

CAMP AWESOME

by Sandra Newman • illustrated by Steve Brown

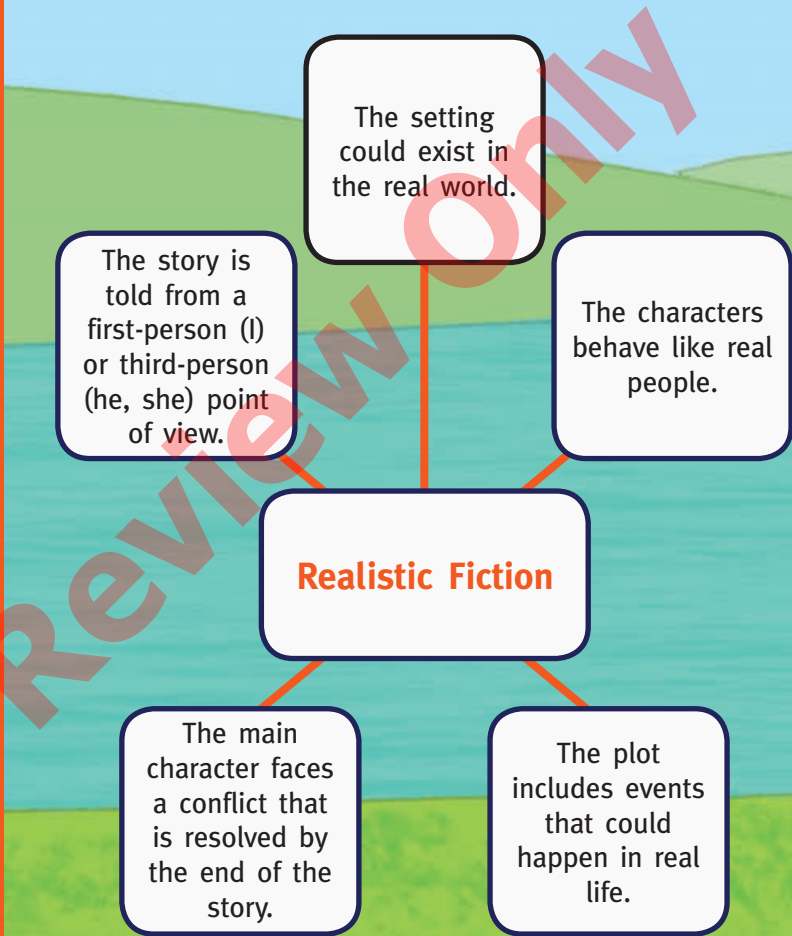


**REALISTIC FICTION
LITERATURE**

Level **K/20**
Lexile® **520L**

Realistic Fiction

Look for the genre features noted below as you read this book. Use the features to help you understand the text.



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Camp Horrible

“There’s Camp Mohawk!” Amina shouted. She could see the cabins from the car.

“I can’t believe Grandpa went here when he was a kid,” Amina said to James.

“So, what do you think it will be like?” James asked.

He was excited, too, but scared. He was glad his sister, Amina, was here. She was older, and he knew she would look out for him.

When they arrived, they saw kids paddling kayaks on the lake, playing volleyball, and riding bikes.

“This is going to be fun!” Amina said. James wasn’t so sure.



When it was time to get ready for swimming, Amina went to the girls' cabin.

James went in the boys' cabin and all the other boys were talking. They seemed to know each other already. No one talked to James.

At the lake, when James walked into the water, the bottom of the lake felt slimy. He squished the mud between his toes. "Disgusting!" James said.

Just then, a boy swam past him. "Watch out for the turtle!" he said.

James hurried back to land. *What if it was a snapping turtle? It could bite off my toe!* he thought.



When he went to bed that night, he could hear wild dogs—or were they coyotes?—barking and howling outside.

James looked around the cabin, but everyone else was asleep. *Am I the only one afraid?* he wondered.

Now he was scared and embarrassed.

Camp Awesome

The next morning, at breakfast, James was too tired and sad to be hungry. He felt better, though, when he saw Amina. He ran to sit with her.

“James!” Amina said. “Isn’t this place great?”

“What?” he said. “It’s horrible! It’s horrible and scary! How can you like it?”

“Of course I like it!” Amina said. “It’s the best place in the world!”

Then she told James about the wonderful time she had the day before.

Amina had met some other kids in another group. Soon they were all good friends.

Then they'd all gone to the lake to swim. An older girl taught Amina how to dive into the water. Soon Amina was having fun, diving and jumping in.





Then Amina told James how she had met the camp's three dogs, Wooly, Micky, and Sprout.

"They belong to Maggie, our camp counselor. She let me throw a Frisbee for them. Sprout was so good at catching it!"

"This isn't Camp Mohawk," Amina said. "It's Camp Awesome!"

By this time, James was angry. "Don't you see how horrible this place is? How can you like it here?" he said. "You don't even know about the snapping turtle! He could bite off your toe!"

Amina laughed. "There are no snapping turtles here."

