

# The Dewey Decimal Classification System



For Middle Grades 6-8

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# Topic Slide

The following presentation will introduce the Dewey Decimal System to middle school students grades 6-8. After viewing the presentation, students will participate in an activity utilizing the Dewey Decimal System

# What is the Dewey Decimal System?



The Dewey Decimal System is a classification system that organizes information into ten general subject areas, which are broken into smaller and smaller topics. The purpose of the Dewey System is to make it easy for people to locate materials in the library and on shelves. It was invented by Melvil Dewey.

# Who is Melvil Dewey ?



<http://www.mtsu.edu/%7Evvesper/dewey.html#Melvil>

Melvil Dewey invented the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system when he was twenty one years old while working as a student assistant in the library of Amherst College. He invented the system to make it easy to find materials in all libraries. He also founded the American Library Association.

# Categories of Books

There are three main categories of books:

***Fiction***

***Reference***

***Non-Fiction***

# *Fiction Books*



Type of books in which the story is made up by the author. The plot and characters are not real.

# Non-Fiction Books



Type of books that contain factual information about real people, places, things, and events.

# Non-Fiction

Non-Fiction books are made up of biographies (books written about peoples' lives).

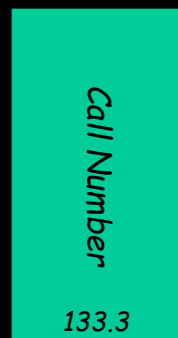
Non-Fiction books also include reference books such as dictionaries, thesauruses, encyclopedias, and almanacs.



# What is the Dewey Decimal System?

## *The Call Number*

Different topics in the Dewey Decimal System are assigned numbers, known as "call numbers". The call number is a group of numbers or numbers and letters put together to tell you where to find your book on the shelf.



# What is the Dewey Decimal System?

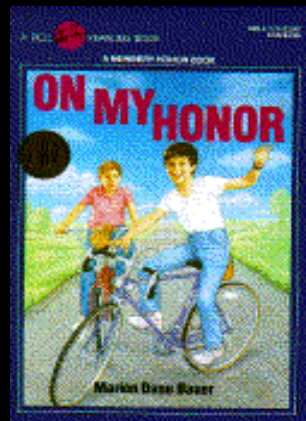
## *The Call Number*

The call number is located at the bottom of the book on the spine. The call number always has three numbers to the left of the decimal.



# What is the Dewey Decimal System?

Fiction call numbers begin with “FIC” followed by the first three letters of the author’s last name.



The Book, *On My Honor*, is a piece of fiction written by Marion Bauer.

*Book Review and Cover: <http://www.amazon.com>*

# Ten Classes of Dewey

The Dewey Decimal System organizes books based on their subjects in the following way:

- 000 General Knowledge
- 100 Psychology and Philosophy
- 200 Religion and Mythology
- 300 Social Science and Folklore
- 400 Language
- 500 Natural Science and Mathematics
- 600 Technology & Applied Sciences
- 700 Arts and Recreation
- 800 Literature
- 900 Geography and History

# 000 - General Knowledge

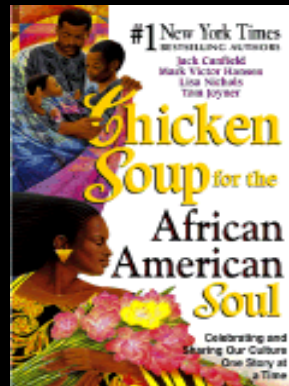
This section is where almanacs, encyclopedias, and newspapers are located. This section also includes books with subjects on computer science.



Dewey Number 004.02  
Cover Image: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

# *100 - Psychology and Philosophy*

This Dewey section includes books that deal with death, ethics, feelings, and superstitions.

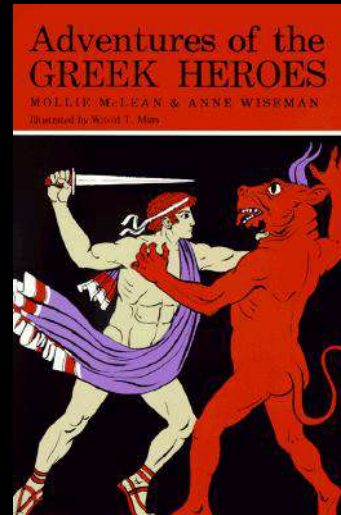


Dewey Number 158.1

Cover Image: <http://sunlink.ucf.edu>

# 200 – Religion & Mythology

*The 200's includes books with topics related to different religions such as Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam. Greek Mythology is also located in this section.*



Dewey Decimal Number 932.02 H00

Cover Image: [www.sunlink.ucf.edu](http://www.sunlink.ucf.edu)

# *300 – Social Science & Folklore*

*This section includes books with subjects on careers, government, and folktales.*



