

Dewey Decimal Classification System PPT notes to read with slide presentation

Slide 1:

Title page for the Dewey Decimal System.

Ask Students: Do we know Dewey?

Has any one ever heard of the Dewey Decimal System? If they respond that they have ask them to tell what they know about the Dewey system. Listen to responses and respond with appropriate remarks and answers. Read the Lesson Essential Question to students :

“What is the Dewey Decimal Classification system, and what is the point of knowing it?”

Slide 2

This is the scope page. This explains what the power point is going to be used for.

Slide 3

“Melville Dewey was born on December 10, 1851 to a poor family who lived in a small town in upper New York state. He was the youngest of five children. He was very interested in mathematics. However his family could not afford to encourage him in his education. He began Amherst college when he was 19 years old. He worked in the college library to fund his way through college. In those days, there was not an organized way to classify books. This really bugged Mr. Dewey. He decided that he would make things organized.

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(The presenter will read these notes as the books are flying randomly onto the screen. The emphasis is that all of the books need to be organized.)

The classification system used in those days gave each book a dedicated spot on the shelf..

Imagine if you went into the library and you wanted to check out your favorite book, but it was in a different location every time you went in there. This is how it was before Dewey came up with his system of classification. Every time a new book was added to the library, the books had to be re-classified. This was very impractical and confusing.

Another problem with this type of organization, was that no two libraries were consistent with each other. So if someone wanted to use another library, they would not be able to use the same system as the library they just came from.

So What is the point of organizing all of these books?

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So, How did he do it?

Dewey organized the books based on what the book is about.

He thought about how people would come into the library and look for books.

He put the books in 10 main categories. Within the 10 main categories, there are many sub-categories. He used decimal numbers to organize the books.

He also thought about the future.

Dewey knew that a lot of things had not been invented or discovered yet, so he made a system that could grow and change over time without having to reorganize everything every time something new was discovered or invented.

. Today because of Dewey, we can go into any library, and find the book we want under the same system of classification. Libraries throughout the world classify books in the Dewey Decimal Classification system.

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Explain:

There are ten main classes in the Dewey Decimal system. Every book falls under these 10 main classes. There is a structured hierarchy to the Dewey Decimal Classification system. All topics are part of the broader topic above them. The ten main classes are as follows:

000-Computer science, information, and general works

100-Philosophy and psychology

200-Religion

300-Social Science

400-Language

500-Science

600-Technology

700-Arts and Recreation

800-Literature

900-History and Geography

(Dewey, 2004)

Slide 7

Explain the following students the following notes:

The Dewey system is based on numbers. All books have call numbers. Non-fiction books and a few fiction books are given a dewey number. Usually a library has so many fiction books, they shelve all the fiction books in one location and organize them by authors last name alphabetically. Then there are the non-fiction books. The non-fiction books are shelved by subject. All non-fiction books are given a 3-digit number before the decimal and numbers after the decimal. The amount of numbers behind the decimal depends on how specific the classification is. The more numbers there are, the more specific the

classification. The less numbers, the less specific the classification is. There are some fiction books that are shelved in the Dewey system along with the non-fiction books. For example riddles and poetry are shelved in the Dewey system.

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Students still have a difficult time remembering which one is which between Fiction and Non-fiction.

Explain it this way: Fiction starts with an “F” False starts with an “F”. Ask students what false means. They should respond “Not True”. Then explain that Fiction means stories that are not true or “False”

So, If Fiction is False, then Non-Fiction is Not False, which means it is true.

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Lets look at some books that you might find in the Dewey Collection

Slide 10

In the 000's you will find books on Computer science, information, and general works. This is an example of a book you will find in the 000's. The dewey number for this book is 001.9. The title of this book is Fooled you: fakes and hoaxes through the years. It is written by Elane Pascoe and illustrated by Laurie Keller. In this book Pascoe describes 11 hoaxes. Several of them involve famous names. Some of the hoaxes this book discusses are Edgar Allen Poe's false newspaper report describing a transatlantic balloon flight, the Piltdown Man fossil fraud, and the footage of Big foot are just a few. Check this book out to find out more about some of the famous hoaxes that people like you and me fell for.

Slide 11

In the Dewey 100's you will find books on philosophy and psychology as well as thrillers such as this one. You will find books on real life mysteries and logic. This book is Titled Haunted Houses. It has the Dewey number of 133.1. The author, Dinah Williams, has put together some of the most famous reports of haunted houses in North America. Check it out if you dare.

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Books on religion, philosophy, and theology can be found in the 200's. Here are a couple of examples of books that can be found in the 200 section of Dewey. Religions in the Middle East written by Stacey Gill, and Christianity written by Phillip Wilkinson.

(hyper link to GPS standards)

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Here are a couple of examples of books you can find in the 300's section of the Dewey Decimal system. Take a Stand! What you can do about bullying. Written by Carrie Golus and What's the Source? Questioning the News written by Stergios Botzakis. Some more subjects you can find under this

classification are books on social science, political science, law, education, military science, folklore, and much more.

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In the 400's of the Dewey Decimal system, you can find books on languages and writing. Here you will find how to learn sign language, Spanish, Italian, and classical Greek. Here are two books in the 400 section of the Dewey system. They are titled *The Story of Writing*, written by Carol Donoughue, and *The Word Snoop*, written by Ursula Dubosarsky.

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You can find books about science, math, plants, animals, astronomy, and much more in the 500 section of the Dewey Decimal system. Here are a couple of books that are located in this section: *Exploring Mars*, written by D.J. Ward. This book is a great exploration of the planet Mars. *Go Figure* written by Johnny Ball. This book takes you from the beginning of the number system to using numbers in the world everyday.

(Hyper link for the book *Go Figure*: linked to GPS standards and to the book review)

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In the 600's section of the Dewey Decimal system you will find books on technology, medicine and health, engineering, home and family management, buildings and much more. Two of the books you will find in this section are *Scientific and Medical Robots* written by Tony Hyland, and *In your face: facts about your features* written by Donna Jackson.

(hyper link to book review for *In your face*)

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In the 700's section of the Dewey Decimal system you will find books on art, landscape, architecture, music and recreational activities. The two books here are examples of what you can find in the 700 section of the Dewey Decimal system. The first is *Frankenstein* adapted by Elizabeth Genco. The second book here is *The Tallest Buildings* written by Susan Mitchell.

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In the 800's section of the Dewey Decimal system you will find books on literature: American Literature, English Literature, Germanic Literature, Spanish Literature.

Among some of the books you will find, you will find these two books: *Rhyme and PUNishment: A book about word play*, written by Brian P. Cleary. The other book is *Castles: Old Stone Poems*, written by Patrick Lewis.

(hyperlink to book review for *Rhyme and Punishment*)

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The last section of the Dewey Decimal Classification system is the 900's. Within the 900's you will find books on history, geography and travel. These two exciting books can be found in the 900 section of the Dewey Decimal Classification system; Hurricanes: Witness to Disaster, written by Dennis and Judith Fraden. Another book that you can find in the 900 section is Titanic (DK Eyewitness book). This book was written by Simon Adams.

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We owe a lot to Melville Dewey. He began the development of our library system. Thanks to him. We can come into the media center and know that we can find that book that we are just dying to read. Thank you Mr. Dewey.