

Suggested Library Activities

Kindergarten & First Grade:

We've been reading biographies and have marveled at all that these folks have accomplished despite challenges, obstacles and setbacks. Reading biographies opens windows to the world and gives us mirrors of reflection to our own lives. I encourage families to read biographies together and to talk about what makes these people remarkable. All kinds of books can be found on [Epic!](#) and [Reading AtoZ](#) as well as the ebooks and audiobooks available through the [Burnham Library](#).

Second Grade:

We've been learning about the organization of the library and the importance of the call number on books. Most call numbers don't have numbers! Most have two lines of text: the top line helps you know what kind of book it is. Uppercase B means it's a biography; an E means it's an easy fiction; an F means it's a fiction, or chapter book; and BC means it's a biography collection, like a book about the US presidents. When you do see numbers on the top line that means that it is a nonfiction book. The bottom line contains three letters which come, most times, from the author's last name. The exception is biographies. The three letters there come from the subject's last name. See the attachment labeled '**Call Number Matching #1 and 2**' for some fun call number matching activities. I think you'll recognize some names!

Third Grade:

The third graders have been learning about the Dewey Decimal System, but I've attached some activities relative to the Destiny Catalog. We could all use practice using our catalog! See 'The Destiny Catalog Review' attachment above.

Fourth Grade:

Primary sources have been the focus for the fourth graders. I'm encouraging families to find an old photo or object and to go through the three steps in analyzing the item. Parents, please don't give your child too much information about it until *after* they've analyzed it! You will also find some images from the Library of Congress site you can analyze as well. See '**Primary Source Analysis Worksheet**' attached.

Fifth Grade:

We've been working on our Dream Job Projects. I encourage students to interview family members about their jobs, whether they consider them to be dream jobs or not. (Please use the phone when reaching out to senior citizen members of the family.) What are the features of the job: wages? education?, training?, etc?

Primary Source Analysis

Directions: Find an object or a photograph that you haven't seen before or maybe haven't paid much attention to before. Don't ask your parents about it until **after** you've done the analysis. Just like in class, go through the three steps below to tell me as much as you can about the item. If possible, take a picture or scan of it and include it with this sheet.

1. **Observe:** Make a list of *all* that you observe.

TYPE HERE

2. **Reflect:** What do you think this is? What do you think was happening at the time this object was made, or this picture was taken? *Why* do you think this object was made, or the photo was taken?

TYPE HERE

3. **Question:** What do you wonder about? Who? When? Where? Why? How?

TYPE HERE

Alternative: The Library of Congress Primary Sources

Directions: If you are unable to find an object or photo that interests you, pick from one of the following images from The Library of Congress database.

(See the document labeled 'Library of Congress Images'.)

Name _____ HR _____ Date _____ #1

Directions: These call numbers are not in the right order. Rewrite them in the row of boxes below. **Don't forget to use upper case letters!**

E BUR	E STA	E BRA	E HAR	E CAR
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1	2	3	4	5
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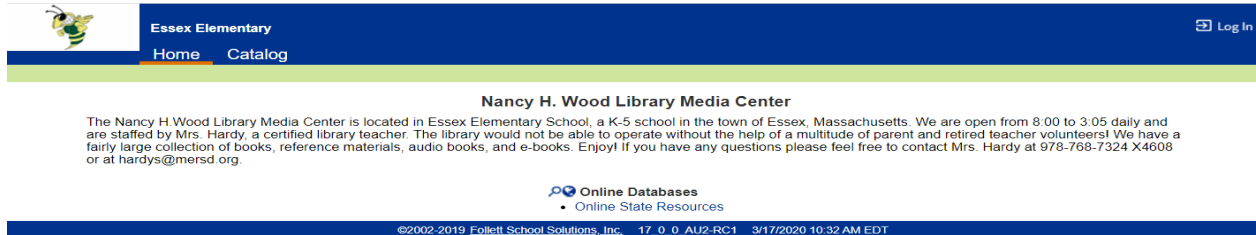
Date _____ #2

E PAR	E LYN	E RAN	E ROB	E PAG
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1	2	3	4	5
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The Destiny Catalog Review

Click on this image to review how the Destiny Catalog is used:



Essex Elementary

Home Catalog Log In

Nancy H. Wood Library Media Center

The Nancy H. Wood Library Media Center is located in Essex Elementary School, a K-5 school in the town of Essex, Massachusetts. We are open from 8:00 to 3:05 daily and are staffed by Mrs. Hardy, a certified library teacher. The library would not be able to operate without the help of a multitude of parent and retired teacher volunteers! We have a fairly large collection of books, reference materials, audio books, and e-books. Enjoy! If you have any questions please feel free to contact Mrs. Hardy at 978-768-7324 X4608 or at hardys@mersd.org.

Online Databases
• Online State Resources

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Explore the catalog. Try doing some of these searches. (Click [here](#) to go to our catalog.)

- ★ Yesterday was St. Patrick's Day. Do we have any books on the subject? What other holidays are represented in our collection? What's a holiday you know nothing about?
- ★ Tomorrow is the first day of spring! Which book talks about the legend of the mythical goddess Ostara? Try your hand at writing an acrostic poem about spring.
- ★ On the 8th of March we switched our clocks to *daylight savings time*. Do any of our books talk about why we do that?