Dewey step by step

791 = Public Performances
The first three numbers in our shelf-mark system (which is called Dewey) form the general number of a topic covering a broad subject area. 791 is the number for public performances which includes books on anything from talks, theatre, circus to film, television etc.

791.4 = Film & TV
The more numbers there are after the decimal point, the more specific the topic. In this example the books are generally about Film & Television (and Radio.) So still quite broad in subject coverage.

791.43 = Film
By adding a further number after the decimal point it means that all books at this number are specifically just about film.

791.436 = Documentary film
Adding another number to the sequence narrows the subject further still. In our library all books at 791.436 will be about documentary film.

791.436 ROT
Because there could be many books on the same topic, at the same number, we then use three letters, usually the author so that the books on the same topic can then be shelved alphabetically within the same numbers.

Where are these numbers?
Search Primo (our library catalogue) in the book record you will also see the Dewey number which relates to where you will find the book. Make a note of numbers and letters, go to relevant shelf and locate the book!