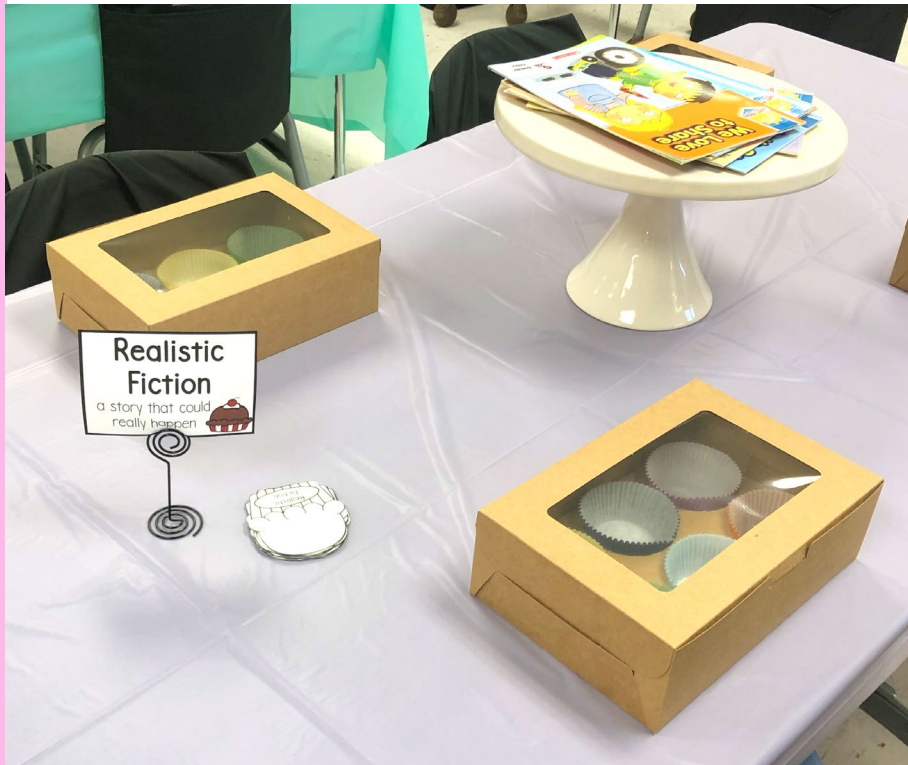# BOOK BAKERY

a mini reading transformation pack for exploring various book genres

WHAT IS BOOK BAKERY DAY?

This is a mini pack to help you transform your classroom into a pretend "reading genre bakery" called Book Bakery! To put it simply, this is a little pack to help give a fun theme to the experience of exploring a variety of reading genres for your students! It encourages them to explore and read books in genres that they may otherwise not initiate themselves. This theme day helped my students find book genres that they didn't even know they LOVED! The pack includes a reading craftivity to help your students record what they read during the book bakery, genre mini signs, genre posters, bookmarks, and an additional no-prep alternative response template if you don't have time for the craftivity. The pack also includes all of the EASY ways I incorporated Book Bakery into my own classroom, with links to optional materials, lesson plans, and set-up tips! Our theme day took us no more than an hour to an hour and a half, but you could certainly keep the fun going for as little or as long as you'd like. Book Bakery can be created using the books you already have in your classroom library. Your students will love this thematic reading mini pack!
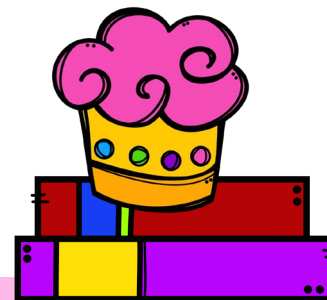
WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- Teacher direction pages
- List of optional materials I used for this theme
- My own lesson plans for using this mini pack in my classroom
- Ideas for using this mini pack
- Craftivity pieces and directions for the cupcake bakery boxes
- Ideas for how to adjust and make the craftivity work for you
- Alternative no-prep craftivity/recording sheet
- Mini genre signs for the different tables
- Reading genre posters
- Book Bakery reading genre bookmark
- Links to additional reading theme resources you may love
- Terms of use and credits pages

IDEAS FOR USING THIS MINI PACK
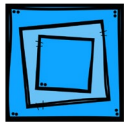
- thematic fun during your reading block

- thematic fun during small-group reading

- stand-alone reading craftivity and lesson

- family literacy night

- genre mini lessons- use parts of it or all of it!

- hold fun "Reading Theme Days" during the year!

- homeschool, after-school, and summer school activities

PICTURES OF MY CLASSROOM'S BOOK BAKERY DAY!

SWEET AND SIMPLE!

Biography
a story of a real
person's life

Fantasy
Realistic Fiction
Nonfiction
Poetry
Biography
My Favorite Book

Fantasy
Nonfiction
Poetry
Realistic Fiction
Biography
My Favorite Book

ENGAGING, EFFECTIVE, AND FUN!

SETTING UP

After setting out the tablecloths, I placed a mini genre sign and a pile of books from that genre on each table. To make the morning more festive and novel, I placed each pile of books on top of a cake stand or a dessert stands. A pile of the coordinating cupcakes for each genre was also placed on the table. For example, at the biography table, I included a mini biography sign and a pile of biography books.

At each student's table spot, I placed an empty box of cupcakes and a pile of the cupcake templates for that genre. (Example: The biography table included a mini biography sign, a pile of biography cupcake templates, and a pile of biography books.)
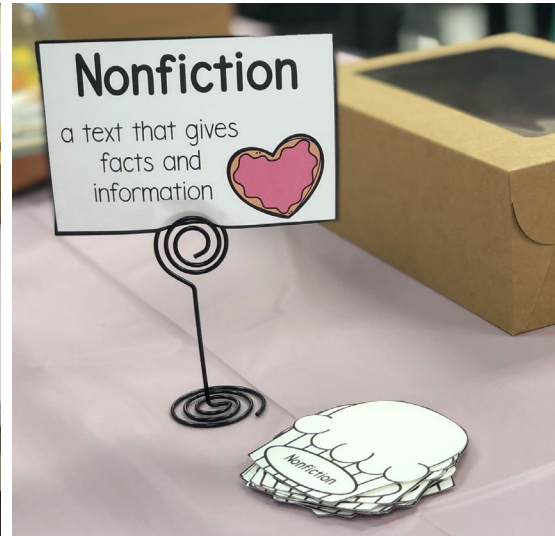
TIP: How did you choose which books to pull for each genre? My goal for this lesson was to expose the students to various book genres – NOT for them to read every book on the table with 100% accuracy. I chose books that were on or around my class's independent reading level. I also put books below reading level at the time so that my students who had not yet reached grade level could participate and have access to the books.

