



Name _____ Date _____

The Dewey Decimal Classification® System



Can you imagine what it would be like to look for a book in a library and not have any idea where to find it? What if books weren't arranged in alphabetical order or by subject and people just put books back on bookshelves wherever they felt like it? It would take all day to find just one book.

Well, many years ago, this problem really existed. Nonfiction books were not arranged by subject and it was very hard to find a specific book. A librarian named Melvil Dewey thought that something needed to be done about it. In 1876, he created a system of organizing nonfiction books by subject so that they were easy to find. Mr. Dewey divided all nonfiction books into ten sections and gave them all numbers. These numbers are placed on the spines of nonfiction books. Each section contains books on the same subject. This system is called the Dewey Decimal Classification® system.

▶ **Look at the sections and their numbers below. In your library, find a book that belongs in each section. Write the title on the line.**

Sections	Numbers
Reference	000-099
Philosophy	100-199
Religion	200-299
Social Science	300-399
Language	400-499
Science	500-599
Useful Arts	600-699
Fine Arts	700-799
Literature	800-899
Geography/History	900-999

A Book in This Section

