



# Dropping Dewey

Seymour Public Library

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# Agenda

- Introduction
- Why move away from using Dewey?
  - Accessibility
  - User Experience (UX)
  - Empower patrons
  - Browsing not research
  - decreasing circulation
- How do we actually do this?
  - Nonfiction
  - Fiction
  - Picture books
- Lessons Learned

# Seymour Library



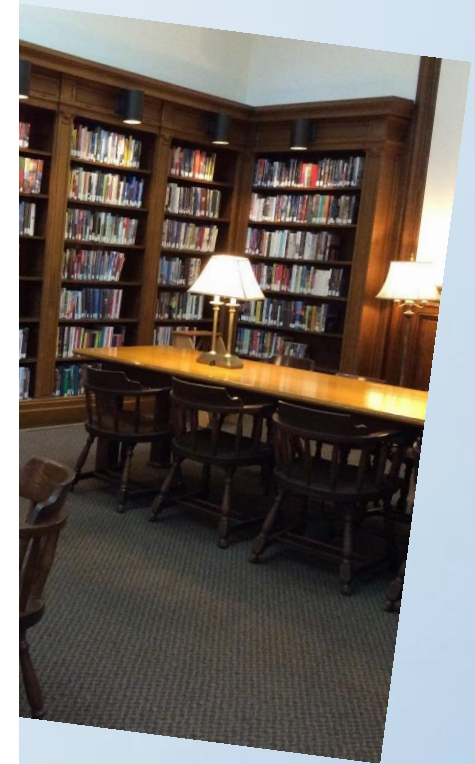
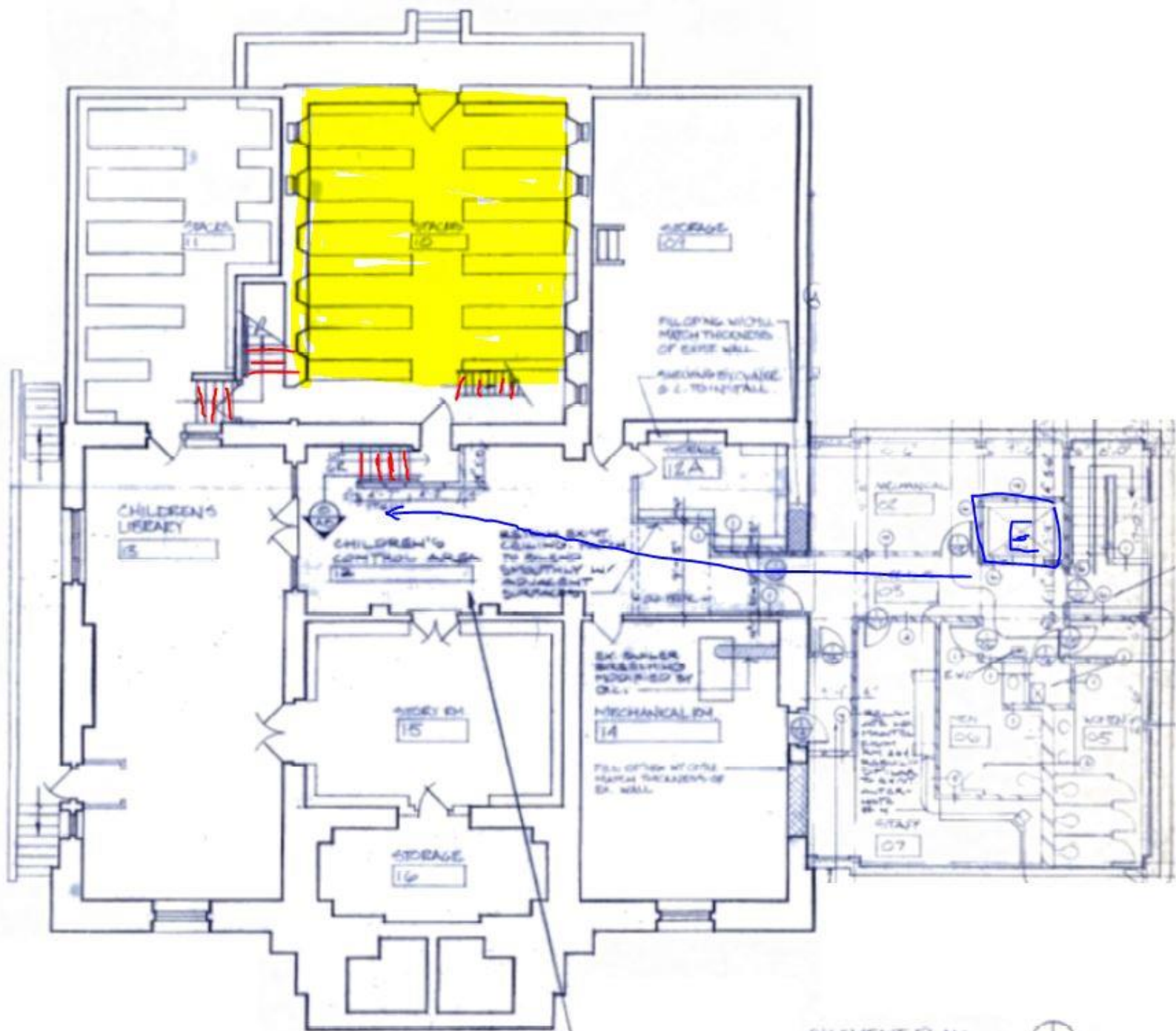
Service Area: 35,000  
Collection: 80,000  
Annual Circulation: 174,000

