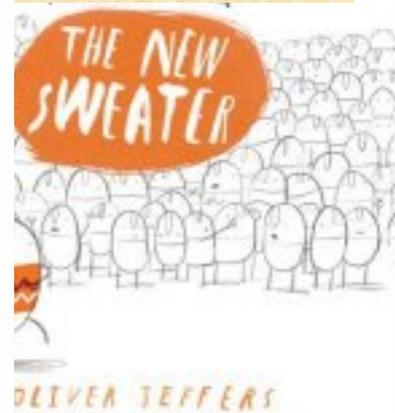
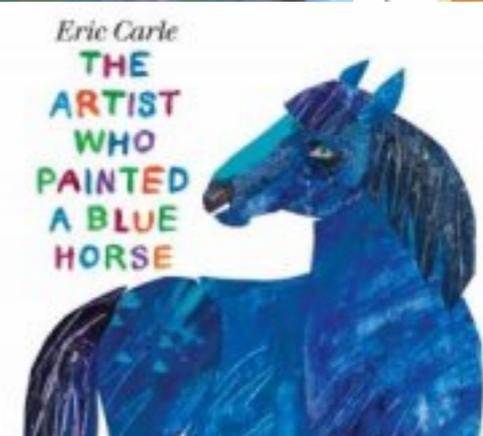
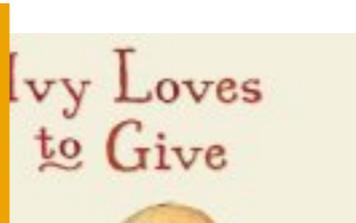
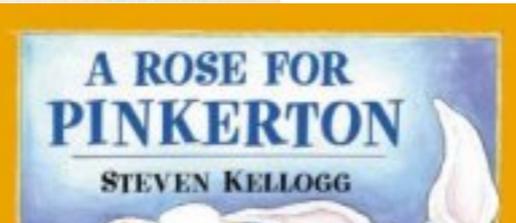
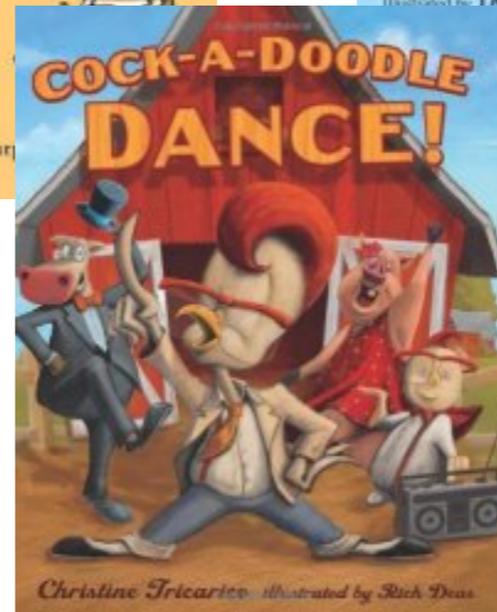
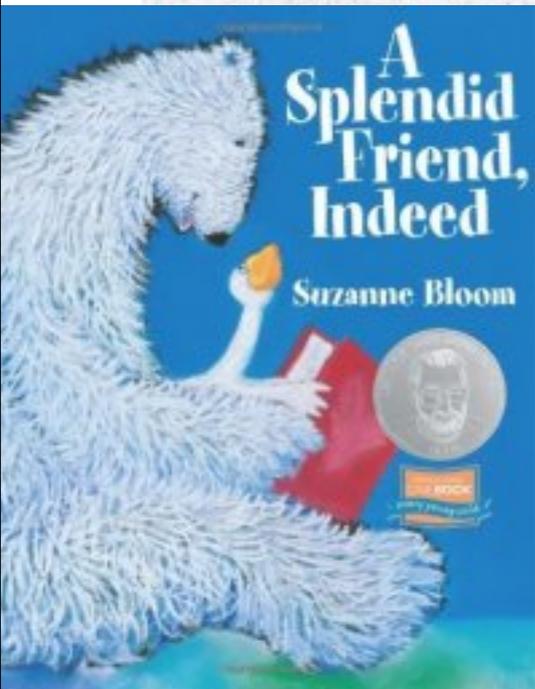
