

Ferndale-METIS



We *ditched* Dewey
AND SO CAN YOU!

Meet the Metis Team!



Everett Pine (he/him)

Head of Youth Services.
Avid board game player
and owner of one cheesy
and one string bean cat.
Orders Non-fiction DVDs.



Erin Luetz (she/her)

Loves playing TTRPGs
and her cat, Amelia.
Purchases the J
Biographies.



Julia Hill (she/they)

Youth Services Librarian.
Supporter of rest and
community care (and
also cats).



Mary Grahame Hunter (she/her)

Information literacy nerd,
cat roommate, youth
librarian. Purchases
J Nonfiction.

Today We're Talking About:

- **Why** we moved away from the Dewey Decimal System
- **What** we moved to
- **How** we implemented that move

Don't worry, we'll take questions at the end!

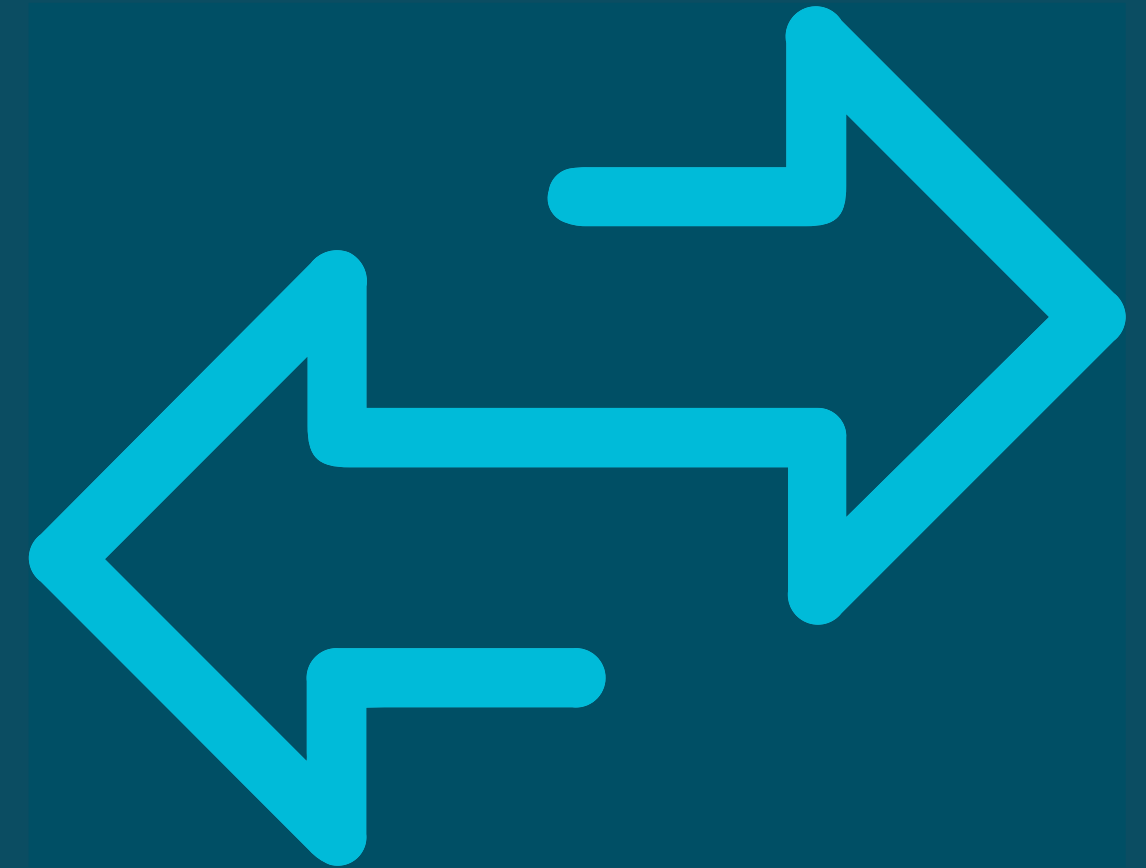
Note: please feel encouraged to do what makes you feel comfortable during this presentation! Fidgeting, standing and moving around are welcome.



