**DVD Collection Responses**

*Here, at Romulus, we currently have a Juvenile and an Adult DVD collection. We are finding that we have a great deal of family movies and are currently splitting them between the Juvenile and Adult collections, based on their content - i.e. Harry Potter is in the Adult collection and The Mighty Ducks are in the kids collection. We are trying to figure out the best place for them.   
  
How do other libraries categorize their DVD collections? Do you go by ratings? Do you go by where the majority of other libraries house theirs? Do you keep your kids collection strictly to cartoons and everything else goes into the Adult collection? Any information would be helpful and appreciated.   
  
I am interested in hearing what bigger libraries do, but I would really like to hear from smaller libraries (like us) who do not have tons of space for many separate DVD collections.*

*My Original Post*

We are a bit larger, but: at our branch of the Capital Area District Library system (Lansing), we have three collections: Adult, Family, and Children's. The cartoons and educational things that are really designed for young kids (Barbie movies, Caillou, Dora the Explorer, etc.) go in Children's, and most more traditional feature films aimed primarily at kids go in Family (Despicable Me, Home Alone, etc.). I had never seen that system before until I started working here. It seems to work great.

Emma Olmstead-Rumsey

Library Assistant

CADL Downtown Lansing

Hopkins board voted that we would not have anything over pg 13 in the collection so we keep all the dvd's together at the edge of the kids area for anyone to checkout.  In Dorr we have all sorts of dvds and we do not separate out anything but non-fiction - kids, family, classics and rated r films are all together in the Adult area.   
  
Natalie Bazan MA, MLIS  
Library Director  
Hopkins District Library                
Dorr Township Library

We, at Bayliss, in the Sault go by the length of the film.  If it is a feature film, they go into family.  However, if they are less than 60 minutes then they go into Childrens.  
  
Amber Clement  
Bayliss Public Library of Superior District Library

Ours are simply by rating.  Anything NR or G is in the children's collection and everything PG and up is in our Adult collection (which has a family section which includes things like Harry Potter, Disney, Pixar, etc.).  Children's isn't just cartoons, but since fewer and fewer live action films are rated G, it is heavily cartoons.  We also have a children's non-fiction DVD collection.

We are short on space in the children's area, also.

DeWitt Public Library

Our actual DVDs are on shelves in the office.  We have flip books out for the patrons to look through.  If the card is in the pocket on the page, then the DVD is in and available.  If the pocket is empty the DVD is checked out.

In the flip book we have them in alphabetical order, with the exception of some series.  For example, all the Barney DVDs are together, regardless of title; all of the Spider-man, Batman and X-men are together.  We do not purchase R rated DVDs, so all of ours are G, PG or PG-13.  
  
Ann Greene  
Eau Claire District Library

 We put cartoons in JR collection, then divide the rest in family, general, and classics.  
  
Jennifer Walters  
Library Director  
Aitkin Memorial District Library

We have split our DVD collection into Adult, Family and Children. We base our choice of what collection they go into on content and the following ratings.  
  
Children is based on cartoons and G ratings. Family is based on a PG rating. Adult is based on PG-13 and R.  
  
We do not prohibit anyone from checking out from any of the collections. It is up to parents to police their children.  
  
Carol DeBoer  
Circulation Supervisor  
Henika District Library

Tecumseh District Library is a Class IV library and we also have both a Juvenile DVD Collection and an Adult DVD collection.

We generally put PG Rated movies in the Adult Collection (which all patrons, including children, have access to) and G Rated movies in the Juvenile Collection; some of the older children's classics from years ago are not rated at all.

Our Juvenile Collection consists of both fiction and non-fiction titles.  We have a large collection of Disney films, VeggieTales films, and Thomas the Tank Engine films, and a lot of small series collections, like the Backyardigans, Berenstain Bears, Curious George, American Girl, Shirley Temple, Max and Ruby, Anne of Green Gables, Dora the Explorer, Angelina Ballerina, Magic School Bus,Barney, Sid the Science Kid, Bill Nye the Science Guy, Dinosaur Train, Olivia, etc.  And, of course, we also have a lot of single titles that are not part of a series, like Heidi, Little Women, Miracle on 34th Street, Miracle Worker, Polar Express, Secret Garden, Elmo's Magic Cookbook, etc.