30 PT employees  
4 FTE librarians

Median income: \$47,000  
Poverty level: 14%  
High School: 84%

Major Employers: Hospital, Corrections, School/Boces, Walmart, County, Xylem, Wegmans, CCC, Nucor





# Dewey & the User Experience





move to BISAC

- Maricopa, AZ
- Rangeview, CO – WordThink
- Albany, NY

keep dewey but adapt it

- Darien, CT – glades (*Places*)

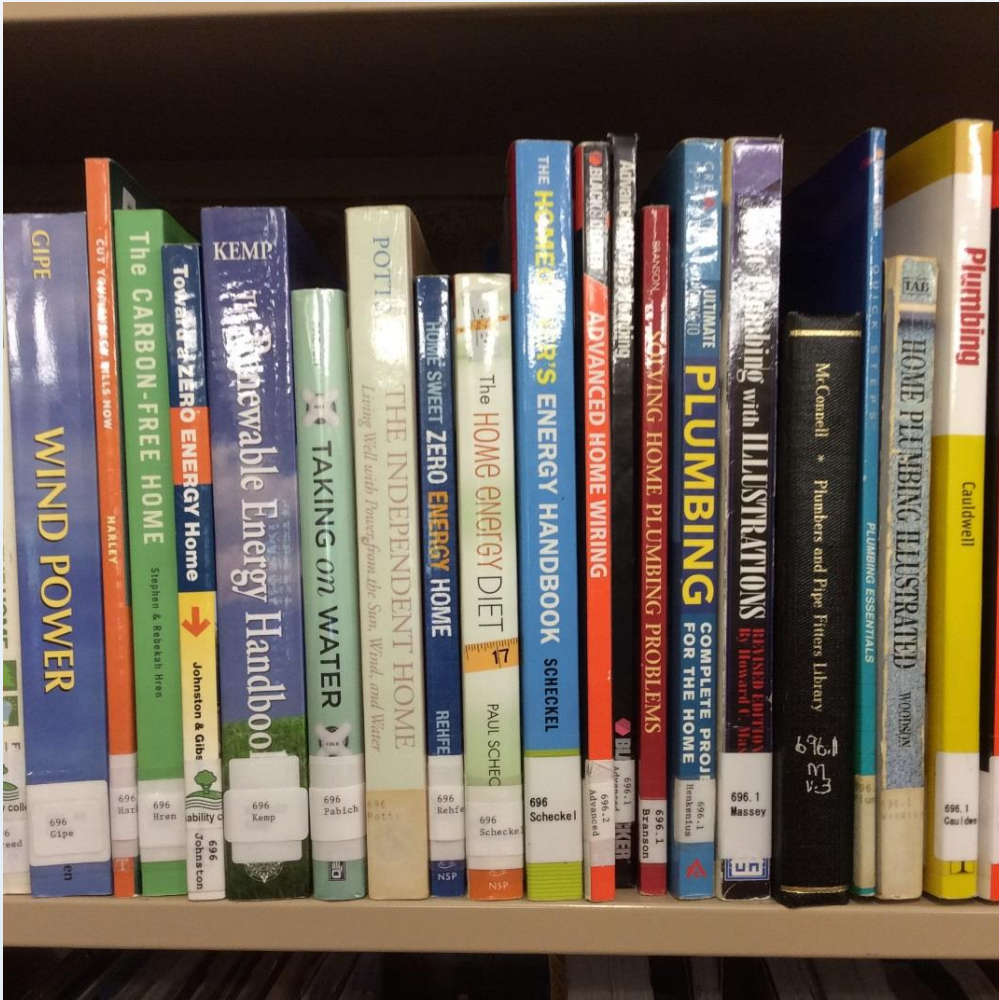