Why We Switched

The Dewey Decimal System:

- A nineteenth century view of the world
- Not easy to browse
- Not easy to shelve
- Not intuitive for our young patrons



The Road to Metis

Questions that informed our process

- Can we fix Dewey?
- What alternatives are there?
 - WordThink, Color System, BISAC, etc.
- Can we apply this to our collection?
- How can we ensure that the new system is inclusive?



Why Metis

- Created by the Ethical Cultural School in 2011 as a replacement for Dewey
- Language-based
- Flexible & adaptable
- Fosters patron independence & agency
- Easier to shelve
(6 out of 6 pages agree)



How Metis Works

Primary Category

26 categories, each represented by a single letter

G. = Machines & Structures

Secondary Category

Further specifies the topic as needed

G. Transport

Tertiary Category

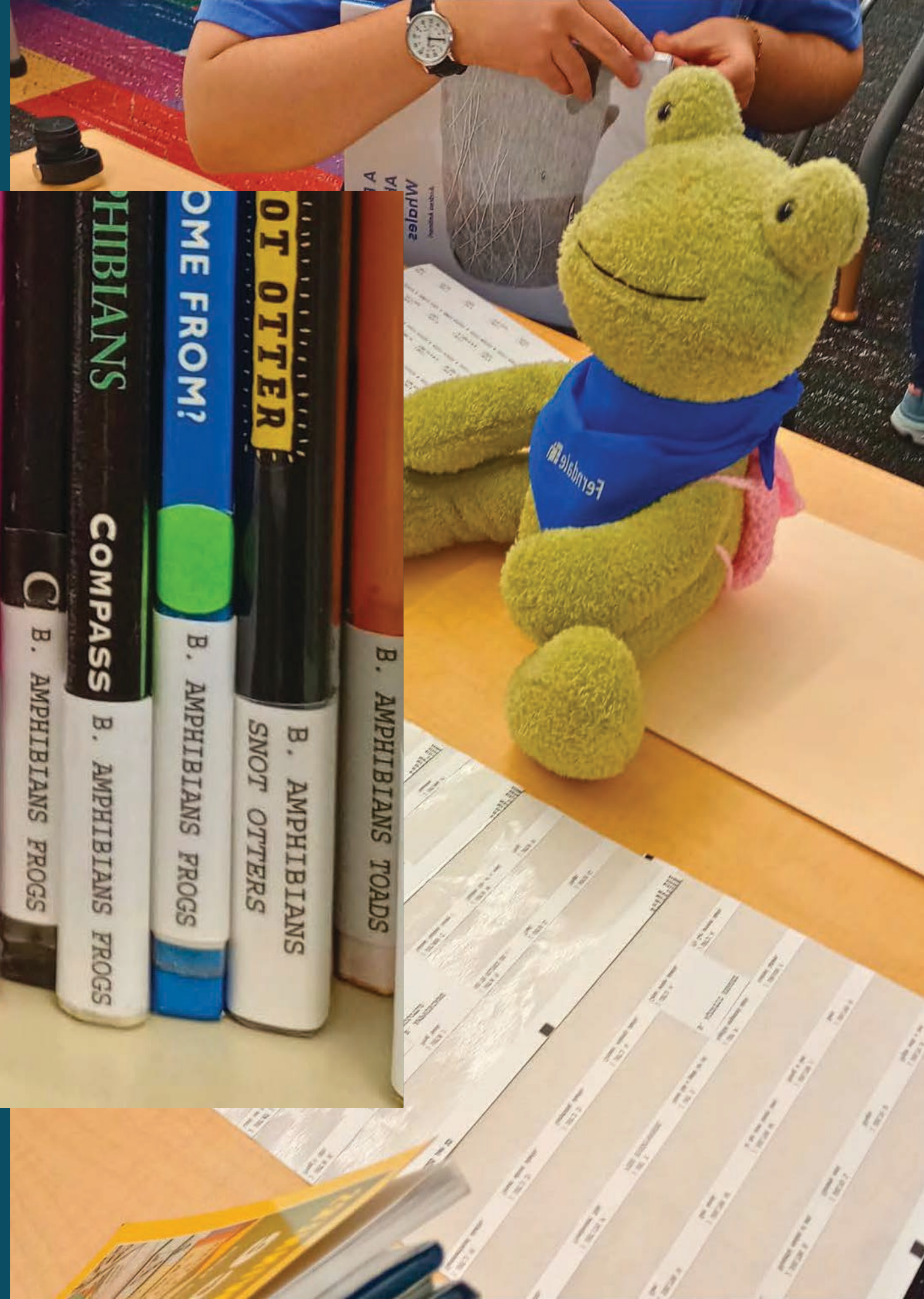
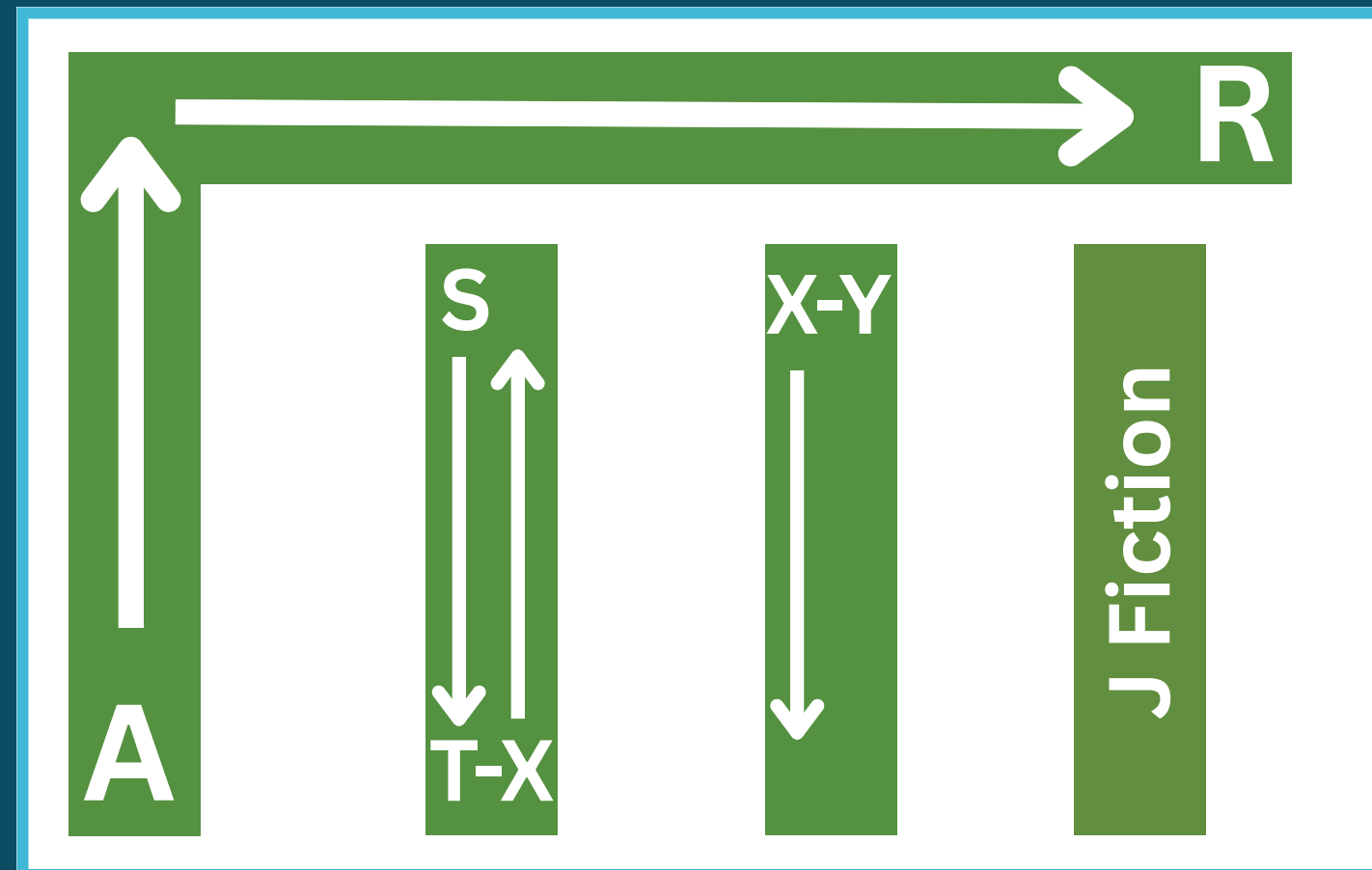
Breaks down the topic even further (but only if needed)

