

**Space exploration** - There are many reasons for space exploration. The most important reasons are scientific research and the interest of humans to learn more about outer space. Read broad topics about space or focus on a specific space program (the Apollo moon missions, the Mars Rovers, Voyager, etc)

Dewey Decimal: 520s – space; 629 – space travel

NASA, by Martha Rustad

If You Decide to Go to the Moon, by Faith McNulty

Fly Guy Presents: space, by Tedd Arnold

Show Me Space: my first picture encyclopedia, by Steve Kortenkamp

One Giant Leap, by Mary Ann Fraser

Moonshot : the flight of Apollo 11, by Brian Floca

An Illustrated Timeline of Space Exploration, by Patricia Wooster

The Mighty Mars Rovers : the incredible adventures of Spirit and Opportunity, by Elizabeth Rusch

Mission Control, this is Apollo : the story of the first voyages to the moon, by Andrew Chaikin

**Mona Lisa** is a portrait of a woman by the Italian artist Leonardo da Vinci, which has been acclaimed as "the best known, the most visited, the most written about, the most sung about, the most parodied work of art in the world." (John Lichfield)

Dewey Decimal: 759.5 – Italian paintings; JB SCI LEONARDO

How is Mona Lisa Feeling? by Julie Merberg

The Kidnapping of Mona Lisa by Maayken Koolen

Leonardo da Vinci, by Iain Zazek

Leonardo, Beautiful Dreamer, by Robert Byrne

Masterpieces Up Close, by Claire d'Harcourt

The Stories of the Mona Lisa : an imaginary museum tale about the history of modern art, by Piotr Barsony

Who stole Mona Lisa? by Ruthie Knapp

**Rocks and Minerals** - We see pretty pebbles at the beach, and we can find rocks in all shapes and sizes in backyards and parks. But what are rocks made of? Where do they come from? Why are they different colors, and why are some rocks hard and smooth, while others are rough and crumbly? Using rocks and other everyday easy-to-find items, students will get the chance to be real-life geologists and carry out step-by-step experiments to answer these and other intriguing questions. As they do so, these young scientists will be observing, recording their observations, and drawing conclusions.

Dewey Decimal: 549 and 552

Rocks and Minerals, by Kathleen Zoehfeld

Rocks and Minerals, by Caroline Bingham

Everything Rocks and Minerals, by Steve Tomecek

Rocks and Minerals: a gem of a book! by Dan Green

National Audubon Society First Field Guide. Rocks and Minerals, by Edward Ricciuti

A Field Guide to Rocks and Minerals, by Frederick H. Pough.

**Babysitting/Childcare** - Caring for young children for our family or a neighbor is a big responsibility. Learn what it takes to care for children when you are learning to become a "mother's helper." Become an expert and share your research with other students who are interested in young children.

Dewey Decimal: 649.1

A Day in the Life of a Child Care Worker, by Heather Adamson

Babysitting skills series, by Barbara Mehlman

**Roller Coasters and Amusement Parks** Take a wild, fun and science filled fun ride through large outdoor fairgrounds, rides, shows, refreshments, games of chance or skill, and other entertainments.

Dewey Decimal: 791.06

Roller Coasters, by Rebecca Pettiford  
How Amusement Parks Work, by Lisa Greathouse  
Amusement Parks, by Dianne Irving  
The Science of Roller Coasters, by Karen Latchana Kenney  
Heart-Stopping Roller Coasters, by Meish Goldish  
Mr. Ferris and His Wheel, by Kathryn Davis  
Roller Coasters, by Denny von Finn

**RMS *Titanic*** was a British passenger liner that sank in the North Atlantic Ocean in the early morning of 15 April, 1912, after colliding with an iceberg during her maiden voyage from Southampton, UK, to New York City, US. The sinking resulted in the loss of more than 1,500 passengers and crew, making it one of the deadliest commercial peacetime maritime disasters in modern history.