OTHER MATERIALS YOU CAN ADD TO YOUR BOOK BAKERY THEME:

I found the following additional materials for our book bakery on Amazon. These are used to add fun and novelty to your day!

You can get direct clickable links to the exact items I ordered for the items below:

- [colored tablecloths](#) for tables and desks

- [cupcake bakery boxes](#) to add the cupcakes to

- [colorful paper cupcake liners](#) to add to your bakery boxes

- [cardboard cake stands](#) to hold books for each table

- [photo holders](#) to hold the genre signs for the tables

MY BOOK BAKERY LESSON PLANS:

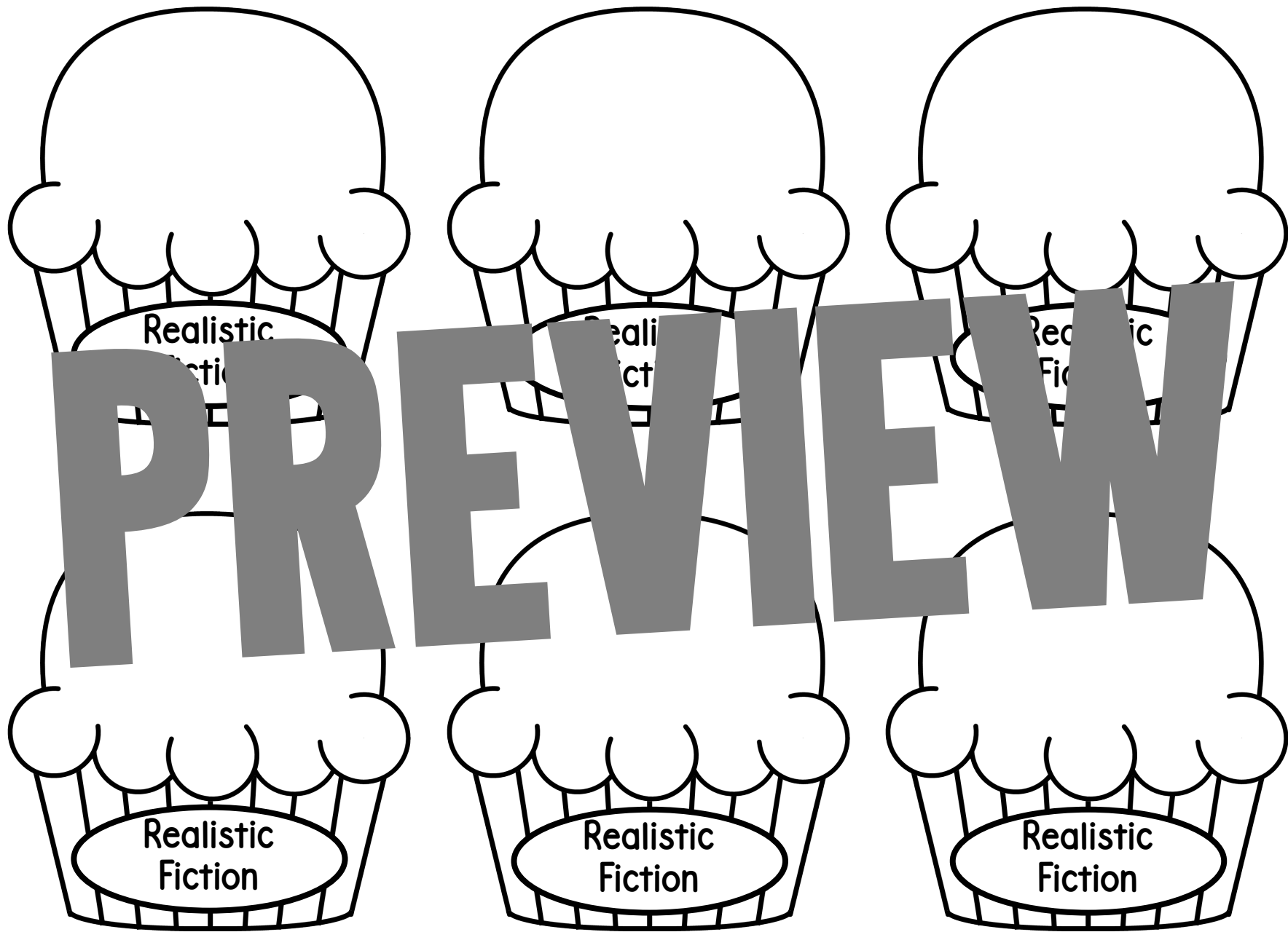| activity	materials used	description and plans
Whole-Class Book Genre Introduction Mini Lesson	• reading genre posters • easel, chart paper, or somewhere to display your posters for the class to see • one book from each genre that you will be introducing during the mini lesson (preferably from your classroom library so that students can learn and get ~~~~ wh~~~~ they c~~~~ ~~~~t ~~~ re within ~~~~ ~~~~oo~~~~	I started Book Bakery by gathering the class at the carpet. I pre-printed the five genre posters that I would be using that day during Book Bakery. The five genres I chose for my students to focus on were nonfiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, biography, and poetry. I stuck these posters up ~~~~ ~~~ my chart paper to serve as an anchor chart, or a refe~~~~ ce p~~~~er, for my students. I explained t~~~~ ~~~ud~~~~ s t~~~~ ~~~e~~~~ ould be learning about five ~~~~iffe~~~~t ~~~es, or ~~~~s, ~~~ ~~~ quickly went over each of ~~~e ~~~ ge~~~~s using t~~~ ~~~r~~~~ ~~~~vided. After discussing each ~~~nre ~~~ ~~~e ~~~d sh~~~~ ~~~om that genre from our ~~~~assr~~~~ ~~~r~~~~y. I also ~~~~ ~~~~u~~~~ where the baskets of ~~~etry ~~~ ~~~g~~~~ies, nonfi~~~~ ~~~et~~~~ re located in our room for ~~~~ure ~~~~re~~~~
Book Bakery Rotations	• c~~~~ake boxes • cupcake templates • books • mini genre signs • crayons/pencils • scissors	~~~e I c~~~~ ~~~ve genres to focus on, I divided my class into five ~~~~mall groups. Each group started with one of the five genres. The students had time to explore, read, and flip through the books at their tables. Each student chose one book from the pile to read and explore. He or she then cut out a cupcake (you can have them already cut to save time if you wish) and drew a picture of what the book was all about. (For older students, you can have them write what the books were mostly about on the cupcakes.) The student then added this cupcake to his or her cupcake box. After about 6-8 minutes, I rang the bell, and the students moved to the next table/genre. Each time the students moved to a new tables/genres, they brought their cupcake boxes with them. They repeated this procedure for each genre, adding a coordinating cupcake to their bakery boxes at each table.