Dewey Decimal Number 398.2 STE

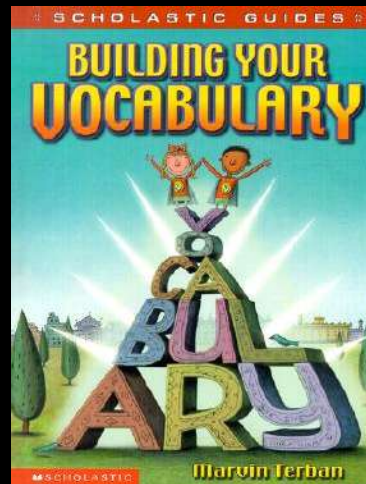
Book Review and cover:

<http://www.amazon.com/>



# 400 - Language

*This section is comprised of books whose subjects are based on languages, such as Chinese, French, English, Spanish, and Sign Language.*

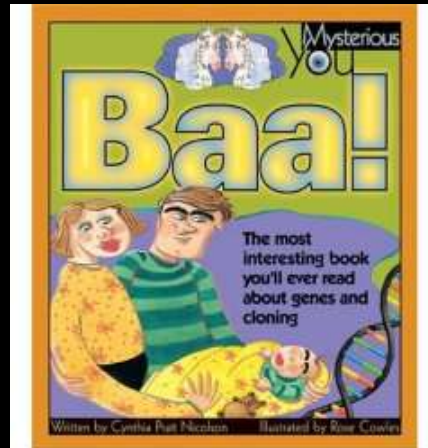


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# *500 – Natural Science & Mathematics*

The 500's is made up of books about animals, chemistry, plants, and planets.



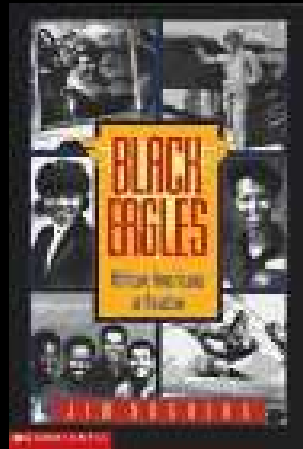
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Book Review and Cover:

<http://www.amazon.com>

# *600 – Technology & Applied Sciences*

*This section includes topics on computers, vehicles, and inventions.*

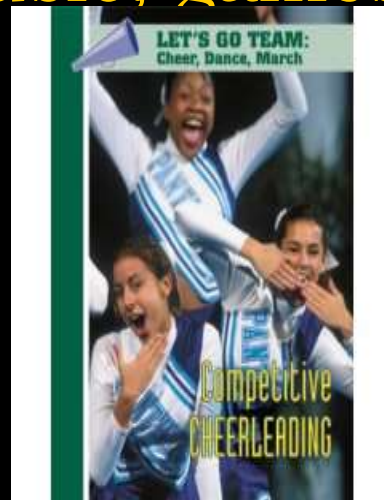


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Cover Image: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)

# 700 – Arts & Recreation

The 700's section has books on crafts, drawings, music, games, and sports.

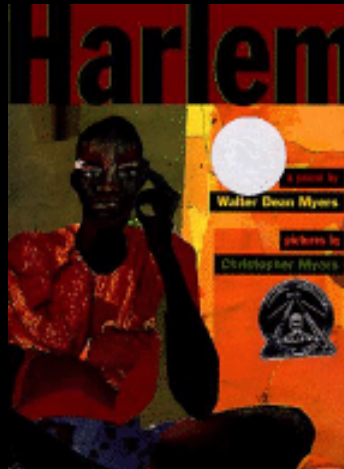


Dewey Decimal Number 791.6

Book Review and Cover: <http://www.amazon.com>

# 800 - *Literature*

This section contains books on topics that include children's literature, plays, poetry, and Shakespeare.

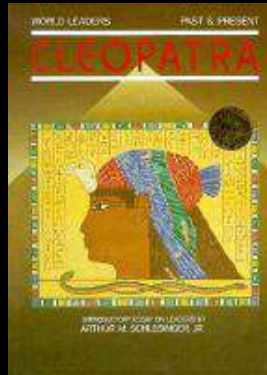


Dewey Decimal Number 811 MYE

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# 900 – Geography & History

The 900 section includes topics on states, countries, wars, and travel.



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Cover Image: [www.sunlink.ucf.edu](http://www.sunlink.ucf.edu)

# Dewey Practice

Name the Dewey Classification where you would find books on the following subjects:

- *Basketball*
- *Chemistry*
- *How to Speak French*
- *Arithmetic*
- *Hinduism*

In which class would you find the following titles?:

- *Mars the Red Planet*
- *The Collected Short Stories of Edgar Allan Poe*
- *The Instruments of Music*
- *The American Revolution*
- *A Voice in American Politics*

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[http://www.alisal.org/librarysrv/dewey\\_system.htm](http://www.alisal.org/librarysrv/dewey_system.htm)

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<http://www.mtsu.edu/%7Evvesper/dewey.html#Melvil>

<http://www.oclc.org/dewey/resources/biography/>

<http://sunlink.ucf.edu>