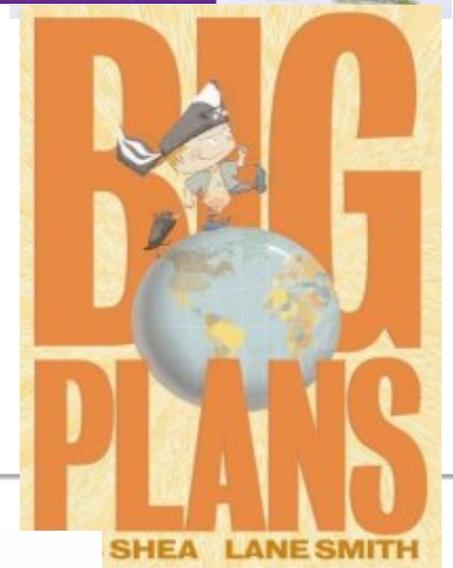
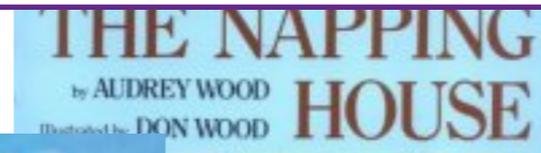
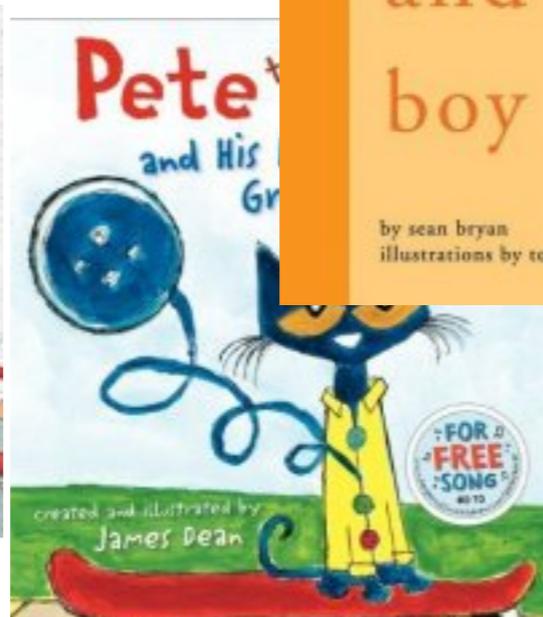
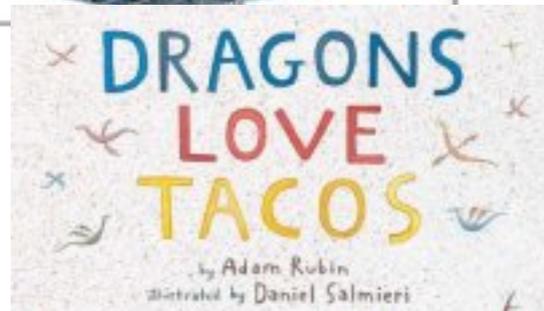
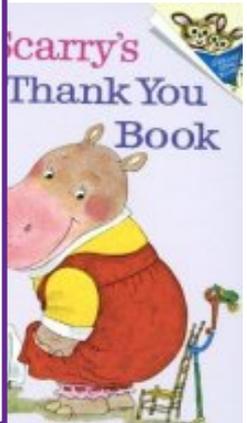
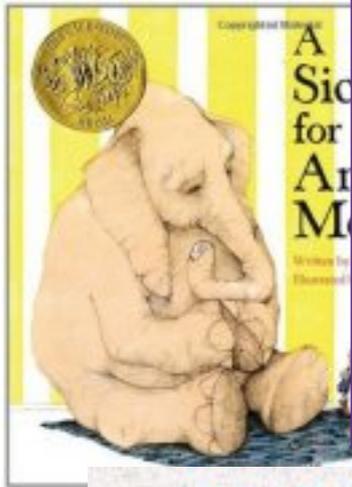


