

Skill

- * Comparing and Contrasting Genres
- * Identifying Text Features
- * Making Connections

Literature Link

The Golden Gate Bridge by Craig A. Doherty and Katherine M. Doherty (Blackbirch Press, 1995).

A compelling account of the building of the Golden Gate Bridge, presenting both historic and scientific perspectives.

Pop's Bridge by Eve Bunting (Harcourt, 2006).

Robert and his friend are proud of their fathers, who work on the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge. Includes some factual information.

Nonfiction vs. Fiction

Purpose

Students compare and contrast fiction and nonfiction to develop a greater understanding of both genres, increase their comprehension, and heighten their engagement with the topic.

Introducing the Activity

Choose two picture or easy chapter books on the same topic—one fiction and the other nonfiction. Read the books aloud at separate times to prepare students to use the organizer.

Using the Graphic Organizer

1. After reading both books, distribute copies of the graphic organizer.
2. Have students write the book titles on the appropriate lines on the Venn diagram.
3. Ask students to tell how the contents of the books differ from each other. Guide them to focus on the presence of text features such as maps, graphs, sidebars, and so on in the nonfiction book and the absence of these features in the fiction book. Have them write their responses in the appropriate sections of the diagram.
4. Ask students to tell how the two books are similar. Ask them to record their responses in the overlapping area of the diagram. Explain that although two books might contain the same information, they often present it in very different ways.

5. Have students use the organizer to compare and contrast other nonfiction and fiction book pairs.

Name Antonio Date October 3

Nonfiction vs. Fiction

Nonfiction Title		Fiction Title
<u>The Golden Gate Bridge</u>	People thought that building the bridge was impossible. Both books tell of a tragic accident.	<u>Pop's Bridge</u>
actual photos subtitles maps extra information pages diagrams source notes glossary index		paintings a story about how it might feel to have a dad who helped build the bridge a note from the author

Reading Response for Nonfiction: Graphic Organizers & Mini-Lessons © 2008 by Jennifer Jacobson, Scholastic Teaching Resources, page 19

Taking It Further

Provide a mixture of fiction and nonfiction books. Ask small groups to page through the books, determine which ones fit each genre, and sort them accordingly. Discuss why each book fits into its particular grouping.

Name _____

Date _____

Nonfiction vs. Fiction

Nonfiction Title

Fiction Title