move to hybrid

- Wells County, IN – WordWise
- DeWitt, NY

# Options



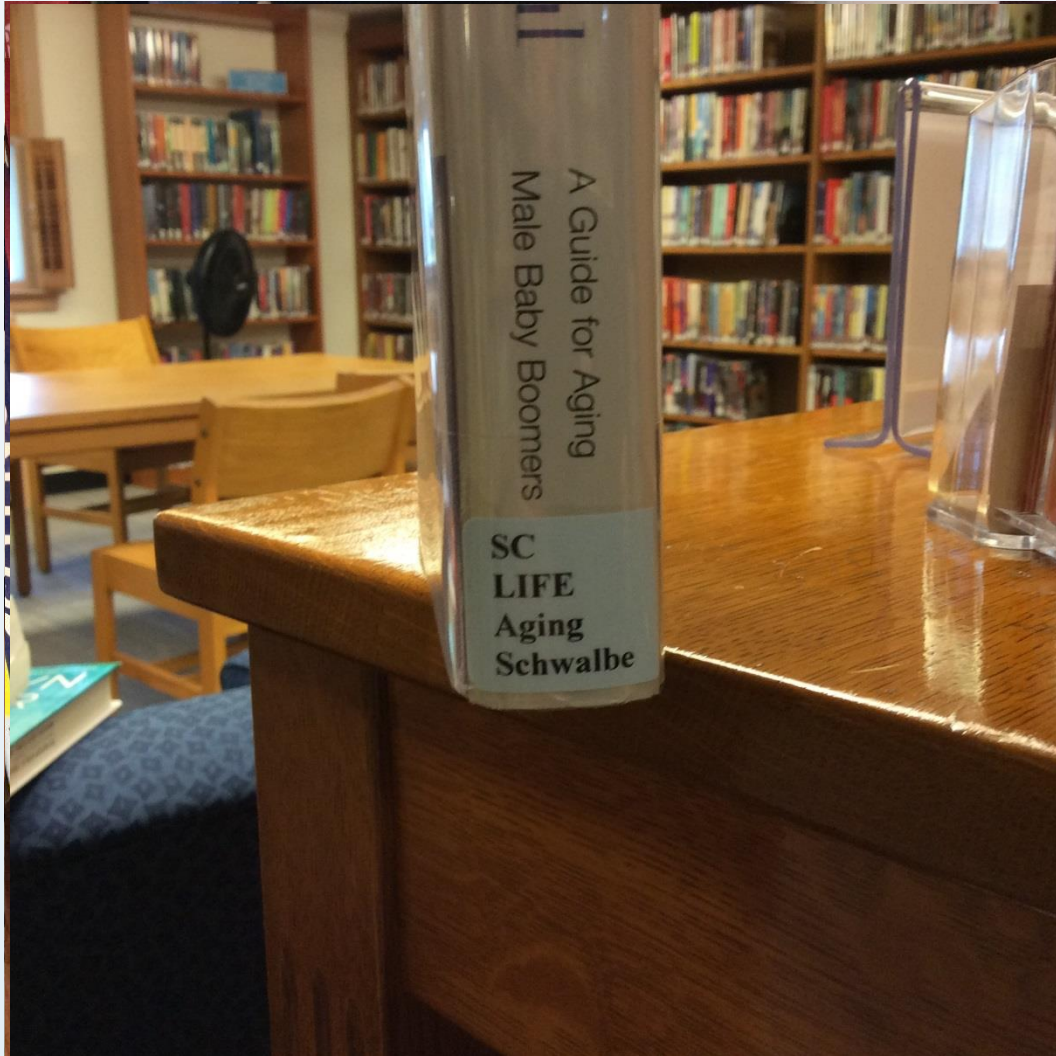
# Dropping Dewey: an evolution



- college prep near employment
- foreign languages to travel
- electrical/plumbing to home repair



# Second Chapter: an opportunity



- Word based labels
- Our Categories
  - Health
  - Life
  - Finance
  - Retirement
  - Technology



