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Identifying Elements of *Kinder- und Jugendliteratur*

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Research & Scholarship SYMPOSIUM

Identifying Elements of *Kinder- und Jugendliteratur*

Kinder- und Jugendliteratur, children's literature, written for the purpose of teaching or entertaining young people, has been present in German literature since the Middle Ages. This genre has changed as German literature progressed, reflecting the developments of each era, including such periods as the Romantic, the Biedermeier, Realism, Modernism and Postmodernism. As such, we examined individual works of German *Kinder- und Jugendliteratur* for the purpose of identifying distinctive features which situate them within children's literature as well as in the respective historical genre. The works examined were *Nußknacker und Mausekönig* (1816) by E. T. A. Hoffmann, *Emil und die Detektive* (1929) by Erich Kästner, *Försters Pucki* (1935) by Madge Trott, *Jan und das Wildpferd* (1957) by Heinrich Denneborg, *Die Wolke* (1987) by Gudrun Pausewang, and *Tintenherz* (2003) by Cornelia Funke. We present our findings in the form of a *Wimmelbuch*, a typical form of German *Kinder und Jugendliteratur* made popular during the Biedermeier period of the mid-1800s.