Mary Beth Reasoner  
Tecumseh Library

All of our feature length films, regardless of rating, are shelved in the "adult" collection. They're loosely organized alphabetically with all titles beginning with A shelved together, etc. Our children's collection has educational films and children's programming, usually episodes of television shows like VeggieTales, The Wiggles, etc.  
  
We consider our feature films a self-sustaining collection, so we do charge a rental fee for the collection ($1 either per week or overnight depending on whether it is a new release or not), whereas there is no fee for borrowing videos from the children's collection.  
  
Our adult/teen nonfiction/documentary films are assigned a DDC number and shelved in the appropriate location of the nonfiction collection. There is no fee associated with borrowing those videos.  
  
I would hesitate to shelve videos by rating, because I don't think this is commonly memorized. Also, many of the animated films are now rated PG (all that innuendo to make adults happy while they're watching a film   
with their kids), which complicates matters with any films prior to 1985 ("The Lego Movie" and "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" would end up in the same collection).  
  
Jessica Little  
Cutler Library

We are a very small Class II library but have over 1600 DVDs in our collection.  We house ours together in one location.  We mark them according to the rating on the box, and alphabetize the titles according to the rating.  We do separate out Christmas, Christian, TV series & Non-Fiction into their own categories so patrons can find them easier.  We keep "R"s on the highest shelves, then "PG-13"s, and so on so that our "G"s end up at the lower shelves and easier for kids to find them.  Our biggest problem (other than space) is that movies that originally came out earlier than the 1980s, don't always have the best rating (pre-PG-13).  It means "Singing in the Rain" falls in the middle of kids cartoons & "Rocky" is mixed into the family PG rating when it would be a PG-13 if it were rated by today's standards.  I've considered a "Classics" catagory, but everyone has a difference of opinion as to what is a classic.

Laura Orlowski, director  
Camden Twp. Library

In part, we use our judgment and in part look to how others house.  In no case do we have anything stronger than G in our children's area.  Our division is Children's and Adult.  
  
Mimi Herrington, Director  
Bad Axe Area District Library

At the Westland Library we keep most of the “Family” titles in the youth area.  PG-13 on up it is NOT in youth.   Many PG and PG-13 fall in the YA category, as well.  We have an area for YA DVD, but it is very small.  The anime is popular in teens, though, so that are is pretty big.  As far as the adults go, we started out with documentary type DVDs, gradually added classics (Gone with the Wind, etc.), and then began adding popular “movie screen” DVD’s probably 5-7 years ago?  The collection is not that large, really.  It is still growing.   Harry Potter STARTED in youth, but when they became PG-13 we switched the *whole* series to adult for the sake of consistency.  If patrons ask for these at the youth reference desk, we simply take them to the adult fiction DVDs.

Cari Fry  
Westland Library

We are a class 3 library and own about 3,000 dvd's. We have movie labels for G, PG, PG13, R, TVS (series), and ED (educational/nonfiction). We clearly label them and shelf them by these labels.  We have had 2 complaints about the R movies, but they are on a higher shelf, not near the children's movies.  We also have signs posted about the ratings and how to look up more information about the content and parental guides (like IMDB.com).  
  
Mary@Tamarack District Library  
Genealogy Department

We use these:

DVD JUV (these are in childrens dept)

DVD HOT

DVD FAMILY

DVD TCFF (film fest)

DVD COMEDY

DVD FOREIGN

DVD TV

DVD E-TV

DVD DOCUMENTARY

DVD MUSIC

DVD MUSICALS

DVD OPERA

Aaron Olson  
AV Dept. & Meeting Room Coordinator  
Traverse Area District Library

We have all of our "Feature Films" together, alphabetically by title. So Twelve years a Slave, Harry Potter, Madagascar, etc. are all in one place.  We do have children's dvds, but these are not from feature films, mostly from tv cartoons, etc.  These are in the youth room.  TV series (adult) are in a third location.  This is a growing collection that we have already run out of space for and is now using up an old book truck as well.