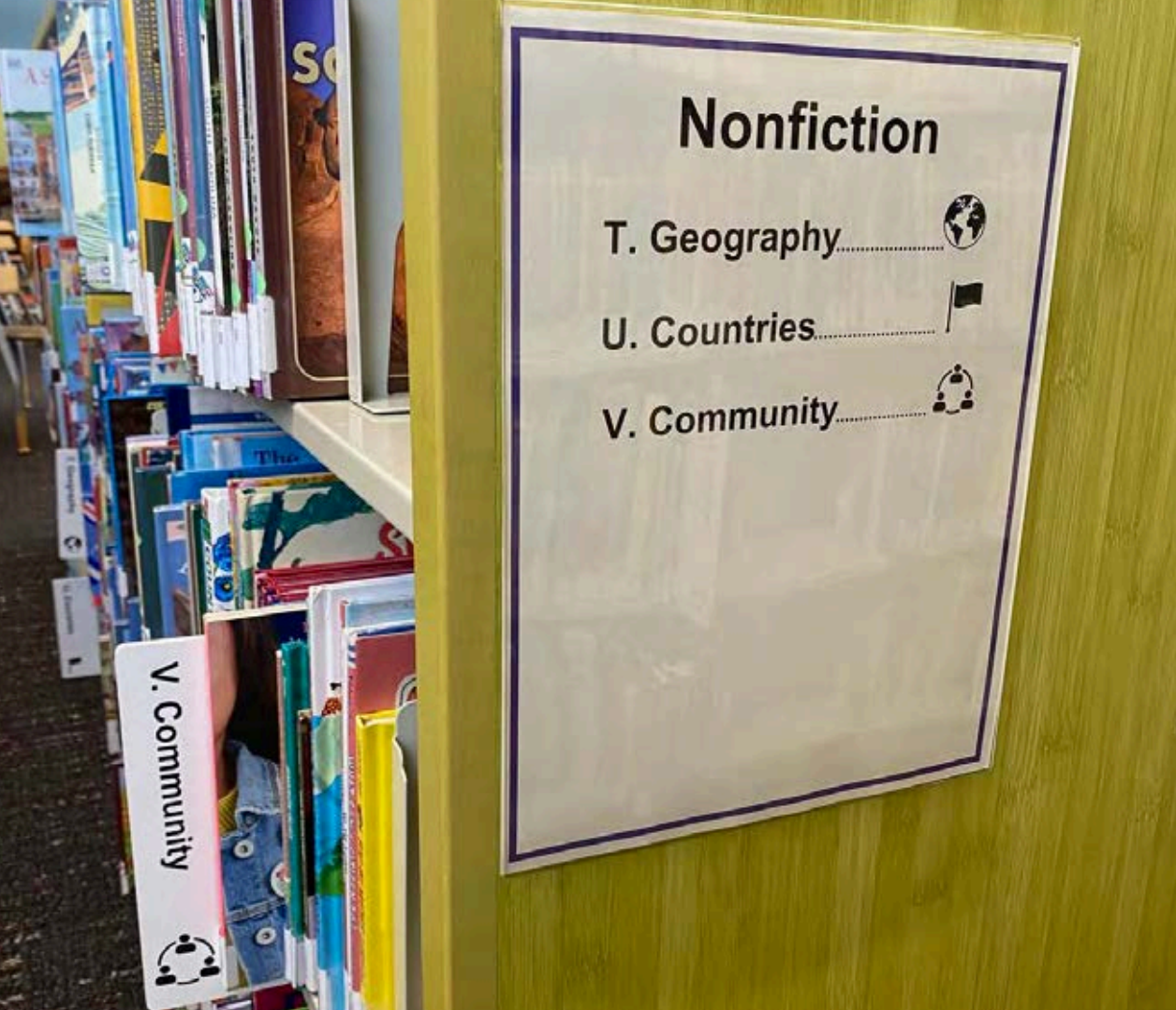
G. Transport Trains



Metis on the Shelf

- Shelved alphabetically, first by call number and then by title
- Catalog shows updated call numbers
- Currently only used in the Kids Corner