# Picture Books: Dewey or Don't We?



Kiera Parrott

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# Sound familiar?



**"Excuse me, my son is three and he LOVES trains. Where are those books located?"**

**Patrons ask this,**

and we give them this



# UX Survey Results

42% of respondents said they could NOT find materials easily in the Picture Book Area.

46.2% respondents rated the ease of finding materials appropriate for their child as "Good; I find what I'm looking for 2 to 3 out of 5 times."

64% said they needed help to find materials.

100% of the time, patrons sought help from a Librarian.

Survey conducted Fall 2008

**Our patrons spoke and we listened.**

# LIBRARY COLLECTION

USED BY

PRE-READERS  
(BIRTH - AGE 5)

- BABIES
- TODDLERS
- PRESCHOOLERS

INDEPENDENT READERS  
(SCHOOL AGE 5-12)

CHILD

ADULT

CHILD

ADULT

CHOOSING BOOKS FOR CHILD

FUN

LEARN

FUN

LEARN

FOR FUN

FOR ASSIGNMENT

FICTION

NONFICTION

FICTION

NONFICTION

\* SUBJECT

STYLE

THINGS THAT GO

ANIMALS\*

ALL ABOUT ME

NURSERY RHYMES

MY FAMILY

SEASONS/ WEATHER

LANGUAGE  
ENG. FOREIGN

REPETITION  
HUMOR  
RHYMING

BEHAVIOR

6 PRELIT SKILLS

FEARS  
MANNERS  
SHARING

HELP CHILD  
HELP ADULT

Parenting Books  
or themed  
Picture Books  
\* DEVELOPMENTMENT \*  
\* POTTY TRAINING \*  
\* NEW BABY \*  
\* DIVORCE \*

GENRE  
AUTHOR  
PEER CHOICE

SUBJECT

TITLE  
GENRE

SUBJECT

HOW OLD IS CHILD?

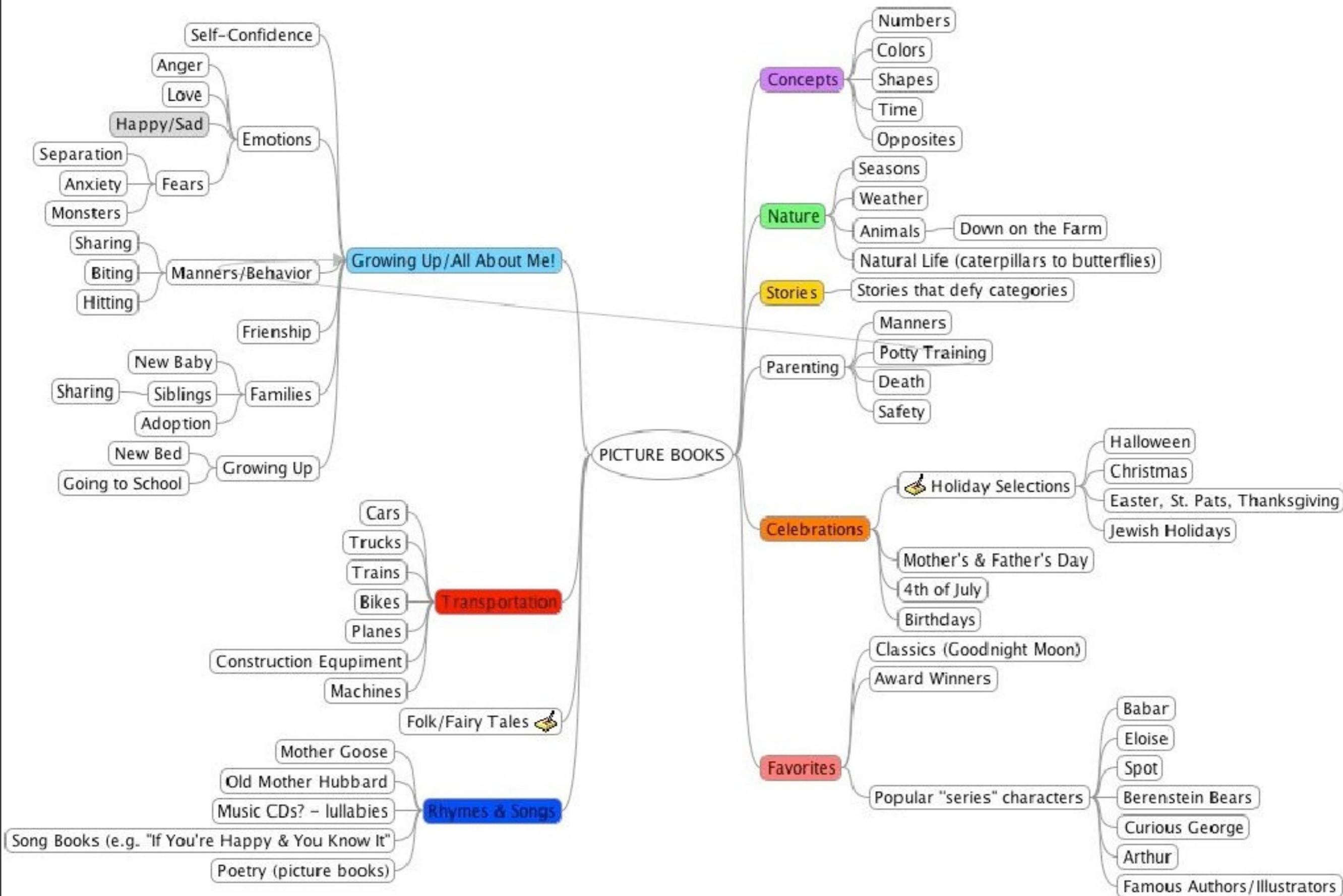
WHO IS IT FOR?