Debra Green  
Belleville Library

At our library we have three children's collections: Easy DVD, Junior DVD, and Junior Nonfiction.  Easy DVD and Junior DVD are for feature films, TV series, cartoons, etc.  DVDs with an audience rating of "G" are placed in Easy while those with a rating of PG are placed in Junior DVD.  However some DVDs don't have a rating and that is when I make the decision about where to place the DVD. In general DVDs that are geared for kids ages 0-7 years are placed in Easy. DVDs that are geared toward kids ages 8-12 years are in Junior. We don't have a large collection of nonfiction DVDs for kids which is why we only have the one nonfiction collection, Junior Nonfiction. DVDs in this collection can be for ages 0-13 years. I hope this information helps.  
  
Crystal Jolly  
Children's Librarian  
Lincoln Township Public Library

We are a small branch of the Herrick District Library - we have a juvenile collection which are mostly rated G and many are animated.  Our Family collection is primarily made up of those rated PG and our Adult collection is made up of all the PG-13 and R dvds.  Our dvds are all housed in the same area, just separated by one row from the other collections.  
  
Diane Corradini  
North Branch Manager  
Herrick District Library

We go by ratings at GARC.  PG-13 and higher is adult.

James  
Garden City Library

We put movies with a G rating, or cartoons with no rating, in the children's collection.  Everything else goes in adult, which can be confusing because while Toy Story is in kids, Shrek is in adult.  But if it requires parental  
guidance at all it goes in adult.  
  
Nannette Miller  
Elk Rapids District Library

At Vicksburg District Library we put all PG rated movies into family, even if clearly intended for kids.  We want parents to have an easy option to choose only G rated movies for children if they prefer.  All the G rated  
movies intended for kids go into the kids section.  
  
Joanna Sturgeon  
Cataloger/Melcat Services  
Vicksburg District Library

We have G rated and under in youth PG and R in adult.  That does mean that Disney movies such as Up that are rated PG are in the adult department.  There are actually very few G rated Disney movies.  Sometimes we will make an exception and have a copy in the youth department as well as in the adult department.  However, in general we tell people that the youth department has G rated and television/cartoon type DVDs and the adult department has PG and above.  
  
Brenda Dunseth  
Youth Services Department Head  
Highland Township Public Library

At our library we have two DVD collections, adult and juvenile. I don't do the cataloging, but if I did I would probably put PG and 'under' in the juvenile collection.

We make sure to tell patrons that we have the juvenile collection and that we have family movies shelved there. Many patrons hear juvenile and think it's only Dora and Caillou (and the like).

Our collections are not perfect. There are many movies that I think should be in juvenile that are shelved in adult. We just make sure everyone knows about both collections. Our juvenile collection has about 365 DVDs on the shelf right now (not accounting for those checked-out) to give you an idea of the size.

Megan Goedge  
Children's Librarian

Ruth Hughes Memorial District Library

We currently use the same system for our DVD's that you do.  Behind the desk, where we keep the actual DVD's, they are separated into Juv. and Adult DVD's.  I usually just use the content as my judgment as to which area they go into.  The cases that are set out for the patrons to choose from are actually displayed by rating (G, PG, PG-13 and R).  I have been going back and forth with doing away with the Adult, JV categories and just placing them all together.

Kelli Lovasz

Director

North Branch Township Library

I am from a \*VERY\* small library. Right now everything is all together (in alphabetical order by title), but soon I plan to keep Children - G rated -on the lower shelf, and everything else (PG and up) together, with  
stickers on spine to easily see rating. I do not "police" what gets taken out, but this seems to work, with Harry Potter being a prime example of "where would it go?"  
  
(No one has ever commented/complained about everything being together, but I have a tall, narrow shelf for DVD's and so I think it will be helpful to have the G's on the bottom to assist my older clientele in seeing more  
adult movies, and the G's being able to find them easier.)  
  
Cathy Boyle  
Lyon Township Branch Library