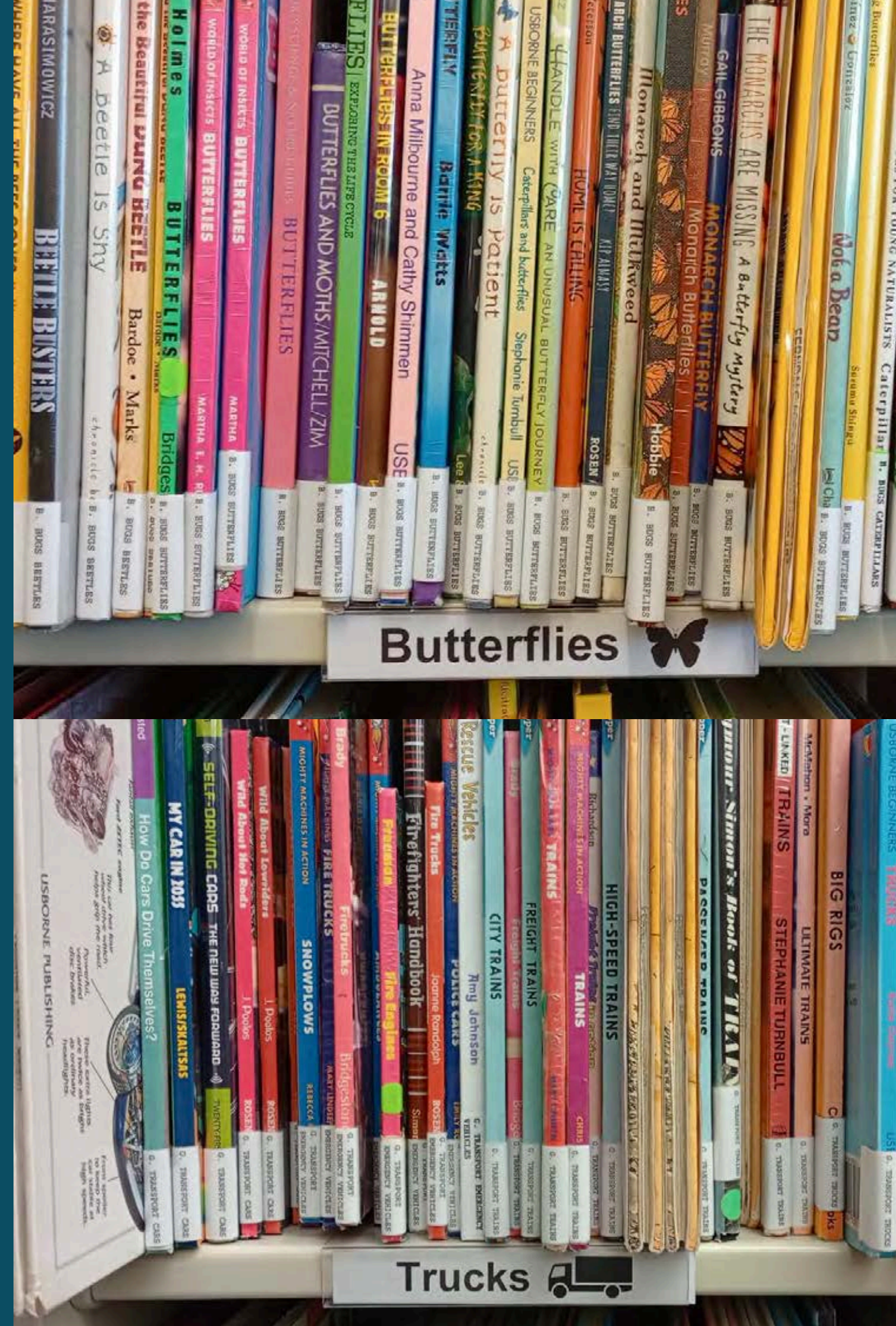
Supporting Browsability

- Flow of topics was designed to put related categories together
- Promoting natural discoverability and patron browsing was a part of our planning process
- Primary audience was considered when determining where to place particular items or sections