WHAT IS IT FOR?

What are they looking for?

HUNDREDS OF SUBCATEGORIES MASSIVE!

Mind map of children's library users



# Knowns

Survey results showed people rely on the public library for early literacy information and community connections.

Early literacy research shows that how adults use books with pre-readers is often more important than what book they use.

Literacy skills develop in the first five years of a child's life.

We recognize that this is half of our service population, but they were only using the Picture Book collection.

Adults are decision makers for pre-readers, are predominantly browsers and if seeking, they ask for things by subject.

People don't understand library coding systems, they just learn where things are in the physical space.

A fresh start: January 2009

## New Darien Library

# Introducing the Collection



# Darien Library's First Five Years Picture Book Collection



Celebrations

Folk/Fairy Tales

Rhymes & Songs

Concepts

Growing Up

Stories

Favorites

Nature

Transportation

## Non-picture books in the F5 Collection

Parents

Learn to Read

# Favorites

This section includes popular series, great read aloud stories, staff picks and classic picture book authors and illustrators.



- \* This is a section that existed in the old library, but we doubled it in size.
- \* We recommend agreeing on which authors/illustrators and series to include before you begin sorting the books!

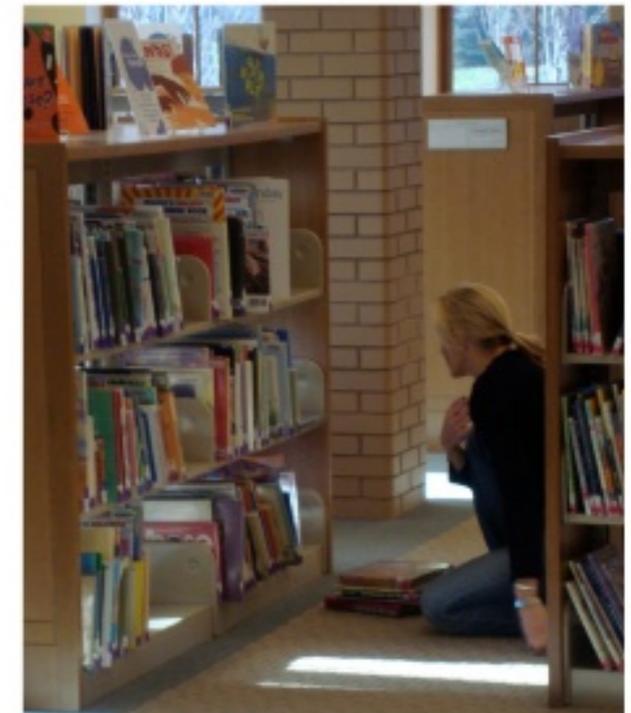


# Concepts

ABCs, Numbers, Shapes, Colors, Time, Opposites - This section has books designed to introduce young children to basic ideas.



\* Examples of books in this section are Mouse Paint (Walsh), Telling Time with Big Mama Cat (Harper) and Chicka Chicka Boom Boom (Martin Jr.)



