Finding Children’s Literature in Evans Library

How do I know if TAMU Libraries has a certain book title?

- Search for the title using Quick Search on the homepage (http://www.library.tamu.edu) or the library catalog, also called LibCat (http://libcat.tamu.edu/)
- Quick Search searches library databases as well as the library catalog.
  - The default for the search results is relevance. Usually, if the Libraries has a book with the exact words you enter, the title will appear first in the results.
- The library catalog primarily searches the library’s book collection.
  - In this search, you can limit to “Location: Curriculum Collection”
- When you find a title, note the location, call number, and status
  - The location and call number will help you find the title on the shelf
  - The status will tell you if the book is available

How do I find fiction or nonfiction books?

- There is not a foolproof way to search for fiction vs. nonfiction in the library catalog.
- Subject headings and call numbers will give you a clue.
  - Call numbers that begin with PZ denote fiction.
  - Fiction is often included as a subject heading, so you can use the keyword “fiction.”

How do I find award-winning books (Caldecott, Coretta Scott King, Newbery, Pura Belpre, etc.)?

- Searching LibCat by title is the easiest.

How do I find a particular genre (traditional literature, poetry, historical fiction) of books?

- Utilize keyword searching of the subject headings
- Traditional literature will have subjects like fairy tales, folklore, legends, fables, tales, and tall tales.
- Poetry will have the subject poetry and often the word poem in the title.
- For historical fiction, use keywords to describe event, like Alamo or World War II, and fiction.
- Picture Books can be a subject term, but not always.
- Remember to limit to Curriculum Collection!
- For genre searching, two other library databases might be useful: Children’s Literature Comprehensive Database and TeachingBooks
  - Find these resources by clicking the “Databases” button on the library homepage and searching for the resource by title

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**Children’s Literature Comprehensive Database**

- Search for award-winning books (e.g., Caldecott, Pura Belpré) by searching for the award name in the “Awards” field (in the Search Specific Field dropdown)
- Use the “Category” to limit to “fiction” or “nonfiction”
- Genre limiters include: “Folklore,” “Poetry,” and “Fantasy”
- Reader’s Age and Reading Metrics are also options for limiting your search
- Integrates with the library catalog
  - Books with a “heart” (♥) icon are in the TAMU Libraries Collection
  - Use “Check the Library’s Catalog” link to find call number

**TeachingBooks**

- Focus of resource is on providing instructional materials
- Allow to browse by genre: Poetry, Nonfiction, Graphic Novels, Historical Fiction
- Browse by cultural areas: African American, American Indian, Latinx
- Does NOT integrate with the library catalog

Find additional resources on the Children’s Literature Research Guide:
[http://tamu.libguides.com/childrenslit](http://tamu.libguides.com/childrenslit)