Making Popular Topics Discoverable

- Based on commonly asked for topics at the Reference Desk
- Intended to make popular topics browsable
- Currently have 11 topics represented with shelf talkers
- Visuals accompany bold Arial font
- Reflect secondary and tertiary categories



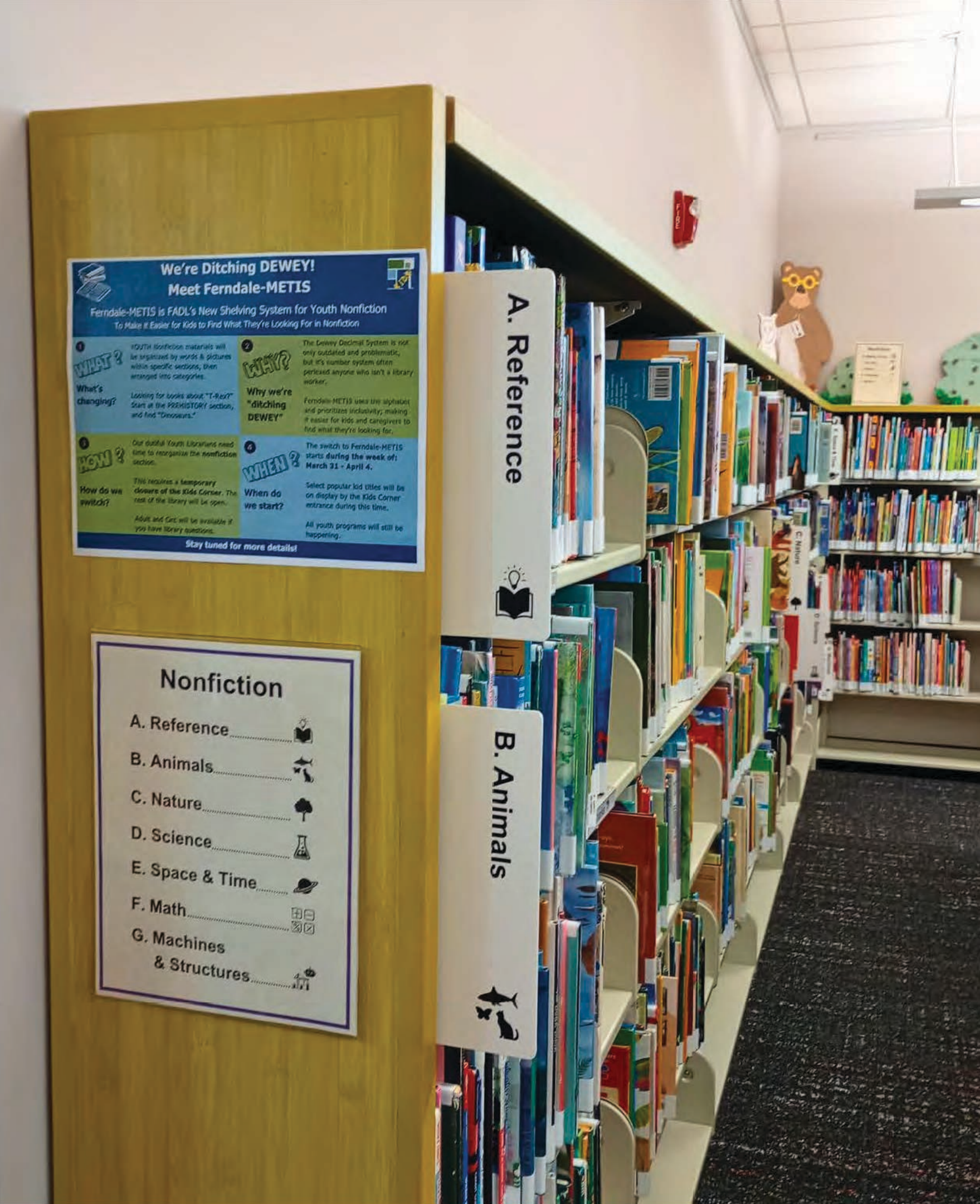
Accessibility

- Consultation with Detroit Disability Power
- Considered verbiage
- Signage
 - Primary Category shelf talkers and Secondary Category popular topic call-outs
 - Font choice
 - Color contrast
 - Use of graphics

D. Science



B. Animals



Timeline & Goals

