# How to Read Each Genre

Created by myView Literacy author Dr. Judy Wallis

Use these simple steps to unlock any text.

**ARTICLE**

1. Name it: It’s an article!
2. Read the title: What is this article going to be about?
3. Look at the text features
4. Think about the text structure the author is using to organize the article
5. Mark places to “stop and say something” in your inner voice
6. Read closely

**LITERARY NONFICTION**

1. Name it: It’s a *biographical* article!
2. Read the title: Who is the person the selection is about?
3. Remember it will likely be in chronological order
4. Look at the text features
5. Mark places to “stop and say something” in your inner voice
6. Read closely

**FICTION**

1. Name it: It’s a story!
2. Think: realistic or historical fiction?
3. “Draw” the story arc in your mind and map the story on it
4. Notice the characters and their actions
5. Mark places to “stop and say something” in your inner voice
6. Read closely

**TRADITIONAL LITERATURE**

1. Name it: It’s a story!
2. “Draw” the story arc in your mind and map the story on it
3. Notice the characters and their actions
4. Mark places to “stop and say something” in your inner voice
5. Read closely

**DRAMA**

1. Name it: It’s a play that tells a story!
2. Look at the characters
3. Check the number of scenes
4. Read the information in the brackets
5. “Draw” the story arc and map the story on it
6. Imagine yourself as the director
7. Mark places to “stop and say something” in your inner voice
8. Read closely

**POEM**

1. Name it: It’s a poem!
2. Meet the poem: READ and THINK, “What is the poem about?”
3. Read again, this time CLOSELY
4. Think about MOOD, noticing words that show *feeling*
5. Think about FORM; notice number of stanzas, lines and line breaks, rhyme, etc.