

A note from your librarian

The American Section has primary libraries at both the Lycée and Schnapper campuses with a combined collection of over 7000 books, as well as encyclopedia and magazines covering such subjects as anthropology, geography, history, and science.

The library collection is fully computerized permitting online research of the collection from home or in the library. Students may create and print lists of books they would like to check out. Keyword searches direct students not only to in-house items, but also facilitate Internet research by proposing links to age-appropriate and subject-specific educational websites through WebPath Express. Feel free to browse this site from home by going to the library from the American Section Website at www.americansection.org.

During library class, children spend 15 to 20 minutes working on a lesson or listening to a story and the rest of the time choosing and checking out books. Second and third graders learn to distinguish between fiction and non-fiction books. They identify where different types of books are located in the library and understand the general library set-up, including the importance of alphabetization and re-shelving a book properly. They are exposed to all types of literature.

Fourth and fifth graders begin by reviewing the library basics presented in earlier grades. Next, they learn about the Dewey Decimal System, how to use the library's resources for research purposes. They study how to research a topic and how to use encyclopedia and other reference materials, both paper and electronic. Library teachers work with classroom teachers so that students' time in the library enhances classroom learning and projects.

Students may borrow four items including one magazine regardless of their campus. The standard lending period is one week for first graders and two weeks for the other students. Curriculum related or book report books may be checked out for the duration of a project.

For second through fifth graders at the Lycée campus, library class meets every other week from 4:15 pm – 5:00 pm following their American Section afternoon class. Ecole Schnapper students in second through fifth grades have library class every other week at lunchtime. First graders on both campuses have library every Wednesday.

There are no late fines for overdue materials at either campus, however, at the end of the school year families are billed for any lost books or magazines. Lending privileges are suspended until fines are paid or items are returned. Children are encouraged to respect all library materials.

Our goals are to develop strong library skills and the reflex to visit and use a library, and to instill a love of reading in all of our students.

Amy Crist
Primary Librarian