Dewey Decimal: 910

Your Life as a Cabin Attendant on the Titanic, by Jessica Gunderson  
Finding the Titanic, by Robert D Ballard  
The Sinking of the Titanic, by Matt Doeden  
T is for Titanic : a Titanic alphabet, by Debbie Shoulders  
Titanic, by Melissa Stewart  
Inside the Titanic, by Ken Marschall  
Remembering the Titanic, by Frieda Wishinsky  
The Titanic Disaster, by Peter Benoit  
Titanic: the disaster that shocked the world! by Mark Dubowski  
Titanic, by Simon Adams

## Mysteries of the Earth

UFOs, the Bermuda Triangle, Big Foot, the Loch Ness Monster, Stonehenge, and Area 51 are just a few unexplained mysteries of the world. Become an expert on one or more of these mysteries and find out what others believe.

Dewey Decimal: 001

*Epic series*, by Nadia Higgins and Ray McKellen – UFOs, Area 51, Bermuda Triangle, Loch Ness Monster, Bigfoot

**The Beatles** were a British rock band that formed in Liverpool in 1960. With members John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, they became widely regarded as the greatest and most influential band of rock. Become an expert on this band, listen to their songs and be ready to debate if they were the greatest band of all time!

Dewey Decimal: 782 or JB

Octopus's Garden, by Ringo Starr  
Yellow Submarine by Charlie Gardner  
The Beatles, by Mike Venezia  
Who Were the Beatles? By Geoff Edgers  
The Beatles, by Mick Manning  
The Beatles, Joe Tougas

The **American Revolution** was a war fought between Great Britain and the original 13 British colonies in America. Events took place from 1765 to 1783. The colonies became independent and founded the United States of America. Become an expert in the revolution, battles (Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill, Long Island, Valley Forge, Yorktown), the spy network, or one of the many American figures that came out of it (Ben Franklin, George Washington, Paul Revere, Betsy Ross, Abigail Adams, etc)

Dewey Decimal: 973.3 or JB for Biographies

Henry and the Cannons : an extraordinary true story of the American Revolution, by Don Brown  
Gingerbread for Liberty! : how a German baker helped win the American Revolution, by Mara Rockliff  
What Do You Know About the American Revolution? by Lynn George  
George Washington Crosses the Delaware, by Elaine Landau  
Upon Secrecy, by Selene Castrovilla  
The American Revolution from A to Z, by Laura Crawford  
Fight for Freedom, by Benson Bobrick  
The America Revolution, by Deborah DeFord  
George vs. George : the American Revolution as seen from both sides, by Rosalyn Schanzer  
Give Me Liberty, by Russel Freedman  
American Revolution, by Stuart Murray

The **dog** has been domesticated by humans for 40,000 years. It was the first animal ever to be domesticated. Dogs are used by humans for many different things: for work (police dogs, army dogs, seeing eye dogs, fire dogs, messenger dogs, hunting dogs and sheepdogs) and as pets. They are a popular pet because they are usually playful, friendly, and listen to humans. Become an expert on wild dogs (coyotes, wolves), have a dog as a pet, or on a specific breed (German Shepards, Bull Dogs, etc).

Dewey Decimal: 636.7

The Life Cycle of a Dog, by Lisa Trumbauer  
Me and My Pet Dog, by Christine Morley  
Ruff's Guide to Caring for your Dog, by Anita Ganeri  
How to Speak Dog!, by Sarah Whitehead  
The Encyclopedia of the Dog, by Bruce Fogle  
Totally Fun Things to Do with Your Dog, by Maxine Rock  
Dogs: selecting the best dog for you, by Chris Nelson  
ASPCA complete dog care manual, by Bruce Fogle

*Eye to eye with dogs series*, by Lynn M. Stone  
*Checkerbook Animal Library series*, by Nancy Furstinger, Bob Temple, Jill Wheeler...

**Contemporary art and artists** is an art movement from the last 100 years. Look back at some artists from the 20<sup>th</sup> century and current artists that changed the art world from traditional to modern. Important artists who have played a role in the history of modern art are Chuck Close, Andy Warhol, Georgia O'Keefe, MC Esher, Frida Kahlo, Roy Lichtenstein, Pablo Picasso, Jackson Pollack. Study many artists or choose one to engulf yourself in.

