

# Science Fiction

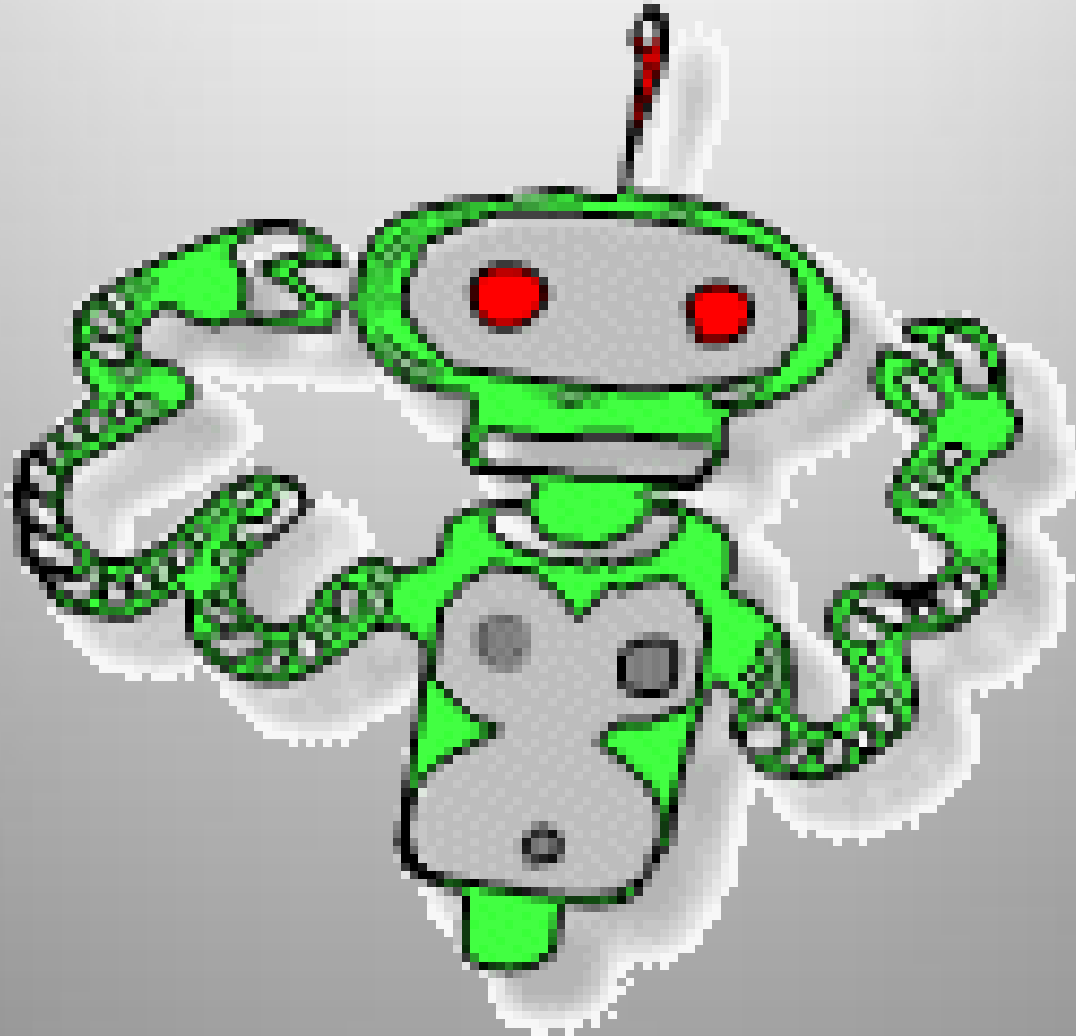
- Often **futuristic**
- Can involve travel to other **planets (aliens)**
- Can involve time travel
- The inventions used are not yet used in our world (**robots like R2D2, flying saucers, or**)
- Can involve strange societies
- Ray Bradbury is a sci-fi author you know. He wrote *Fahrenheit 451*, “The Naming of Names,” “All Summer in a Day,” and many more.
- *War of the Worlds* is an example of **Sci-Fi**.

The setting is key to a good science fiction story





Or so the characters think!!!



