



Introducing Children's Literature: From Romanticism to Postmodernism

Deborah Cogan Thacker, Jean Webb

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Introducing Children's Literature is an ideal guide to reading children's literature through the perspective of literary history. Focusing on the major literary movements from Romanticism to Postmodernism, Thacker and Webb examine the concerns of each period and the ways in which these concerns influence and are influenced by the children's literature of the time.

Each section begins with a general chapter, which explains the relationship between the major issues of each literary period and the formal and thematic qualities of children's texts. Close readings of selected texts follow to demonstrate the key defining characteristics of the form of writing and the literary movements. Original in its approach, this book sets children's literature within the context of literary movements and adult literature. It is essential reading for students studying writing for children. Books discussed include:

- *Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*
- * Charles Kingsley's *The Water-Babies*
- *Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*
- *Frank Baum's *The Wizard of Oz*
- *Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden*
- *P.L.Travers' *Mary Poppins*
- *E.B.White's *Charlotte's Web*
- *Philip Pullman's *Clockwork*.

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