# Defining Categories

Category

Subcategory

Scope Statement



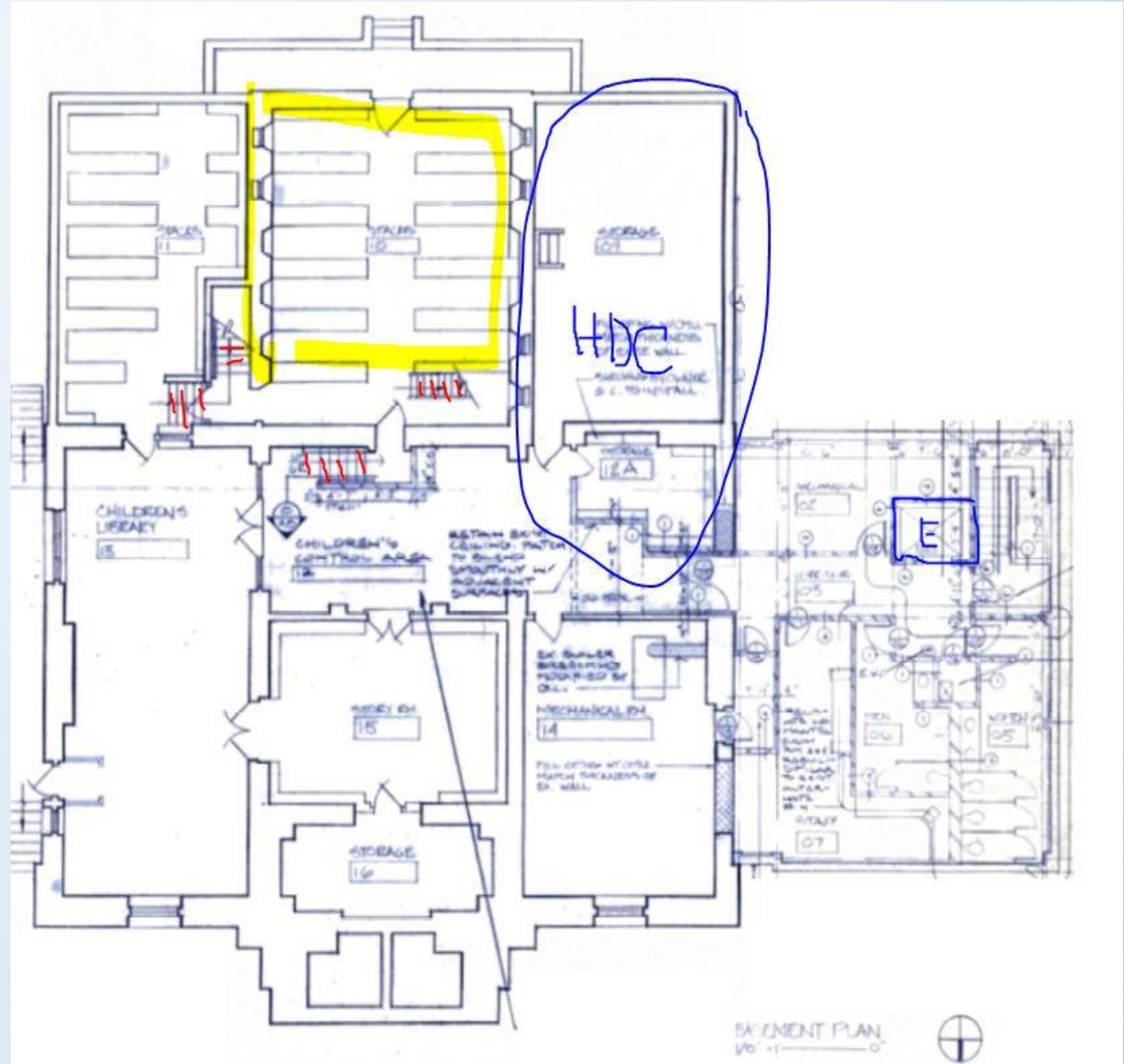
Description of the category & subcategories; Dewey ranges  
style guide