# Historical Fiction

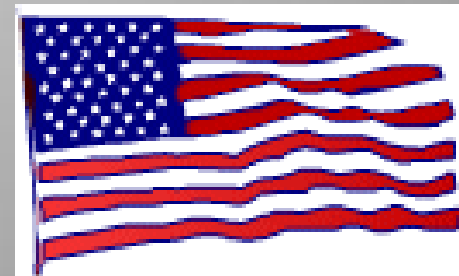
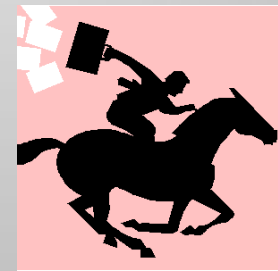
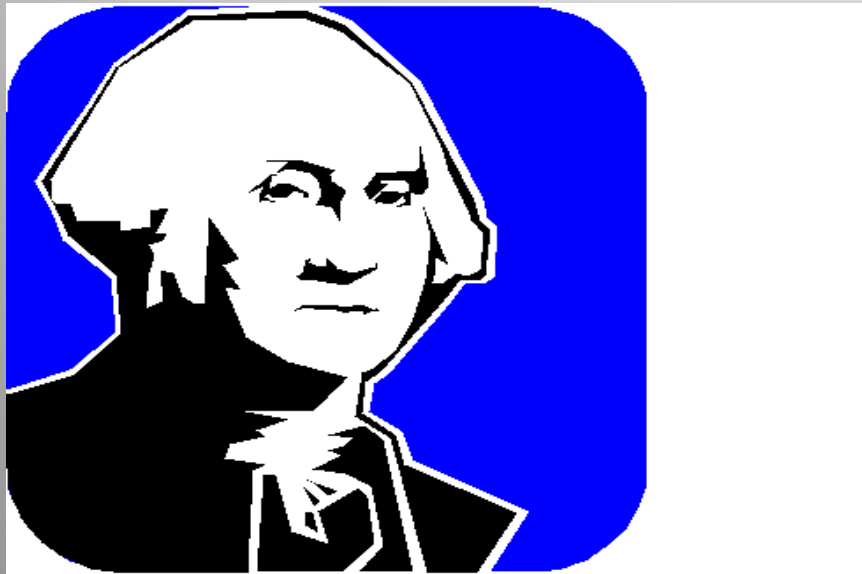
- The setting is one we are familiar with, a definite time period in history (**Civil War** era, time of the pharaohs in Egypt, **Depression** era, **Revolutionary War** era)
- The story will contain references to real events, perhaps real people in history.
- The characters and story are fictional.

The movie Titanic is an example  
of historical fiction



Historical fiction can involve references to famous people or events...

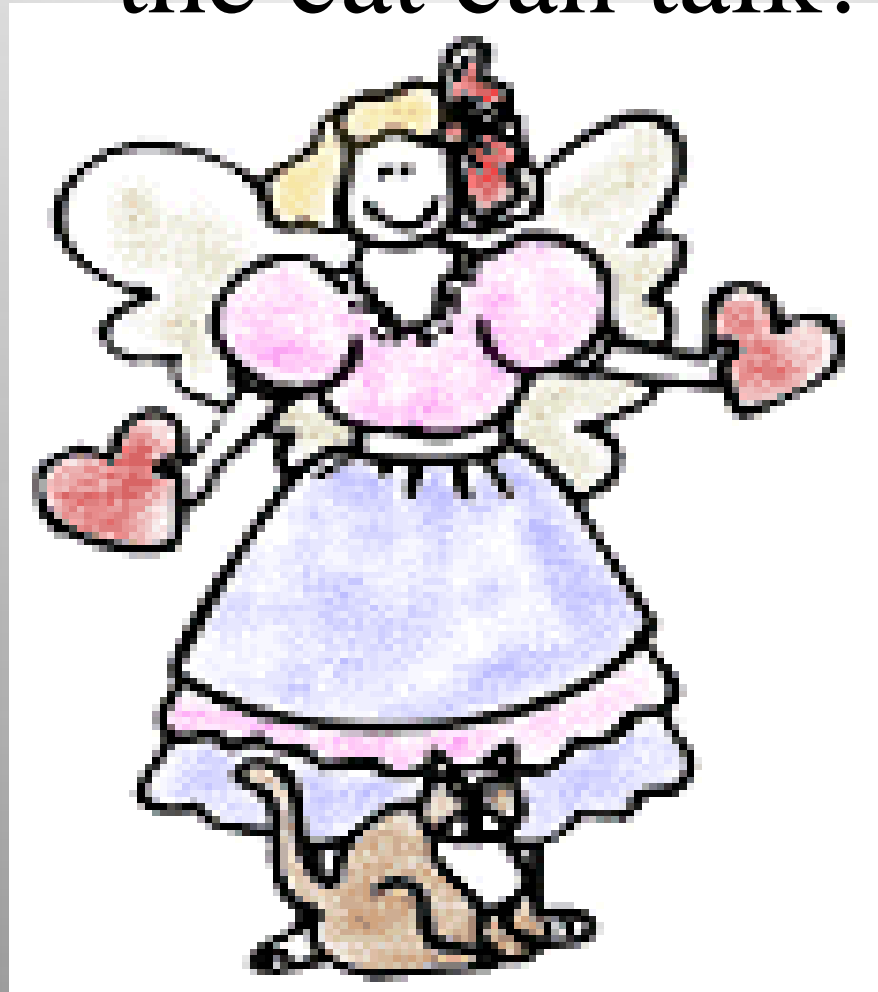
You should recognize this president!