Dewey Decimal: 700s; JB ART for biographies

<u>I Spy Shapes in Art</u> , by Lucy Micklethwait	<u>Action Jackson</u> , by Jan Greenberg
<u>Palazzo Inverso</u> , by D.B. Johnson	<u>Who was Pablo Picasso?</u> , by True Kelley
<u>Frida</u> , by Jonah Winter	<u>Chuck Close : face book</u> , by Chuck Close
<u>Young Frank : architect</u> , by Frank Viva	<u>Whaam! : the art and life of Roy Lichtenstein</u> , by Susan Rubin
<u>Seen Art?</u> By Jon Scieszka	<u>Urban 'Street' Art</u> , by Alix Wood
<u>My Name is Georgia : a portrait</u> , by Jeanette Winter	
<u>Uncle Andy's</u> , by James Warhola	

Learn a new **language** this summer. Come back to school with new words and phrases and share them with your classmates! Spanish, French, Latin, Greek, German, Chinese, Japanese, American Sign Language, the list goes on and on.

Dewey Decimal:

Spanish – 468.2  
French - 448  
Latin – R 473  
Greek – R 489  
German – 438.3  
Chinese – 495.1  
Japanese – 495.6  
Sign Language – 419.7

The word "**animal**" comes from the Latin word *animalis*, meaning "having breath." Become an expert on animals: dangerous animals, a group of animals (mammal, insect, reptile, etc) or one specific animal and share your knowledge in September!

Dewey Decimal:

591 Zoology (endangered species)	597 Cold-blooded animals: Fish, Reptiles, Amphibians
594 Mollusks, Octopus	598 Birds
595 Insects, Spiders	599 Mammals

**Geography** is the study of the lands, the features, the inhabitants, and the phenomena of Earth. It's a big world out there and someone has to study it. Learn more about the long island that you live on or perhaps learn more about your vacation destination – real or pretend!

940s Europe	980s South America
950s Asia	994 Australia
960s Africa	996 Pacific Islands
970s North America	998 Antarctica
973 United States	

**Health and Fitness** - Physical activity helps control weight, builds lean muscle, reduces fat, promotes strong bone, muscle and joint development, and decreases the risk of obesity. Children need 60 minutes of play with moderate to vigorous activity every day to grow up to a healthy weight.

Dewey Decimal: 613; 796 (sports/recreation)

From Head to Toe, by Eric Carle

Why Must I Exercise? by Jackie Gaff

Stay Fit, by Sarah Tieck

The Busy Body Book : a kid's guide to fitness, by Lizzy Rockwell

The Monster Health Book : a guide to eating healthy, being active, & feeling great, by Edward Miller

Be Fit, Be Strong, Be You, by Rebecca Kajander

Fitness For Fun, by Dana Rau

**Random Acts of Kindness** - The book 31 Ways to Change the World, by Tanis Taylor and 4,386 children (more or less), challenges young people to change the world. Can one person take on that mighty task? A list of 31 small things that don't take long at all, but can really change things. Look at the list below. Journal your random acts of kindness this summer and share with like-minded students in September.

Have you filled a bucket today? : a guide to daily happiness for kids, by Carol McCloud

Listen to the Wind, by Greg Mortenson

The ABCs of the Environment, by Bobbie Kalman

When Marian Sang : the true recital of Marian Anderson, the voice of a century, by Pan Munoz Ryan

31 Ways to Change the World, by Tanis Taylor

Hand in Hand : ten black men who changed America, by Andrea Pinkney

Women inventors who changed the world, by Sandra Braun

In Our Own Words : extraordinary speeches of the American century, edited by Robert Torricelli and Andrew Carroll

Be a Changemaker : how to start something that matters, by LaurieAnn Thompson

## **31 Ways to Change the World:**

1. Make someone smile
2. Walk your Dad
3. Grow something and eat it
4. Stand up for something
5. Turn things off when you leave the room
6. Test your teacher
7. Look closer
8. Be friendly in sign language
9. Layer up
10. Cook a meal from scratch
11. Love your (old) stuff
12. Go to more parties
13. Ask "Why?"
14. Love where you live
15. Teach your Granny to Text
16. Find out about your food
17. Read with a pal
18. Don't sing in the shower
19. Play
20. Give lots of compliments
21. Stop junk mail
22. Don't charge your phone overnight
23. Don't start a war
24. Don't worry if you make a mistake
25. Talk trash to your parents
26. Write a letter
27. Recycle your toys
28. Involve everyone
29. Speak soccer
30. Knit with someone
31. Add your own action