MY LESSON PLANS, CONTINUED:

activity	materials used	description and plans
Share Time	• cupcake bakery boxes • whole-group meeting area	After each group had rotated through all five genres, the students met at the carpet with their bakery boxes for a quick and simple share time. I asked the students to put their thumbs up by their hearts if they had discovered genres that they didn't even know they liked until this morning. M~~ny o~~ ~~r~~ students learned that they loved biography ~~book~~ ~~d e~~ ~~me~~ ~~at~~ they were excited to get some ~~b~~ ~~gr~~ ~~for~~ ~~r b~~ ~~in~~ ~~xt~~ week. ~~ve~~ ~~s~~ ~~nts~~ ~~a fe~~ ~~are their cupcakes with~~ ~~c~~ ~~et~~ ~~tr~~ ~~talk~~ ~~s they had read and~~ ~~d~~ ~~ver~~ ~~oom was~~ ~~i~~ ~~ful, excited conversations~~ ~~t BO~~ ~~S!~~ ~~excited~~ ~~u~~ ~~our students to experience~~ ~~magi~~ ~~w~~
Review and Optional Extension Idea	• ad~~~~nal "favo~~~~ b~~~~ cupcake te~~~~te (This works well if you only chose five genres to explore for their six-pack bakery boxes.) • REAL CUPCAKES as a celebration at the end of your lesson! (Check on all allergies and health alerts for students prior to distributing real cupcakes.)	~~d~~ our morning, we reviewed the importance of exploring and reading new genres. • It helps expose us to new topics, characters, and information. • It helps us discover new books we might have never tried before. • It makes us stronger readers. • It's fun! I then gave each student a final cupcake template: "My Favorite Book". I asked them to reflect and think about all of the different types of books they had read today. They then chose their favorite books/genres, drew pictures of the book, and added them to their boxes. *This was an optional extension. If you choose six genres instead of five, you won't need this cupcake template.

BOOK BAKERY CRAFTIVITY

The following pages contain the cupcake templates for the bakery box craftivity. For each genre you chose for your students to explore, print the following cupcake template, and make enough copies for each student to have one cupcake. Your students can cut out the cupcakes ahead of time or as they are working at each station. You can have your bakery boxes pre-filled with blank cupcake templates, or simply place a stack of the cupcakes at each table/genre.
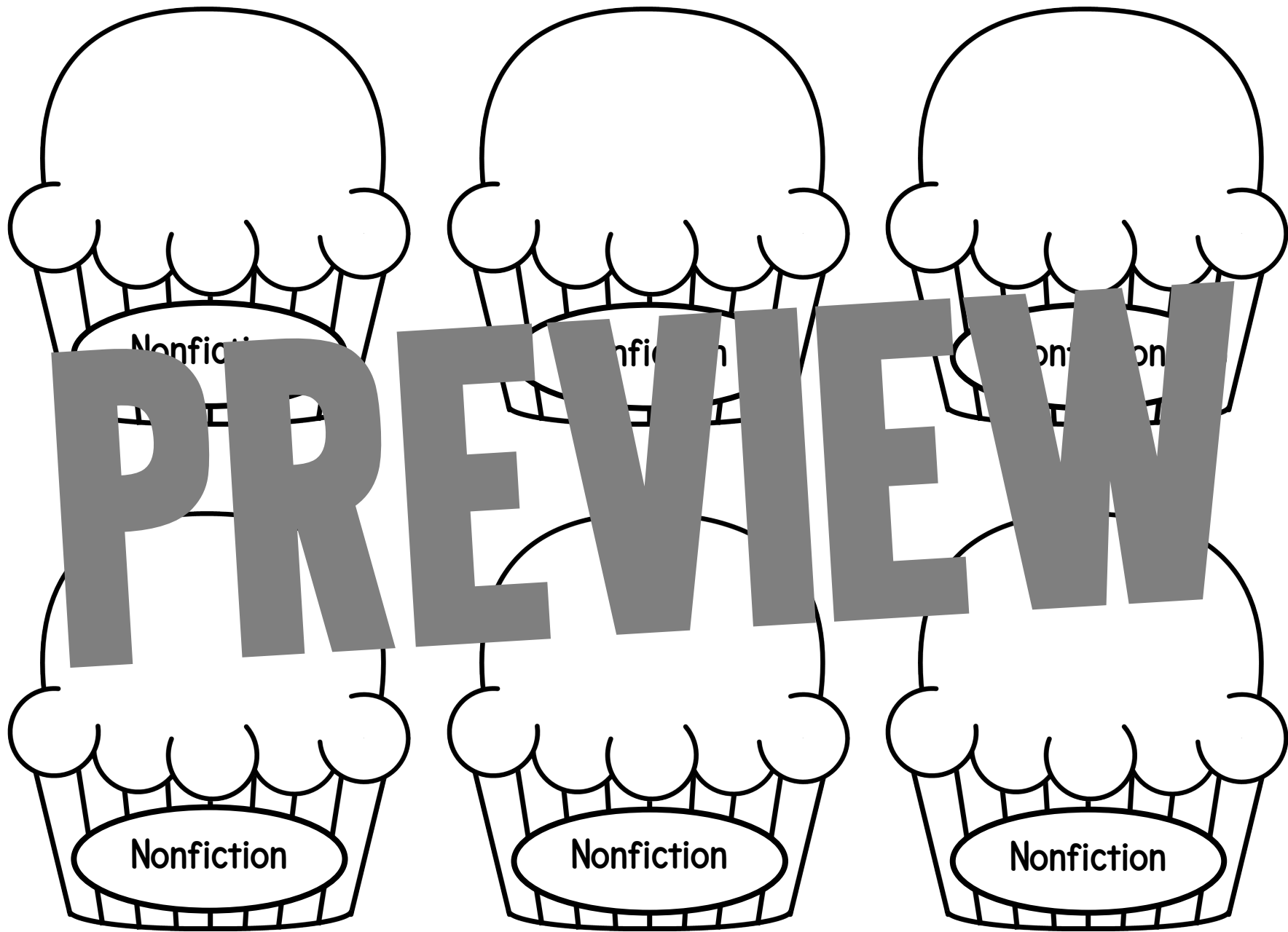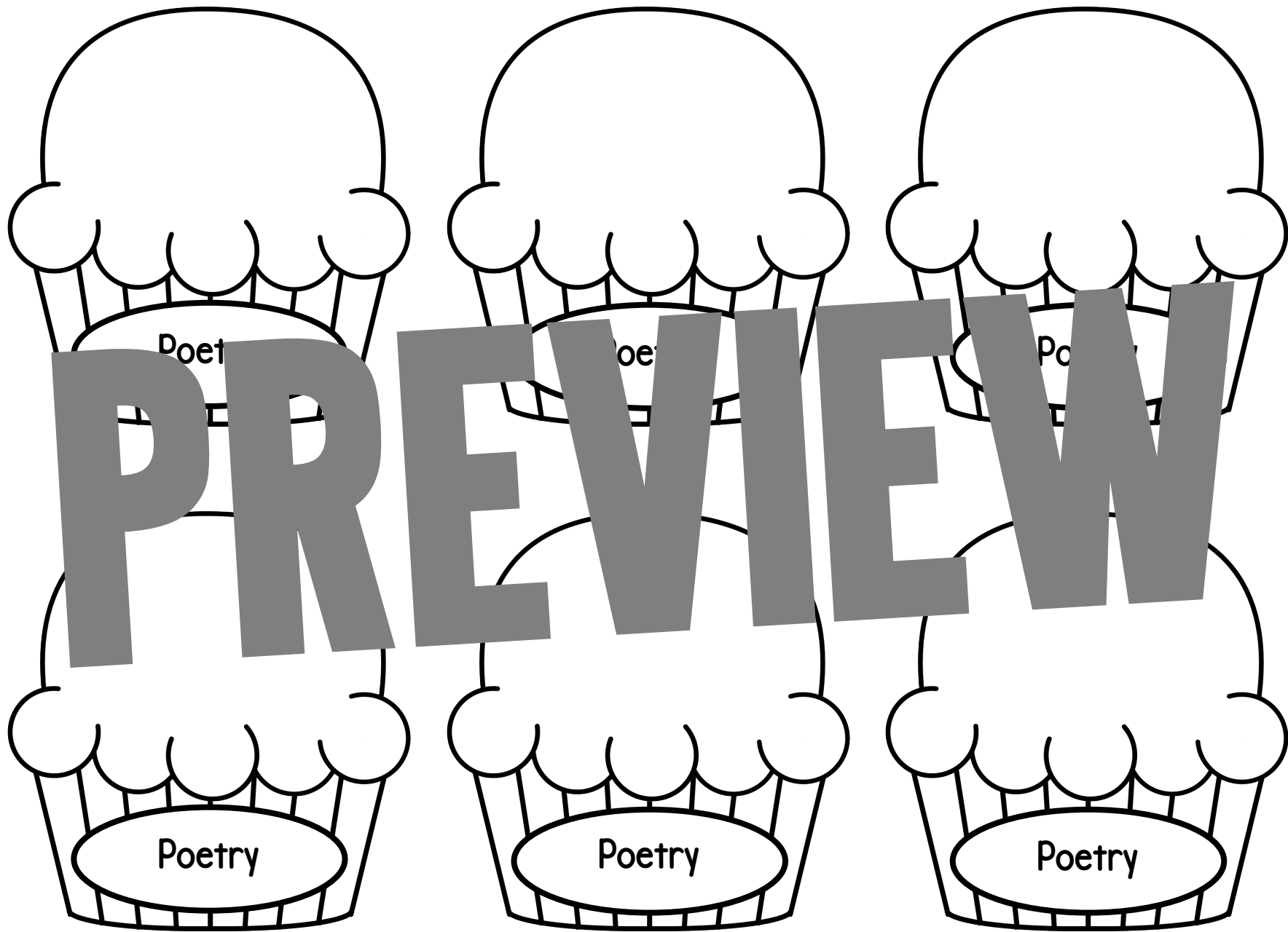
The following pages provide you with a taste of *some* of the activities included within the full pack. The full pack contains pages of cupcakes for all included reading genres, alternative craftivity templates, and large and mini posters in both black and white and color.