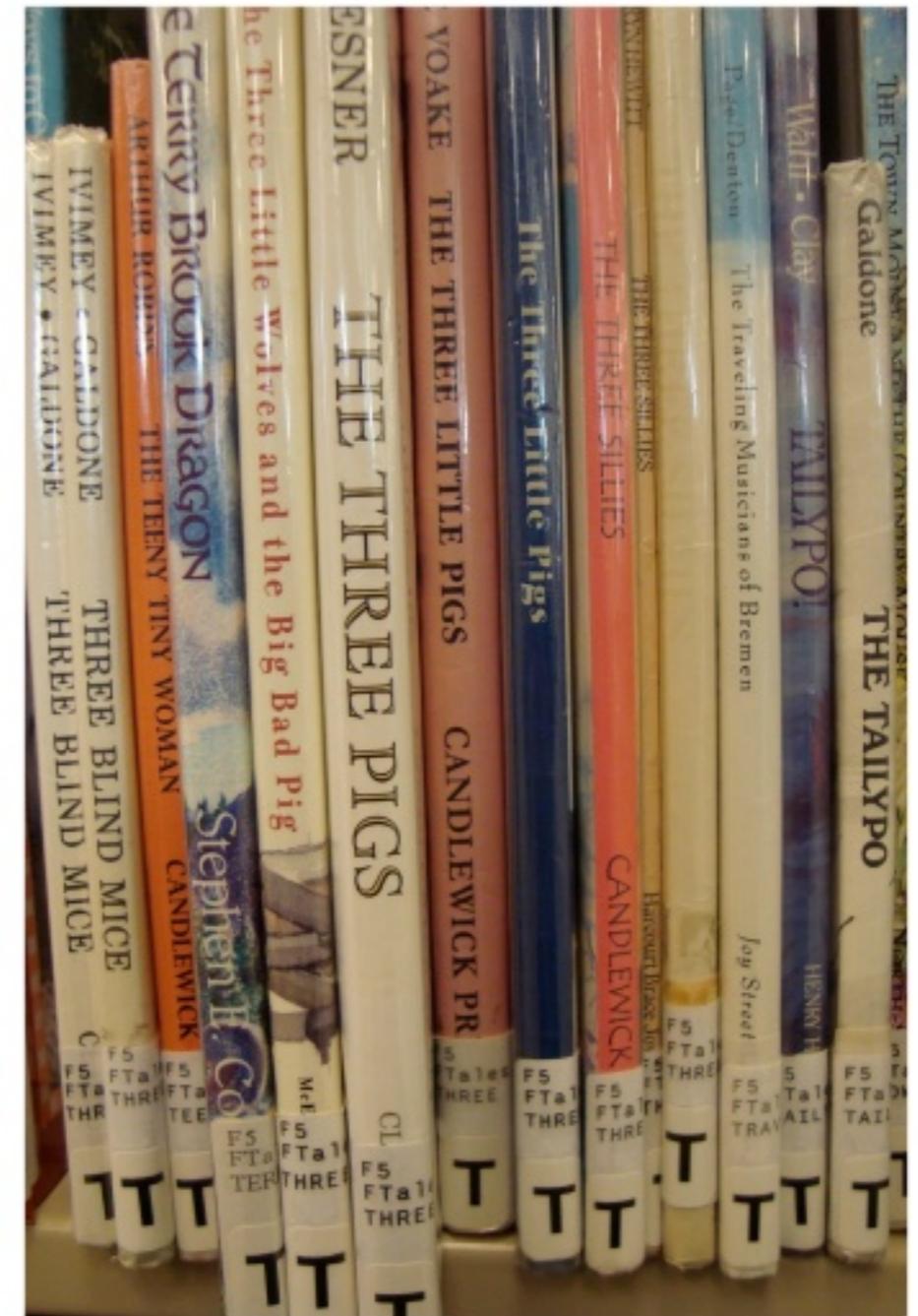
# Folk/Fairy Tales

Magic pumpkins, giant beanstalks and mischievous creatures abound in these folk and fairy tales from around the world.



\* This section is shelved by title, so many versions of same story are found next to each other

\* The books are evaluated by Librarians to be appropriate for younger listeners. Folk tales for older kids are shelved in Kids Non-Fiction 398.2



# Growing Up

This section includes books about the child's experience, relationships and important milestones



The books in this section are about:

- \* Body parts (eyes, nose, fingers, toes)
- \* Emotions (fear, worry, anger)
- \* Family situations & relationships (going to visit grandparents, parental love)
- \* Nutrition/Health
- \* Sibling relationships
- \* Going to school

