RE

Last week we looked at different types of books and their purposes. Think about these questions; no written answers needed: Why should we treat books with care? If you wrote a book, what kind of book would it be and why? How would you feel if you had a book of your own printed?

The Bible is by far the best-selling book of all time.

The word Bible means book, although it is actually a collection of different kinds of books or writings, which we call Holy Scripture. It tells of God’s love and how people responded to that love. The books of the Old Testament tell of the events before the coming of Jesus. The New Testament tells of the birth, life, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus and of how the Church began and grew as it spread the Good News.

Much of what is in the Bible started with telling a story orally and passing it on from one generation to the next. Gradually, over a very long period of time the stories were collated and written down. There are seventy-three books in the Bible, forty-six in the Old Testament and twenty-seven in the New Testament. Nobody knows exactly when each book was written. We do know that it took a thousand years or more for all the books to be completed. The last book was written at the end of the first century AD.

Over many years, many different authors have contributed writings, so there are **poetry, letters, prayers, history, documentaries, drama, legend, and biography**; in fact any kind of writing or genre that you would find in a good library. All these authors, regardless of the style in which they wrote, wanted to tell one thing – the truth about God and his love for his people.

Now we understand a bit more about how the Bible is split into so many books, I have a search and find task for you. Here is a list of 6 references:

**Isaiah 44: 2**

**Proverbs 24: 13-14**

**Luke 22: 54-57**

**Psalm 5: 1-3**

**Matthew 21: 1-5,**

**Psalms 150: 1-6**

Type each one into a search engine to find the quote (you may want to add ‘for kids’ in the search as it may show a more child friendly version of the reference) or if you have a Bible of your own, look it up in there. Use the following template to make a note of which book of the Bible it comes from, what genre of writing it is and a note of the main content of the passage.

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| Bible reference | What genre of writing do you think it is? | Summarise the content |
| Isaiah 44: 2 | I think the genre is a letter of explanation | It explains that the Lord chose us and will, “pour out water for the thirsty land” which I think means Jesus will be there looking after us. |
| Proverbs 24: 13-14 | It reads like a poem to me | The reference explains how we must eat the honey because it is good for you. Honey is referred to as wisdom. |
| Luke 22: 54-57 |  |  |
| Psalm 5: 1-3 |  |  |
| Matthew 21: 1-5 |  |  |
| Psalms 150: 1-6 |  |  |