

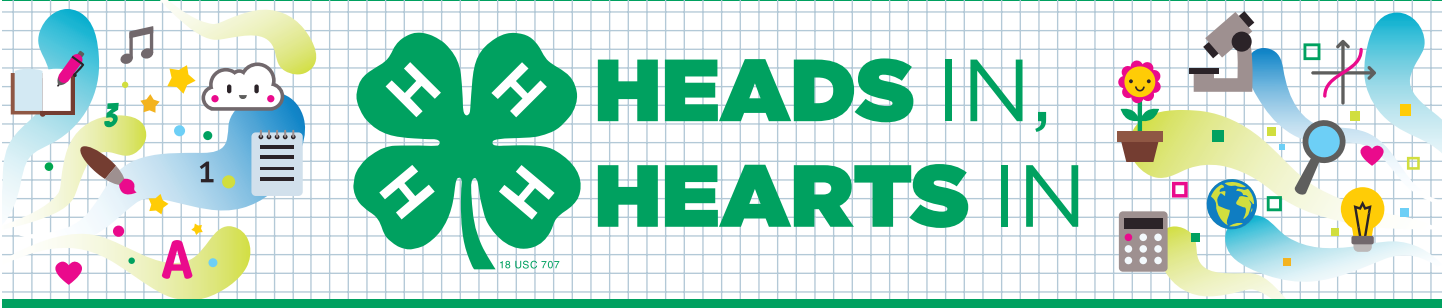
Supplies

- “Guide for Families” handout
- Clear plastic standup display (optional)
- “Nonfiction Text Cards” handout
- Scissors
- Dry erase crayons
- Cleaning cloth
- A variety of nonfiction books (Borrow them from the local library or school library, or purchase them.)
- Display table

Activity Preparation

- ▶ Purchase or locate items on supply list.
- ▶ Print one copy of the “Guide for Families” handout. Laminate or place in a clear plastic standup display to allow participants to see it more readily.
- ▶ Print “Nonfiction Text Cards” handout. Laminate and cut apart.
- ▶ Set up the display table with appropriate supplies.





Nonfiction Text Features

Guide for Families

Learning Objectives

What you need to know:

Text is something that has been written, printed, typed or copied. **Nonfiction text** occurs when the author writes about a real or true thing, person, event or place. Typically, nonfiction text contains certain characteristics or features such as a **glossary, table of contents, diagrams, subheadings, an index, headings, captions and bold print**

What you will do and learn:

You will explore common features of nonfiction text and learn to identify them.

Instructions

1. Choose a nonfiction book
2. Choose a Nonfiction Text Card.
3. Look through the book to see if you can find the nonfiction text feature that is shown on the card.
4. Use the dry erase crayon to check off that you have found that feature.
5. Continue with other cards to see how many you can get find!
6. Using the cleaning cloth, erase the cards when you are finished.
7. Can you teach someone else about the feature you found? See if you can teach your parents or teacher about what you just learned.

Nonfiction Text Features

Nonfiction Text Cards Handout

Table of Contents

The **Table of Contents** (or sometimes just Contents) is a list of the parts of a book. Here you'll find a list of chapters or headings and the page number that the information can be found on.

Example:

Table of Contents

Chapter 1: Types of Trees..... Page 1
 Chapter 2: Animals that Live in Trees..... Page 5
 Chapter 3: What Trees Need to Live..... Page 9

Chapters

Chapters let us know how the information is broken down or separated into what we'll be learning about.

Example:

Chapter 1: Types of Trees

In this chapter, we will be learning about the different types of trees.

Bold Print

Bold print is used in nonfiction text to show importance or draw attention to the word or words.

Example:

Before you cross the street, be sure to **look both ways** to be sure there aren't cars coming.

Caption

A **caption** is found under a picture or graphic and gives information that helps us understand or learn more about that picture.

Example:



To be safe, this boy put his helmet on and made sure his shoes were tied before riding his bike.

Nonfiction Text Features

Nonfiction Text Cards Handout, continued

Glossary

A **glossary** is found in the back of the book. It is a list of important words in the book. Next to those important words are definitions or meanings.

Example:

Rose — a medium-sized flower that comes in a variety of colors, has thorns and smells sweet.

Sunflower — a large flower that stands very tall, has seeds that can be eaten, and is yellow or orange in color.

Daisy — a medium-sized flower that is generally white with a yellow center, has no leaves and opens in the morning.

Heading

The **heading** is the title of a section. It separates topics and uses a few words to tell the reader what he or she will be learning about.

Example:

Cloud Movement

Clouds are a collection of very small water droplets of water or ice crystals. Have you ever noticed that clouds move across the sky? The movement of clouds depends on how quickly the wind is pushing them. When it’s not very windy, clouds may look like they aren’t moving at all or are moving very slowly. Other times the jet stream will move clouds as fast as 100 miles per hour. In storms, clouds can travel 30-40 miles per hour.

Index

An **index** is found in the back of the book. It is an alphabetical list of the topics covered in the book with the page number that topic can be found on.

Example:

Index

A	
Apples	20
Archery	13
B	
Bananas	62
Baskets.....	132
C	
Camping	57
Colors	89

Subheading

The **subheading** is found under the heading. It tells the readers more detailed information about what they will be learning. In the example below, “How to Stay Safe” is the subheading.

Example:

Riding a Bike
How to Stay Safe

There are a few things you should do before you ride a bike. Check the bike to be sure it’s in good working condition. Locate your helmet and ask for assistance from an adult to double-check that it fits properly. Lastly, check your shoe laces. Be sure they are tied tightly or tucked into your shoes. Now you’re ready to ride your bike safely.

Nonfiction Text Features

Nonfiction Text Cards Handout, continued

Diagram

A **diagram** is a picture, drawing or figure with labels.

Example:



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Photographs

Photographs are actual pictures. They are not drawings or graphics.

Example:



Photo: Michigan State University Extension