

Spotlight on Classic

Created by Inaburra Senior Library

What are they?

Books that have stood the test of time, with characters and stories that everyone can relate to.

How did they start?

The first classic books were probably the classical writings, which are writings from ancient civilisations like Greece and Rome. These were considered works of the highest quality and studying them was once an essential part of getting an education.

After the invention of the printing press more and more books with many different genres began to be published and the definition of a classic changed to include any books that continue to be relevant to readers now.

These days there is a lot of disagreement about which books are classics and why, especially if a book was published fairly recently. There is less disagreement about old books, because if they were published over fifty years ago and are still being read then they probably fit the criteria of a classic.

Famous authors

There are many, but these are a few you might have heard of...

Charles Dickens

Jane Austen

Arthur Conan Doyle

Jules Verne

Mark Twain

Lewis Carroll

Louisa May Alcott

Frances Hodgson Burnett

Charlotte Bronte

Robert Louis Stevenson

Rudyard Kipling

J.M. Barrie

Frank L. Baum

Edgar Allen Poe

Common themes

Family

Love

Friendship

Sickness

War

Suffering

Death