# Nature

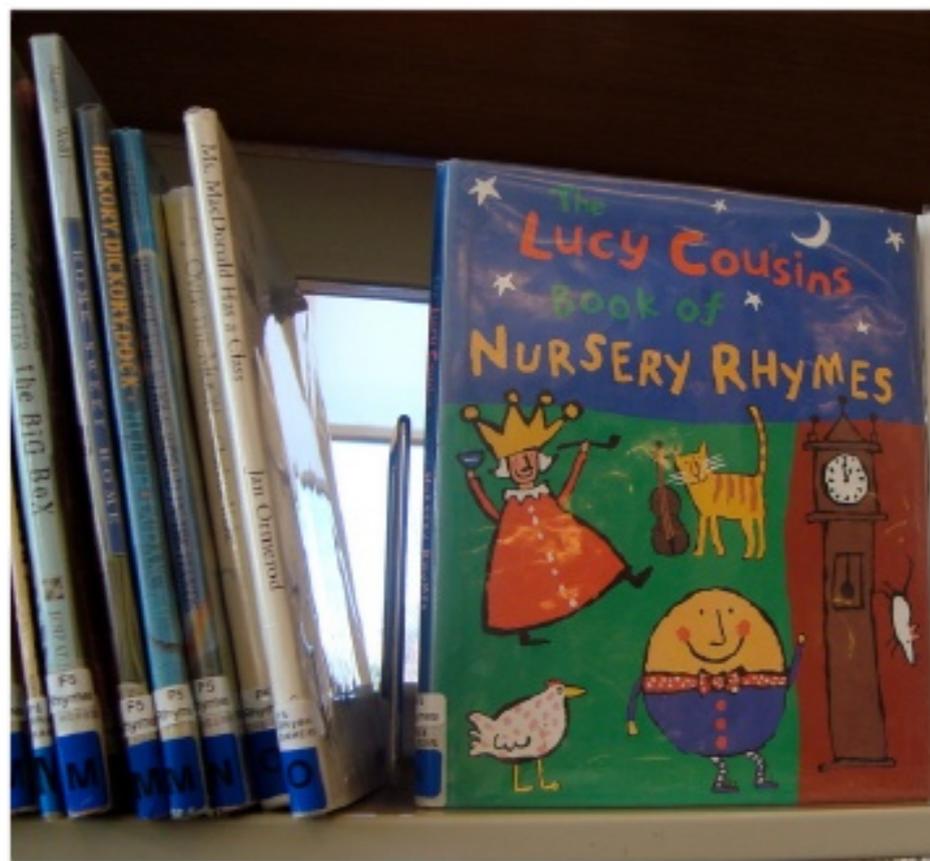
This section includes books about animals, dinosaurs, weather and our natural world.



- \* There is a fair amount of non-fiction as well as fiction. They are shelved with fiction first (by author's last name) and then non-fiction in DDC sequence.
- \* These are only books with animals doing animal-like things (no anthropomorphism).
- \* Pets are included in this section.

# Rhymes & Songs

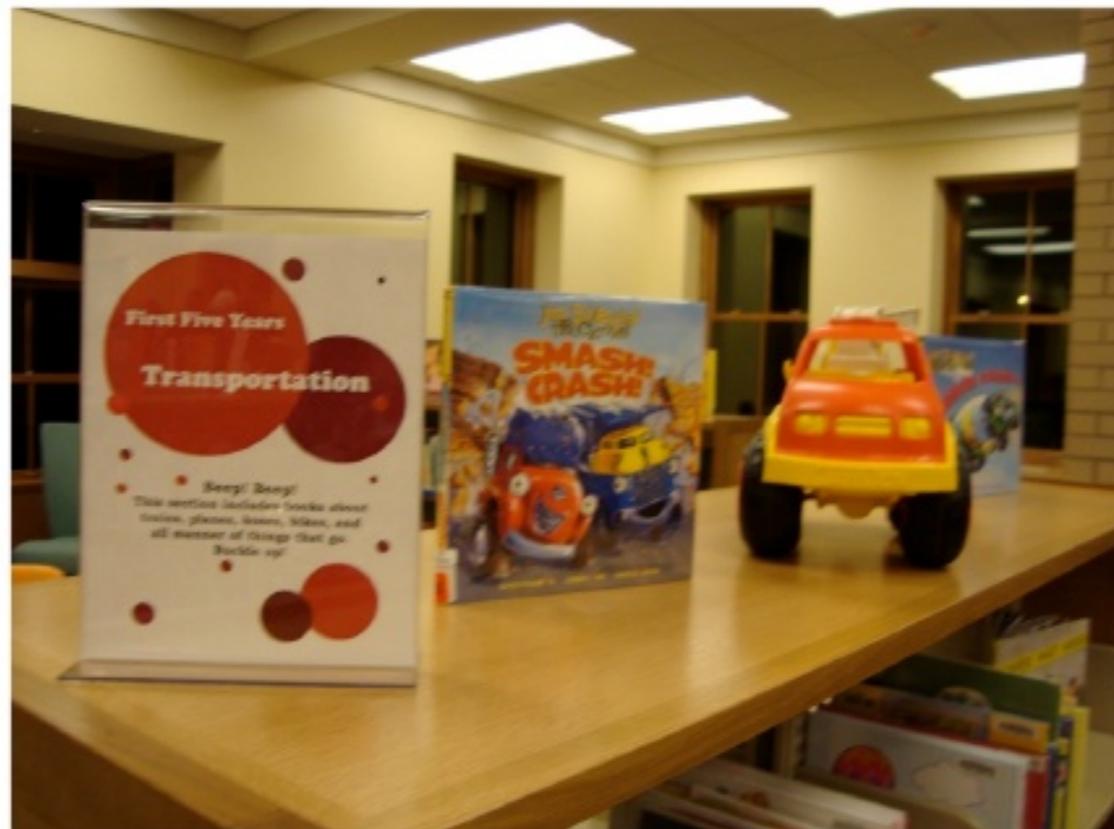
This section has stories that can be read AND sung! It also includes nursery rhymes and Mother Goose tales.