Managing the project

- Who do we need to involve?
- What does a project timeline look like?
- How do we keep track of all of the moving parts?
- How do we make sure our classification schedule makes sense?



Implementing Ferndale-Metis

Getting our ducks in a row

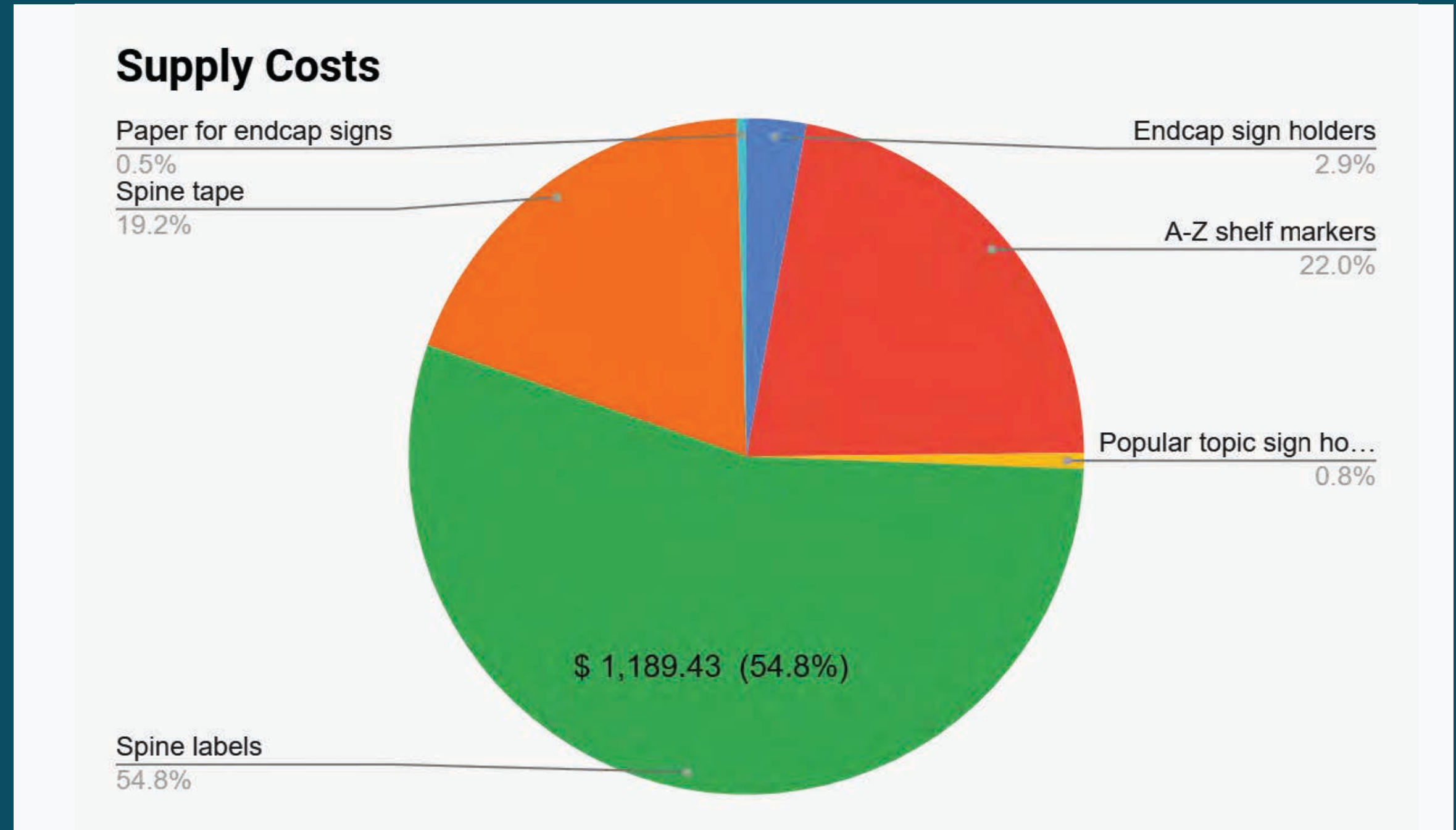
- How do we create and print over 7,200 new spine labels?
- What signage do we use?
- How do we educate the public and staff?
- How long will it take to apply new labels?
- What will it take to relabel *en mass*?
- How do we support our patrons during this transition?
- How do we support our staff?