Realistic Fiction

Realistic Fiction

Realistic Fiction

Realistic
Fiction

Realistic
Fiction

Realistic
Fiction

PREVIEW

Fantasy

Fantasy

Fantasy

Fantasy

Fantasy

Fantasy

PREVIEW

Biography

Biography

Biography

Biography

Biography

Biography

PREVIEW

Nonfiction

Nonfiction

Nonfiction

Nonfiction

Nonfiction

Nonfiction

PREVIEW

Poetry

Poetry

Poetry

Poetry

Poetry

Poetry

PREVIEW

INCLUDES 15 ADDITIONAL GENRES!

Mystery

Mystery

Mystery

Mystery

Mystery

Mystery

ALTERNATE NO-PREP CRAFTIVITY

For most teachers, time is precious. You may not have the time (or energy) to print each genre cupcake and then have your students cut out their pieces. If you lack the time or resources to have students cut out individual cupcakes for their bakery boxes, I've included two "just print" cupcake pages you can use as alternatives.

Simply print out the cupcake printable that works for you. Your students can simply color a picture of each book they read on the recording sheet instead of cutting out the cupcakes. This saves time and still provides your students with a cute recording sheet for each genre they explore. Due to this template being a no-prep and time-saving version of the activity, I've included only the five main genres that I used during my own Book Bakery Day: fantasy, realistic fiction, biography, nonfiction, and poetry. The sixth cupcake allows students to reflect on their favorite books and draw pictures of them. *You could also print this one page out for each child, and he or she can cut out his or her own six cupcakes to use during the rotations.

There is also a template that includes the five book genres listed above, plus an empty cupcake that you can write on if you wish to add a sixth genre to this sheet.

Realistic
Fiction

PREVIEW

Biography

Poetry

My Favorite
Book

Realistic
Fiction

[...ant...]

[...ontemporary...]