- \*The Mother Goose books pulled from 398s (Old Mother Hubbard) and song books from 780s (If You're Happy and You Know It) are all circulating now!
- \*Poetry picture books for younger listeners were pulled out from the 811s and included here.

# Transportation

This section contains books about trucks, trains, busses, bikes and all manner of things that go!



- \*Transportation books are arguably the most popular request. Shockingly, it actually had the fewest books after sorting.
- \*Now the books are more visible and circulate more frequently so we need to buy multiple copies (5 or 6) of each title.



# Celebrations

This section includes books about holidays, parties and special events.



- \* Includes traditional holidays such as, Christmas, Thanksgiving, Halloween, St. Patrick's Day, Jewish Holidays and more...
- \* Weddings
- \* Birthdays
- \* Mothers Day, Fathers Day
- \* Chinese New Year, Cinco de Mayo

# Stories

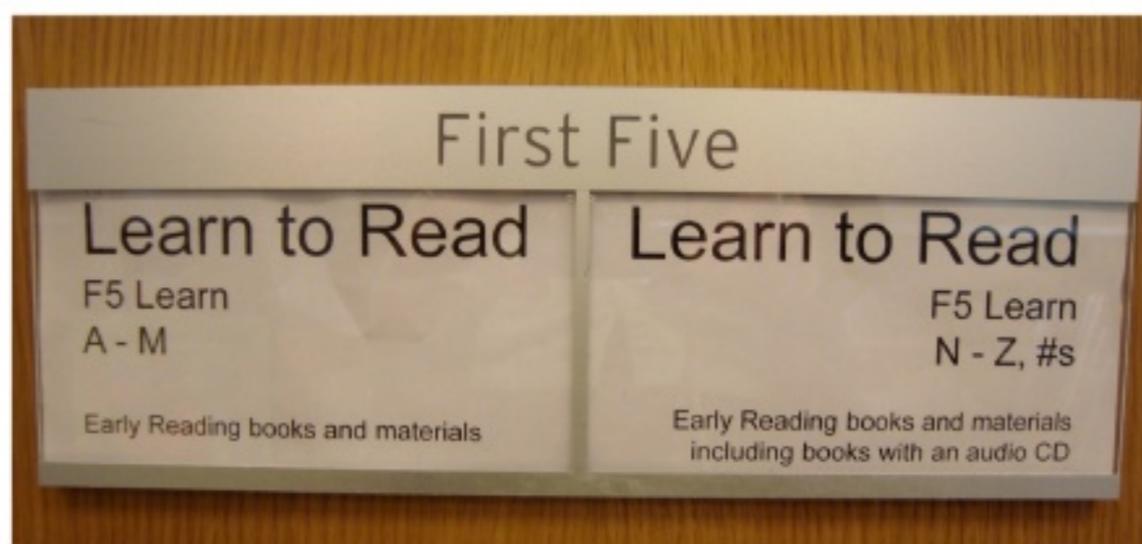
Adventures awaits in this section of stories about faraway lands, magical creatures, princesses and pirates. These are stories that defy categorization!



- \* We thought this would be the largest section, but it wasn't. Nature was.
- \* Bedtime stories are found in this section.

# Learn to Read

Look to this section for books and materials for beginning readers.