Spine Label

Places  
Travel  
US NY  
2016

# Next up: History

- History (900s, not Travel)
- Warfare
- Politics
- Social Issues
- Disasters

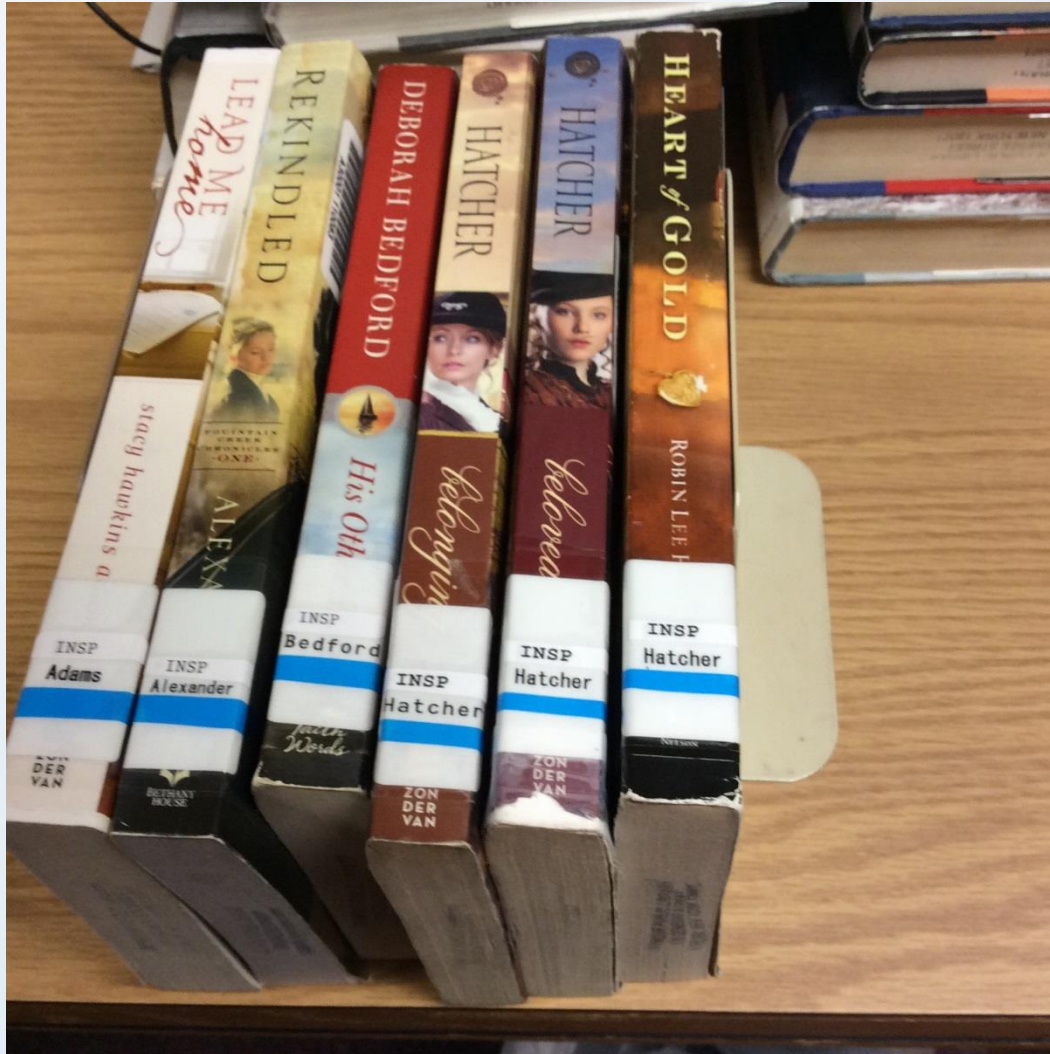




# Nonfiction: 000-800

- Arts & Literature
- Home
- Nature
- Body & Soul
- Spirit
- Life
- Places
- Play
- Hobbies
- Technology
- Education & Careers
- People

# Fiction: Genre Sorting



- Genres
  - Mystery
  - Science Fiction/Fantasy
  - General Fiction A-Z
- New Genres
  - Expand Mystery to Crime Fiction
  - Inspirational
  - Horror
  - Romance
  - Historical Fiction



# Picture Books



# Categories

## LEARNING

- Alphabet
- Colors
- Counting
- Shapes
- Opposites and Size

## TRANSPORTATION

- Boats
- Cars and Trucks
- Construction Machines and Emergency Vehicles
- Airplanes and Helicopters
- Trains

## SCIENCE

- Animals (forest, jungle, not pets)
- Birds
- Dinosaurs
- Farms (include tractors, etc.)
- Gardens
- Insects
- Nature (trees, flowers, ponds, etc.)
- Ocean Animals
- Pets
- Reptiles
- Seasons and Weather



# Categories

## GROWING UP

- Birthdays and Celebrations
- Community Helpers
- Family (includes Special Needs, siblings; adoption, diversity)
- Feelings (includes death/loss)
- Five Senses
- Friends
- Manners
- My Body
- Potty Training
- School