Biography

Poetry

PREVIEW
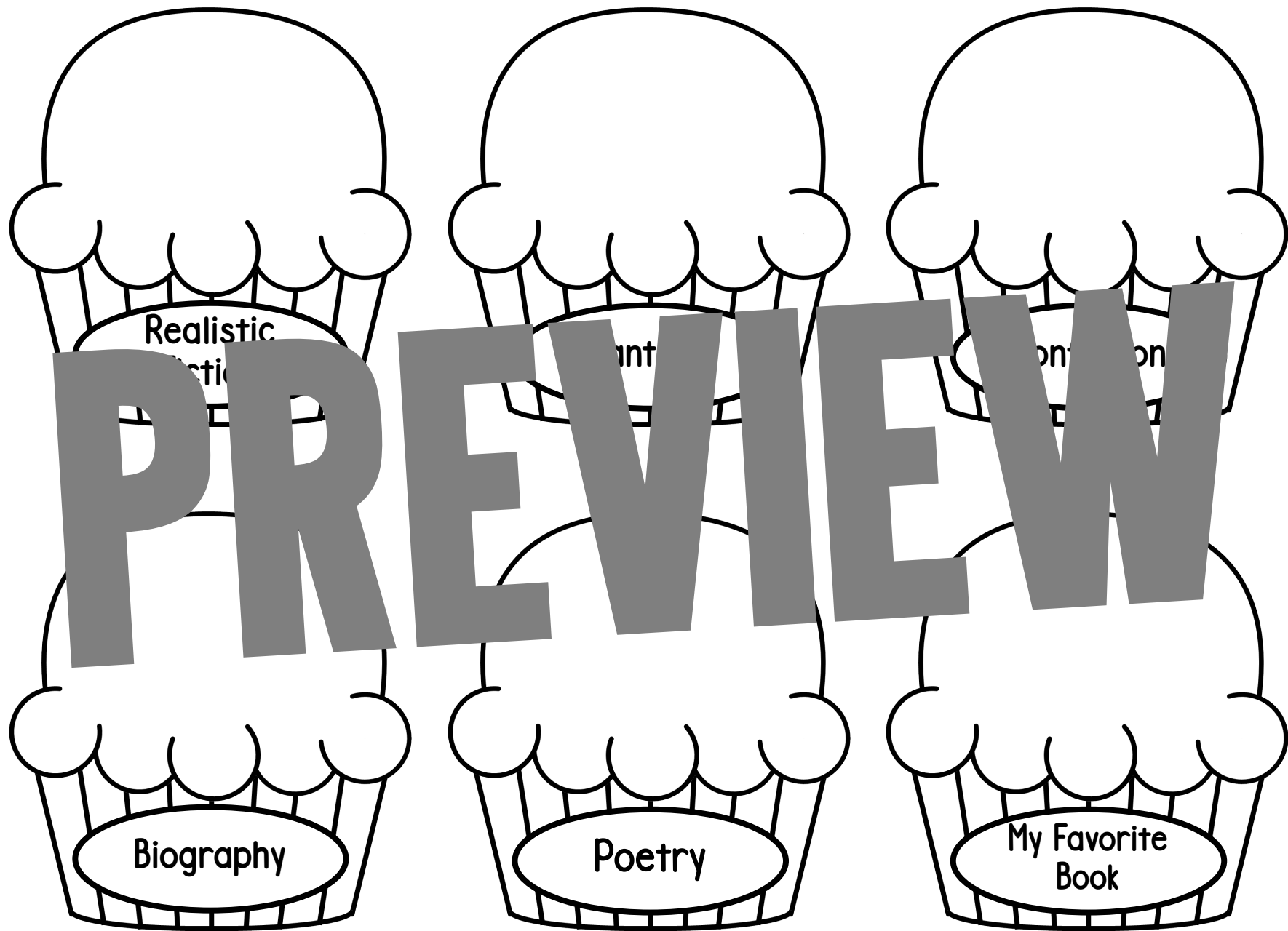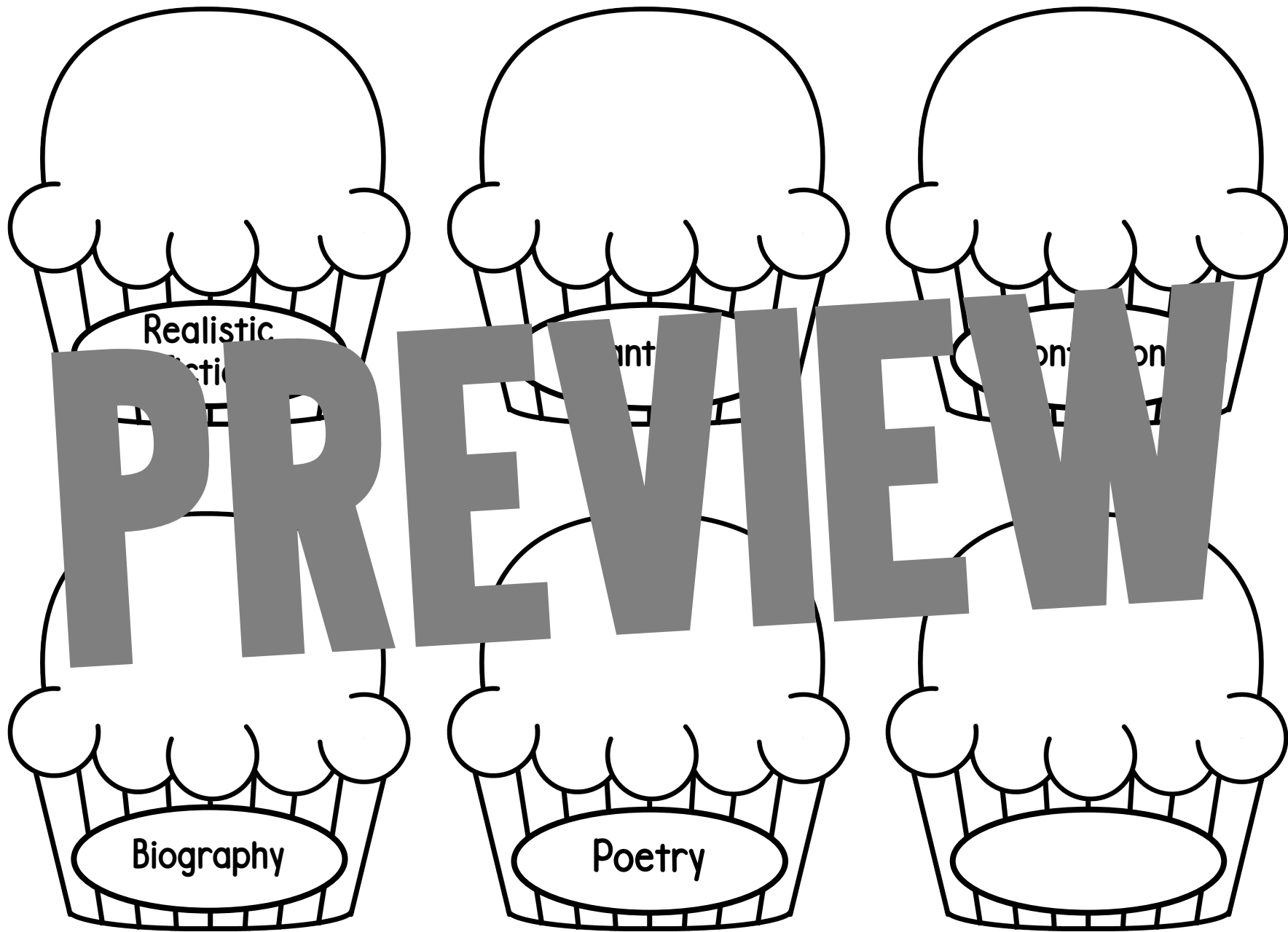
MINI GENRE SIGNS

The following pages contain mini genre signs that you can place at the tables or stations for students to rotate through. Designate a genre for each table/station, and place the mini genre sign at the table as a reminder of what the genre means. I placed my mini genre signs in photo holders, but you could simply place them directly on the tables, too. *These posters are available in both color and an ink-friendly version that can be printed on colorful cardstock. Print the format that works best for you.