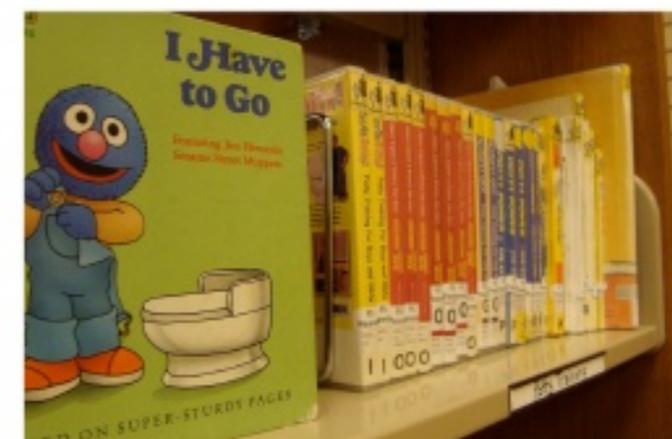


- \* Shelving in this section is done by function, not format. It includes book kits, phonics CD-ROMs, books with a CD shelved together with regular beginning reader books.
- \* It is now, the highest circulating collection of the entire children's library.

# Parents



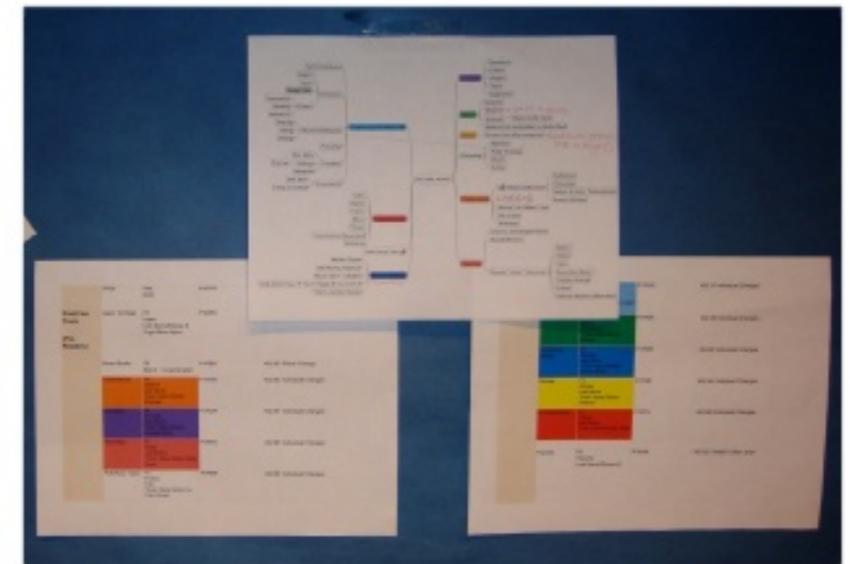
- \* Materials purchased for parents using the Children's Library complement the pregnancy and parenting books in the adult non-fiction collection.
- \* They include a combination of general parenting & picture books that tackle difficult issues (adoption, death, divorce, potty training).



# Converting the Collection



**One book  
at a time,  
we made  
a  
decision;**



**Who is  
this book  
written  
for and  
what is it  
about?**



All 16,000 picture books were converted over the course of 6 weeks.



It drove us a little crazy.

# Empowers the Adult



Now adults know what kinds of books they are choosing from when they look at a shelf.

Adults have the option of searching the catalog independently, asking a librarian for help or browsing on their own.

"What impressed me most about the new Darien Library is the fact that the books, everywhere, but especially in the children's room, have been shelved, labeled and organized in a way that makes me feel less like a moron and more empowered to find what I'm looking for on my own."

-Nicole Lyons, All About Darien blog

# Empowers the Child



All of the F5 Collection shelves are 48" high. Children can reach the materials on their own.

Children can find their favorite books by the different colored labels.

Kids of all reading levels know where their favorites are in the room.

"Grandpa, the truck books are the red books over here!" -Four year-old boy

# Worth Every Minute

## Children's Circulation Statistics

From July - November 2009, Children's Books circulated 50.2% more than the same period in 2008.

Books are over 76% of the total circulating materials in the Children's Library Collections.

Total Children's Circulation was 33.5% of the Library's total circulation last fiscal year at this time (YTD 08-09).

**Total Children's Circulation is now 41.4% of Darien Library's Total Circulation.**

**Children's Books are presently 51.9% of the Darien Library's print book circulation.**

(July - November 2009 YTD)

# What's Next?

## Children's Non-fiction Reorganization

9 sub-sections for non-fiction

- Animals
- Create
- Facts
- Fun
- Traditions
- Then & Now
- Sports
- STEM
- Self



# Thank you!

Questions? Comments?



**Please contact me anytime:**

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