# *Fantasy*

- Setting is fantastic, creative, unusual (castles, towers, gingerbread houses)
- Magic is often important to the story
- Examples of **fantasy** include **fairy tales** (Cinderella, Snow White) and stories like **The Wizard of Oz, Lord of the Rings, and Harry Potter**

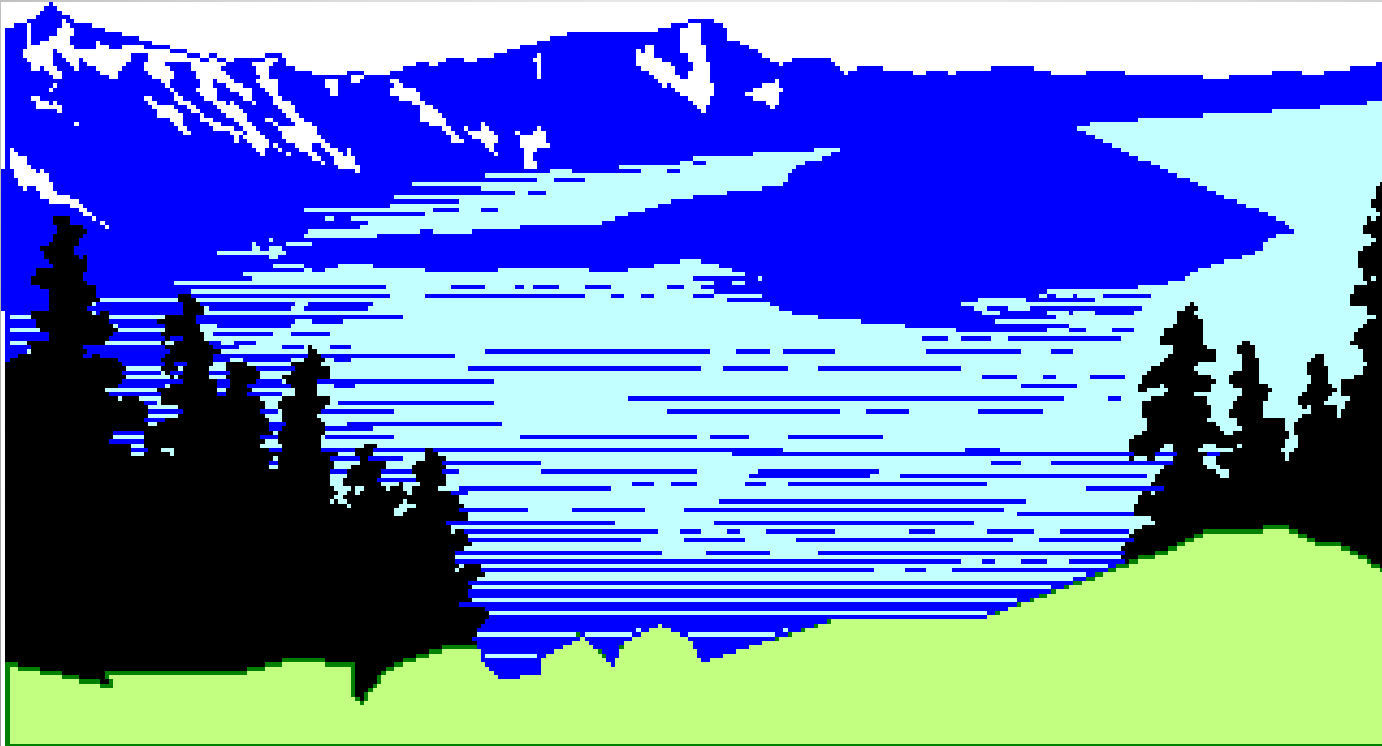
She can fly in our fantasy, and  
the cat can talk!