Nonfiction

A **nonfiction** book is a text that gives information and fac...

Realistic Fiction

A **realistic fiction** story has made-up characters and ... happ... real ...e.

F...asy

A **f...tasy** s...y ... made-up story that could never happen in real life. It often includes magic.

...ography

A **biography** is the story of a person's life and is written by another person.

PREVIEW

Poetry
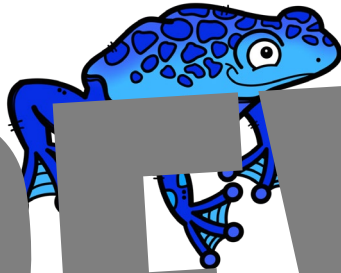
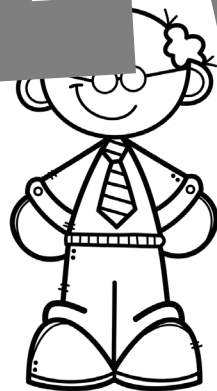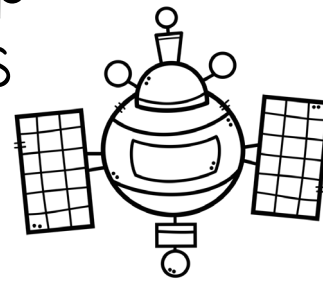**Poetry** is a piece of text that includes rhythm and expresses the aut... [obscured by PREVIEW watermark]

Mystery

A **mystery** has a problem and includes suspense. The... [obscured by PREVIEW watermark]

[Autobiography]

An [auto]biography is a story of a person's life and is written by that person.

[Science Fiction]

A sc[ience fiction] story is a made-up story that includes technology, outer space, or science.
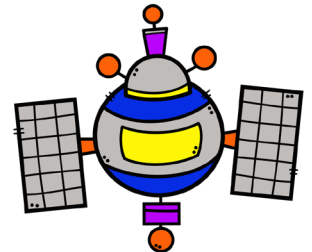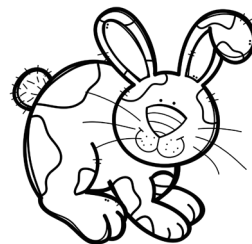
Legend

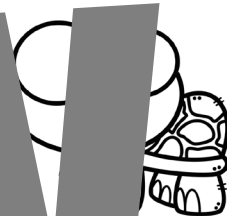A **legend** is a story that is passed down from one person to another. It is often based on real people and ~~real~~ ...

Fable

A **fable** is a short story that teaches a lesson or moral. The ~~characters~~ ... usually animals ...

Fo~~lktale~~

A **fo~~lktale~~** is a story that has been passed down by word of mouth.

~~Fa~~iry

A fa~~iry tale is~~ a story that includes magical or fantasy creatures, such as mermaids, dragons, or giants.
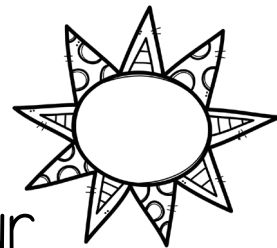
Historical Fiction

A **historical fiction** story is a made-up story that has a his... ... in ...
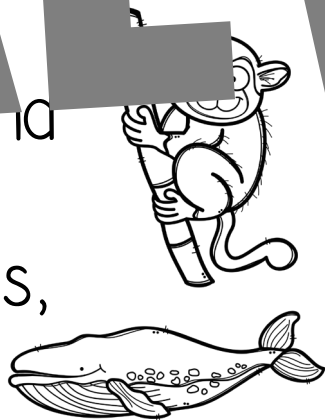
Myth

A **myth** explains how things naturally occur in the world. It often ... supernatural god or goddess ...
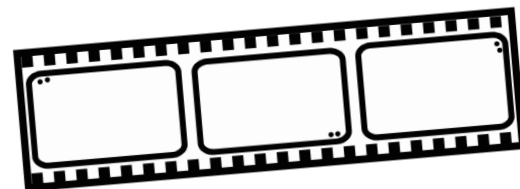
Informational ...

An **informational text** gives facts and information about real people, places, things, or events.

...graphic...

A **graphic novel** is a story that uses comic strips.

Adventure

An **adventure** story contains a lot of danger, excitement, and ac...

Tall Tale

A **tall tale** is an exaggerated story who has characters ... ar... je... ...if...

...ursery Rhyme

A n...sery r... is a ...hort rhyming story that is written for children.

Fiction

...fict... ...y is a story with made-up characters and events.

PREVIEW

Nonfiction

A **nonfiction** book is a text that gives information and facts

Realistic Fiction

A **realistic fiction** story has made-up characters and ... happen in real life.

Fantasy

A **fantasy** story is a made-up story that could never happen in real life. It often includes magic.

Biography

A **biography** is the story of a person's life and is written by another person.

PREVIEW

Poetry

Poetry is a piece of text that includes rhythm and expresses the au___ ___ ___

Mystery

A **mystery** has a problem and includes suspense. The ___ ___ ___ ___ ___il the ___

___ ___ ___ ___raphy

An ___ ___tobiog___ ___ is a story of a person's life and is written by that person.

___ ___ ___nce ___

A sc___ ___ ___tion story is a made-up story that includes technology, outer space, or science.

PREVIEW

Legend

A **legend** is a story that is passed down from one person to another. It is often based on real people and

Fable

A **fable** is a short story that teaches a lesson or moral. The main characters are usually animals

Folktale

A **folktale** is a story that has been passed down by word of mouth.

Fairy

A **fairy** tale a story that includes magical or fantasy creatures, such as mermaids, dragons, or giants.