## STORIES

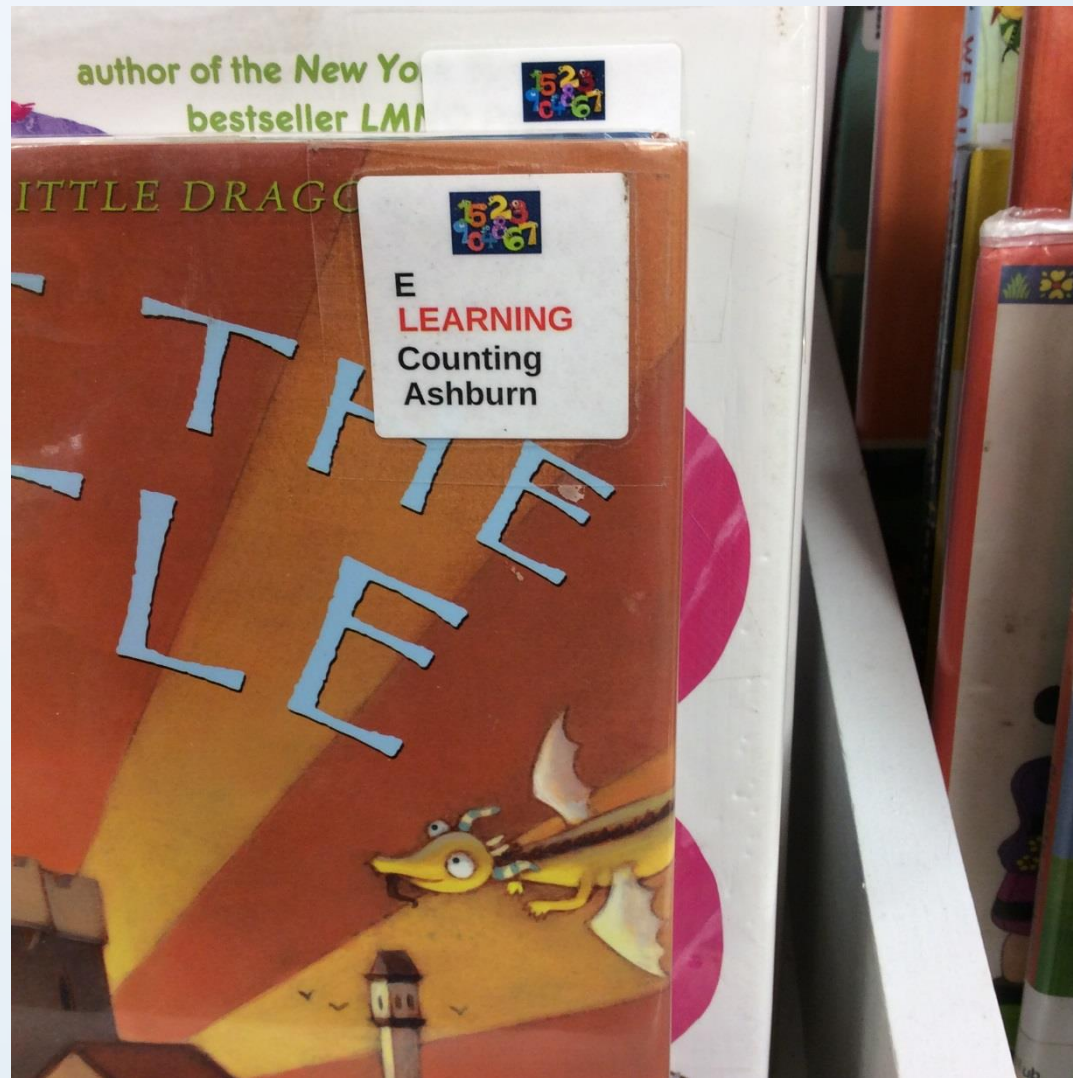
- Award Winners (Caldecotts)
- Fairy and Folk Tales
- Favorite Characters
- Favorite Authors
- Nursery Rhymes and Songs
- Pirates
- Princesses
- Sports
- Stories for Sharing

# Picture Book collection

Category based







## Picture Books

spine label

# Lessons Learned

- Keep your eyes on the prize
- Involve staff
- Weed first
- Develop an overall plan/structure
  - involve staff
  - develop a timeline
  - weed first
- Communicate
  - staff, Board, Friends, partners, patrons