# MYTHS

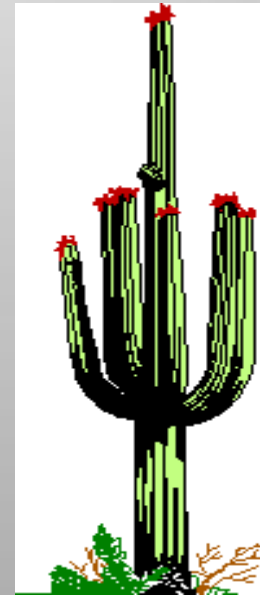
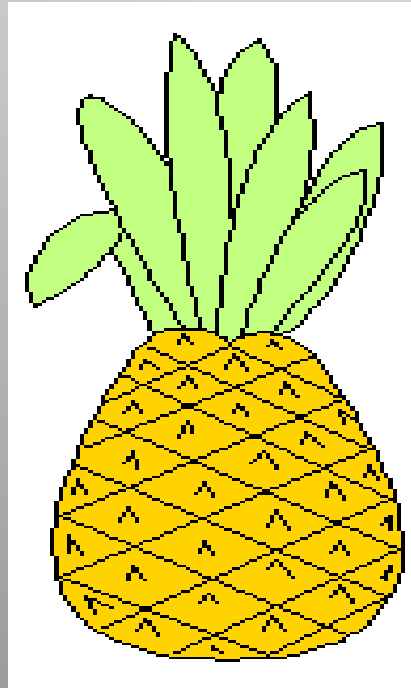
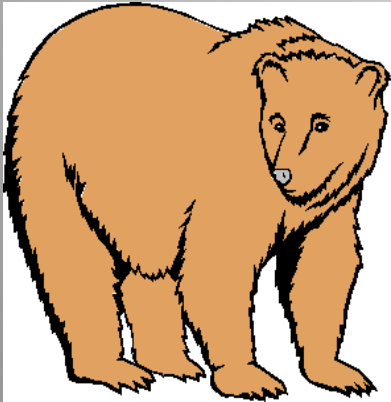
- **Gods** are characters in the stories (**Zeus, Apollo, Achilles, Perseus, Icarus, Mercury, Hades...**)
- Characters have **superhuman powers** (**Hercules**)
- **Greek** and **Roman** myths are the most well known
- Many cultures have their own myths.  
(**QUETZALCOATL**)
- Almost every culture has **origin** or **creation** myths.

A myth could explain the  
creation of the rivers....





Or the origin of the world,  
humans, a particular animal, or  
plant



# Folk Tales or Legends

**exaggerated**

**exaggerated**

- Folk Tales and legends are found in every culture.
- They may start with fact, but the facts are
- **EXAGGERATED** until a legend is created. (It is highly unlikely that Davy Crocket killed a bear when he was only 3, but Davy did exist.)
- The legend of John Henry working on the railroad is a good example of this type of fiction.

Realistic Fiction is just what it sounds like....real situations, true settings, characters just like you.

While Dad was reading the paper, Aunt Cleodocious and I went shopping...



# Summary of Forms of Fiction

- **Fables** (morals, animals) **MYTHS**  
(gods and superhuman powers)
- Science Fiction **(FUTURE)**
- Historical Fiction (Historic figures and eras)
- *Fantasy* (magic) *Harry Potter*
- **Folk Tales** **(EXAGGERATION)**
- Realistic Fiction *Where the Red Fern Grows*

Let's see what you've learned.

It's time to

## NAME THAT GENRE

"There was once a king  
who had three sons, but  
they never spoke because  
a terrible witch had cast  
a spell on the kingdom."

**Yes, that was fantasy.**

**How would you classify these?**

**"My robot had finally finished making me breakfast, so I was off to patrol my area of the galaxy."**

**"The sparrow said to the wolf as she safely flew away, 'It's better to be safe than sorry.'"**

Good, the first was **sci-fi**, the next an excerpt from a **fable**.

“Zeus, was angry, very angry, and the mortals were going to pay for their actions. He and the other gods would see to that.”

“Paul Bunyan was 12 feet tall and as strong as Babe, his blue ox. Paul could cut down a forest with his axe in one day.”

Excellent!! A myth and a folk tale. Here are your last two:

"I had only met Thomas Jefferson the one time, so when he asked me to review his first draft of the document, I was shocked."

"We had wanted to beat St. Brendan's for as long as I could remember. They were our big rival, but it seemed like something always went wrong. Today, it would be different. I just knew it. Today, we would win the day."



You did it!

# Historical Fiction and Realistic Fiction

**Congratulations!!**

- You've achieved yet another academic standard