Historical Fiction

A **historical fiction** story is a made-up story that has a histo... s...

Myth

A **myth** explains how things naturally occur in the world. It often ...r... ...per...tu... ...od or godd...

An **informational ... text** gives facts and information about real people, places, things, or events.

A **graphic ...** A graphic novel is a story that uses comic strips.

Adventure

An **adventure** story contains a lot of danger, excitement, and action.

Tall Tale

A **tall tale** is an exaggerated story that has characters

Nursery Rhyme

A nursery rhyme is a short rhyming story that is written for children.

Fiction

A fiction story is a story with made-up characters and events.
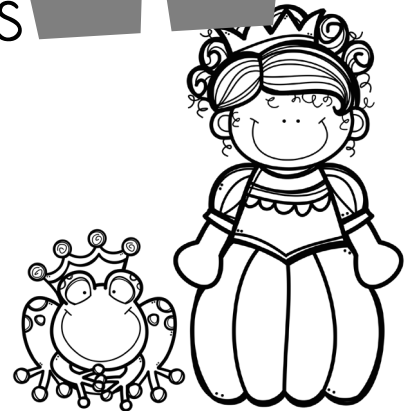
PREVIEW

READING GENRE POSTERS

The following pages contain genre posters that you can use for your anchor chart or reference poster. These posters are nice to use during your whole-group mini lesson, as a review during your share time, or simply to hang up in your room to refer to as you study and read various genres throughout the year. *These posters are available in both color and an ink-friendly version that can be printed on colorful cardstock. Print the format that works best for you.

Nonfiction

A nonfiction book is a text that gives information and facts.

Nonfiction

A nonfiction book is a text that gives information and facts.
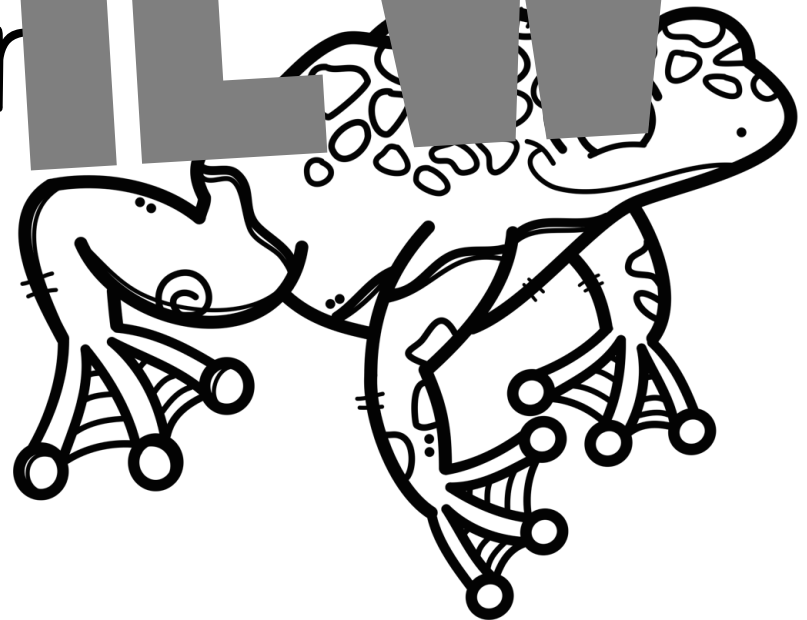
BOOK BAKERY BOOKMARKS

The bookmarks on the following page can be printed on cardstock and cut out for students to use during independent reading, partner reading time, small-group time, and more! You can print them out on white paper and allow students to refer to the bookmarks when they are identifying a books' genres as they read. For this bookmark, I've chosen five popular genres to refer to. If you need additional genres added, just have students write them on the backs of the bookmarks.

*An additional idea is to have students color cupcakes beside the genres they read independently. Their goal would be to read one book from every genre to complete their "Book Bakery Bookmark Mission".

These bookmarks also make excellent reading tools to send home. They will help parents help their children identify the books' genres during nightly reading! Enjoy!
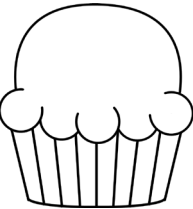
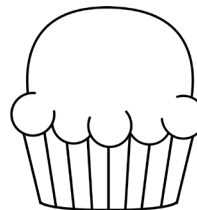| MY BOOK BAKERY BOOKMARK	MY BOOK BAKERY BOOKMARK	MY BOOK BAKERY BOOKMARK	MY BOOK BAKERY BOOKMARK
Fantasy	Fantasy	Fantasy	Fantasy
Realistic Fiction	Realistic Fiction	Realistic Fiction	Realistic Fiction
Nonfiction	Nonfiction	Nonfiction	Nonfiction
Biography	Biography	Biography	Biography
Poetry	Poetry	Poetry	Poetry
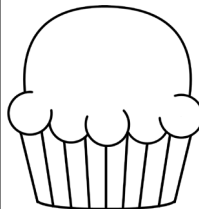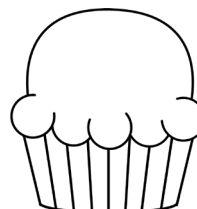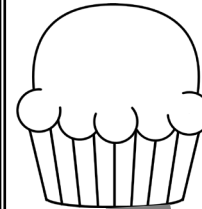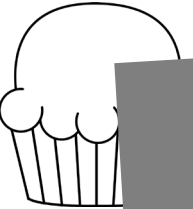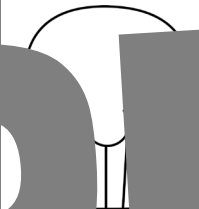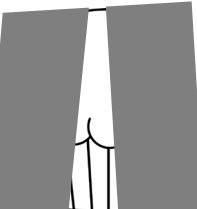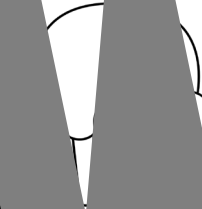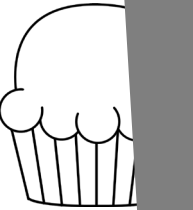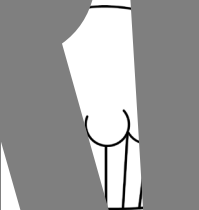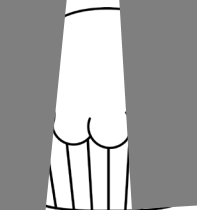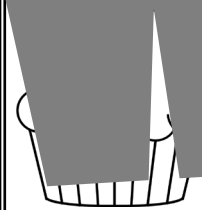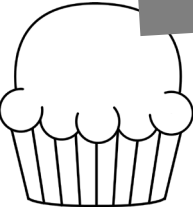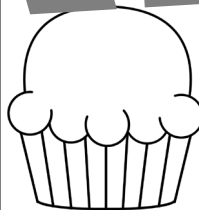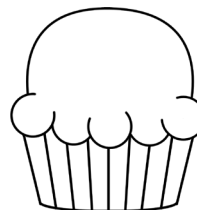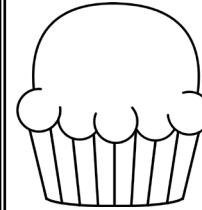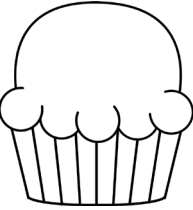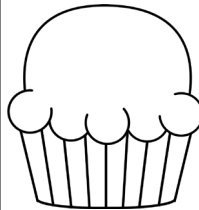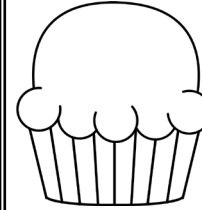
PREVIEW

