Finding Books in the Children’s Collection at Grand Valley State University

If you have questions: Rita Kohrman, Education & Juvenile/Young Adult Literature Librarian kohrmanr@gvsu.edu 616.331.2622

1. Browse:

- The collection is located in the second-fifth rows of stacks on the **fourth floor** of the Mary Idema Pew Library.
- The collection follows the Library of Congress cataloging system.
  - A-Z with a special section for children’s fiction books: PZ
  - PZ’s are the “Belle Lettres” (Beautiful letters or books) and is a section designated for only children’s fiction titles.
- PZ 7 is where the majority of fiction (story books) resides; it flows by **author’s** last name. Records will look like this: (note the S for Sendak)
  
  **Sendak, Maurice**
  
  *Where the Wild Things Are*
  
  PZ7 .S47 Wh 1988

- PZ8, PZ8.1, and PZ8.3 are the area for fairy tales, folklore, fables, and nursery rhymes.
- PZ73 - PZ78 is the area where most of the Spanish and Spanish/English books reside.

2. Search the Online Catalog:

- Go to [http://library.catalog.gvsu.edu/](http://library.catalog.gvsu.edu/)
- Click on **Advanced Search** and set **Location** to Mary Idema Pew Juvenile/YA
- To search by **Author**:
  - Set **Field 1** to **Author**. Search by last name, first name. Ex: Sendak, Maurice.
  - If you are searching for an **Illustrator** using this field, your results will include only those titles that the illustrator has authored. Using keyword to search for illustrators will be more efficient.
- To search by **Keyword**:
  - Set **Field 1** to **Keyword**. Ex: “Horses,” “World War II,” “Spanish language,” etc. This format for searching is similar to Google.
  - If searching for illustrators, enter in their name; first name, last name. Ex: Jerry Pinkney, and the results will include those titles Jerry Pinkney has illustrated.
  - Know only the last name of the author or illustrator? Search the last name. Ex: Rohmann Once you have determined the author or illustrators full name; search.

- Need information about an author or illustrator? Try searching **Something About the Author** and/or **TeachingBooks.net** databases. Both are linked under “**Find Books and More**” on the Juvenile Literature Library Guide: [http://libguides.gvsu.edu/juvlit](http://libguides.gvsu.edu/juvlit)
3. **Seeking Lists of Books by Award and Thematic List**

- The Library Catalog (Books and Media) is searchable for the Newbery, Caldecott, and Coretta Scott King award titles.
  - Go to the library catalog (http://library.catalog.gvsu.edu/), select **Advanced Search**, and set **Location** to “Mary Idema Pew Juvenile/Y.A.”
  - Search “Newbery” in **Field 1**. The result is a list of Newbery Medal and Honor titles owned by the GVSU Libraries.
- Complete lists of the Newbery, Caldecott, Hans Christian Andersen, and Batchelder Award titles are located on the Children's Book Lists - Award Titles and Thematic Lists Subject Guide at: [http://libguides.gvsu.edu/JUVAWARDS](http://libguides.gvsu.edu/JUVAWARDS)
- There are also links to other major awards given for Children’s Literature.
- Books listed by subject are located under the **Thematic Lists** tab on the same guide.

4. **Books by Age and Grade Level**

- **Childrens Literature CD** is a database in which one may search for award winning titles, and books by age, grade, and topic. This is a wonderful database to create lists on a topic for a particular age or grade level. The database does not indicate if GVSU Libraries owns the title. Search for the title in the Libraries Catalog (Books and Media). This database is linked on the **Find Articles** tab of the subject guide.
- **TeachingBooks.net** database is searchable by author, illustrator, subject and awards. Reading levels are indicated for the majority of titles. Use the “Advanced Search” and indicate age and/or grade for better results.

5. **Seeking International Children’s Book Titles**

- See the International Juvenile Literature Subject Guide at: [http://libguides.gvsu.edu/INTERCHILDLIT](http://libguides.gvsu.edu/INTERCHILDLIT)
- Click the “Map of International Children’s Authors” for an interactive Google Map. Pick a country and find an author. If GVSU Libraries owns the title the call number will be indicated.