

Using the 5 Kinds of Nonfiction to Teach Craft Moves



<u>5 Kinds of Nonfiction</u> discusses nonfiction craft moves in detail—with half a chapter on text features and format, a whole chapter devoted to text structures, and another chapter that takes a close up look at voice, rich language, and point of view. But the table below, which appears on page 54, is great for quick reference. It can help you find books that will make great mentor texts as you teach all the different elements of informational writing.

TABLE 4.2 The Best Kinds of Nonfiction Books for Teaching Craft Moves in Informational Writing

Craft Move	Best Kind(s) of Book	Reason
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Compelling beginnings	Expository literature	Browseable nonfiction may lack a strong hook. Narrative nonfiction starts with a scene, which isn't an element of informational writing.
Satisfying endings	Expository literature, narrative nonfiction	Browseable books may lack a conclusion.
Text features	Expository literature, browseable nonfiction	Narrative nonfiction may include some text features, but they're more numerous and diverse in expository literature and browseable nonfiction.
Innovative format	Expository literature, browseable nonfiction	Narrative nonfiction usually flows from page to page with little formatting.
Carefully chosen text structure	Expository literature	Browseable nonfiction typically has a Description text structure, and narrative nonfiction has a Chronological Sequence text structure. Expository literature is the only category with a wide assortment of text structures.
Strong voice	Expository literature, narrative nonfiction	Browseable nonfiction often lacks a distinct voice, but it's often easy to identify in expository literature and narrative nonfiction.
Rich, engaging language	Expository literature, narrative nonfiction	Browseable nonfiction often lacks rich language because these books explore broad, general topics.
Carefully chosen point of view	Expository literature, narrative nonfiction	Browseable nonfiction generally has third-person narration.