Name _____ **MY FAVORITE GENRE**

Directions: What is your favorite genre to read and why? Write your response below. Then draw a picture of your favorite genre on the book cover.
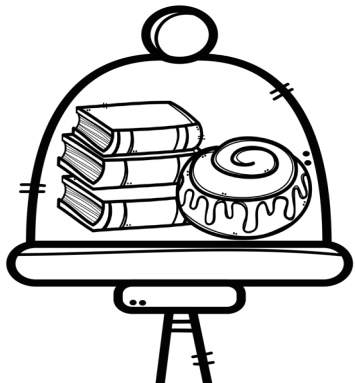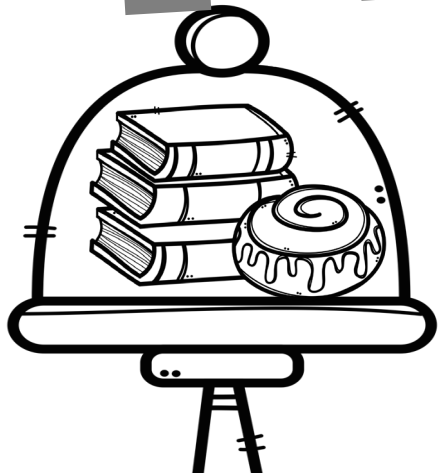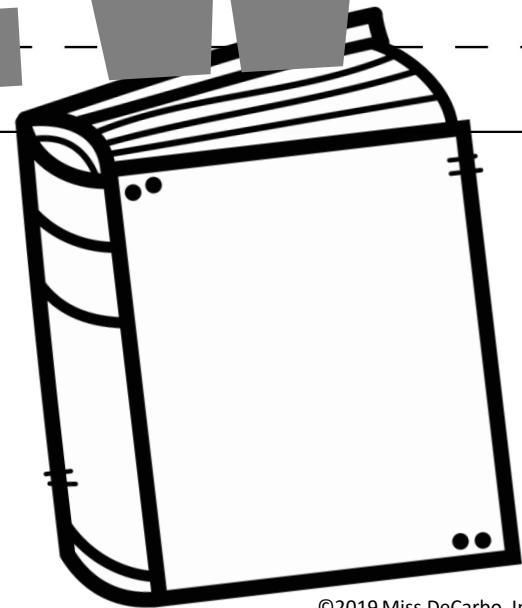
PREVIEW

My
Favorite
Genre
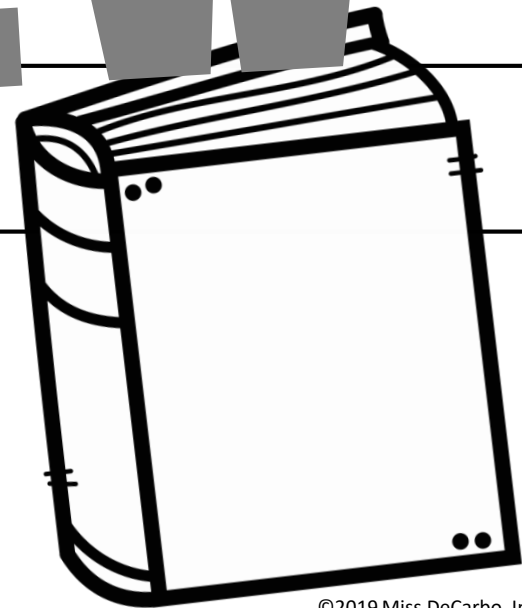
Name _____ **MY FAVORITE GENRE**

Directions: What is your favorite genre to read and why? Draw a picture of your favorite genre on the book cover.

PREVIEW

My
Favorite
Genre

You will also love these additional reading theme resources:

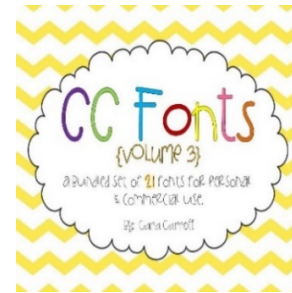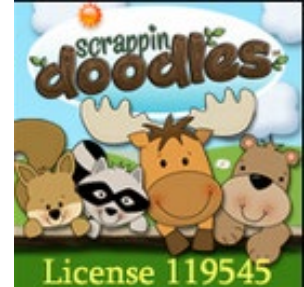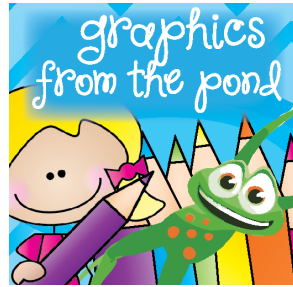**RESTAURANT RETELL**
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ABOUT MISS DECARBO

Christina DeCarbo-Wagers is an elementary teacher from Northeast, Ohio. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, a Master's degree in Elementary Literacy, and a specialized K-12 reading endorsement. Christina has experience in instructional consulting, literacy coaching, and professional development services. Over the course of her career she has presented literacy workshops and professional development sessions for Staff Development of Educators, ASCD, and state and local educational conferences. Christina has also provided extensive services and trainings for school districts and educational service centers across the state of Ohio.

Christina is passionate about helping students reach their greatest potential as readers and writers. Her engaging resources are based in developmentally-appropriate research, and are founded in the importance of critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills for young learners. Her educational company, Miss DeCarbo, Inc., was founded in 2012 and provides educators with curriculum, ideas, research-based advice, and inspiration. You can learn more about Miss DeCarbo by visiting her website, www.missdecarbo.com.