**Finding an Information book.**

**All about the Dewey Decimal System**

**Did you know?**

In 1876 a man called Marvel Dewey created a system to categorise his huge collection of information books. He called it the Dewey Decimal Classification System. What was unique about this system was that he organised the books by their subject rather than in the traditional way of author’s surname. He wanted all the books on a similar topic together to make it easier to find them. He gave each subject a unique number.

This basic system is still used in libraries all around the world – currently the 15th edition which was published in 2011. You can find the numbers on the spine of the book. Next time you are in the library why not have a look? We have a subject index to help you find a specific topic – for example animals – 590. Please ask a member of staff for a copy.

The number system has increased and is rather complex including decimal points but below you will find the basic number system for common subjects.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Topic or subject** | **Dewey number** |
| **General Knowledge and Encyclopaedias** | **000** |
| **Who am I? Philosophy and Psychology** | **100** |
| **Who made me? Religion and Mythology** | **200** |
| **How we live and politics Sociology** | **300** |
| **How we talk and communicate - Language** | **400** |
| **Animals, Nature, Science and the world around me** | **500** |
| **Technology, cars and how things work** | **600** |
| **Art and Recreation** | **700** |
| **Literature –Stories, Poems, Jokes and Plays** | **800** |
| **Geography, History and Biographies** | **900** |

