



The Dewey Decimal System:

- ◆ Was designed by Melville Dewey over 100 years ago.
- ◆ Classifies nonfiction books according to the book subjects.
- ◆ Is divided into ten main subjects.
- ◆ Organizes the library in a systemic fashion.



The Dewey Decimal System:

How and why did this
system come into use?



000 - 099

- ◆ General works is the subject of the first division.
- ◆ These books include encyclopedias, bibliographies, and books about books.
- ◆ Often information about many subjects is found in this classification.



100 - 199

- ◆ The 100's division includes books on philosophy and psychology.
- ◆ These books concern men/women thinking about themselves.



200 - 299

- ◆ The 200's division of books is about religion.
- ◆ These books include the Bible and information about denominations and world religions.



300 - 399

- ◆ The 300's classification is about the social sciences.
- ◆ These books include those about laws, governments, fairy tales, folktales, holidays and customs.
- ◆ These books generally cover what men/women think about other people.



400 - 499

- ◆ The 400's classification concerns books about language.
- ◆ These books include dictionaries, grammar books, books in French, German, Spanish, etc.
- ◆ These books concern men/women communicating with others through words.



500 - 599

- ◆ The books classified in the 500's deal with science.
- ◆ These books include those about rocks, animals, insects, mathematics, weather, and astronomy.
- ◆ These books help people understand nature and the world around us.



600 - 699

- ◆ The division of the 600's concerns technology or applied science.
- ◆ These books include cooking, pet care, how roads are made, farming, and aviation.
- ◆ In these books people have used what they know about nature.



700 - 799

- ◆ Fine arts is the subject of the 700's.
- ◆ These books include painting, photography, arts and crafts, flower arranging, sports, and music.
- ◆ The subject helps people enjoy their leisure time and to develop their creativity.



800 - 899

- ◆ Literature is the topic of the 800's.
- ◆ Poems, plays, and short stories are included in these books.
- ◆ Classic and important works of writing are found in this section.



900 - 999

- ◆ The last division is concerning history and geography.
- ◆ These books include those about history, travel, geography, biography, and atlases.
- ◆ The 900's give a record for people in the future of events that occurred everywhere and the people who participated.