

The Children's Collection

SCOPE

The University Library offers a representative collection of books written for children, primarily at the preschool level to Grade 6, but also including a select group of award-winning young adult titles. Intended for the use of students in teacher education, child development, and children's literature courses, the collection consists of picture books and story-books at varying levels of readability. The library adds a significant group of mostly award-winning children's books to the collection each year.

LOCATION

The Children's Collection is a self-contained collection located in the third floor stacks of the Library, between the call numbers L and M.

ARRANGEMENT

The Collection is shelved according to **Dewey Decimal Classification**, the system that is used most often in school and public libraries. The primary call number prefaces are Juv FIC (fiction), Juv BIOG (biography), Juv EASY (picture books), and the numbers Juv 000-999 for nonfiction:

DEWEY DECIMAL CLASS:

000-099 Generalities	500-599 Pure sciences
100-199 Philosophy	600-699 Technology
200-299 Religion	700-799 The arts
300-399 Social sciences	800-899 Literature
400-499 Language	900-999 History

BACKGROUND MATERIALS

Books that discuss the history and criticism of children's literature are shelved at the beginning of the collection and retain the *Dewey Decimal Classification* call number. Additional reference material, including two very useful biographical and critical sets, can be found in the Reference area. See the multivolume set *Something about the Author* (Ref PN451. S6) 151 vols; and *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Children's Literature* (Ref PN1008.5 .O94 2006) 4 vols.

PICTURE BOOKS

Picture books and books suitable for reading aloud are frequently found in the following call numbers:

EASY	Picture books
398.2	Mythology, folklore, fairy tales
811, 821	Poetry

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE BOOKS

Books written in languages other than English are shelved together with those in English. Use the University Library Catalog to search the Subject Headings "*Bilingual Books*" or "*Spanish language materials -- Juvenile literature*." Also, use the library's interactive web page [Multicultural Literature for Children: An Annotated Guide](http://library.csustan.edu/lboyer/multicultural/child_lit/1.php) http://library.csustan.edu/lboyer/multicultural/child_lit/1.php to identify children's books from a wide range of ethnicities, or illustrating a multicultural perspective. A group of bilingual titles will be found here, as well.

TIPS FOR USING THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY CATALOG TO FIND CHILDREN'S BOOKS

- To search for children's books related to various topics choose the "Subject Heading" option from the "Search" pull-down menu and enter search term(s). Then use the "Search Entire Library Collection" pull-down menu to select "Juvenile Collection (Children's Books)" and then click on the Search button.
- To search for interpretations of children's literature use the Subject Heading "Children's literature -- History and criticism."
- To search for lists of specific types of books use the Subject Heading "Children's literature – Bibliography."
- To search for children's books by genre, try the following Subject Headings: "Children's Stories"; "Children's Poetry"; "Nursery Rhymes"; "Fairy Tales"; "Folklore"; "Children's Plays"; "Picture Books for Children"; etc.