The Numbers

Time, Size, and Costs

- Project length
- Implementation timeline & staff required
- Total number of non-fiction items switched
- Our budget and total costs



Now & Looking Forward

Day to Day Use

- Makes reference work faster
- Increases browsability
- Easier to track gaps in collection

Collection maintenance

- Materials relabeled as they are returned
- New materials get fresh labels according to the reference binder

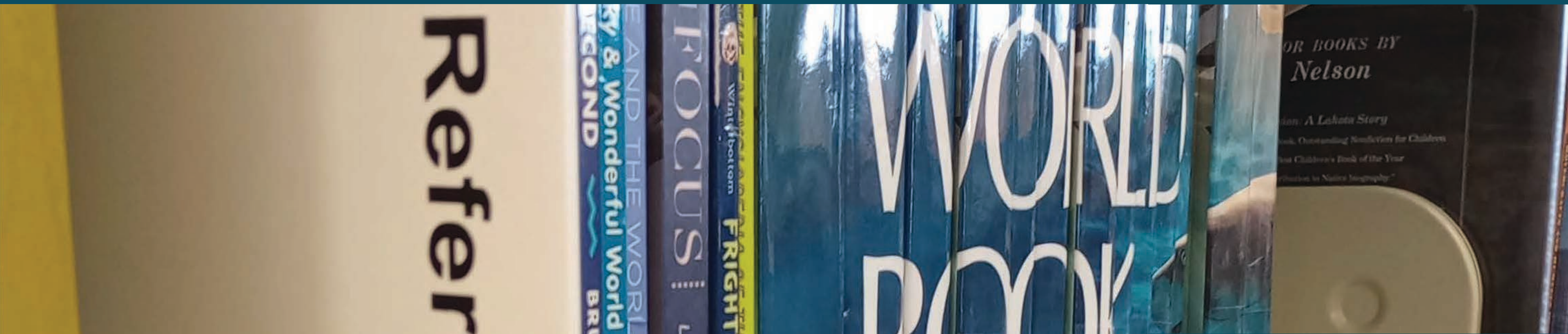
Future Plans

- New categories added & language changed as needed
- Assessing best way to use Ferndale-Metis in international collection and YA



Resources

- **Contact Us:** youth@fadl.org
- **Metis**
 - Overview: School Library Cataloging (<https://schoollibrarycataloging.weebly.com/metis.html>)
 - Metis Example: Miquon's Schedule (<https://miquon.org/program/curriculum/library/library-guidelines-procedures/>)
- **Shelf Talkers:** Library Skills (<https://libraryskills.com/product/regular-shelf-marker-blank/>)
- **Endcap Sign Holders:** Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BVFJZ2GK?ref=fed_asin_title&th=1)
- **Shelf Call-Outs:** Amazon (https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0B87XH5YC?ref=fed_asin_title&th=1)
- **Images for Signs:** The Noun Project (<https://thenounproject.com/>)
- **Labels:** Backstage Library Works (<https://bslw.com/>)
- **Label Tape:** Demco (<https://www.demco.com/demco-reg-clear-glossy-label-protectors-on-rolls>)





Questions?