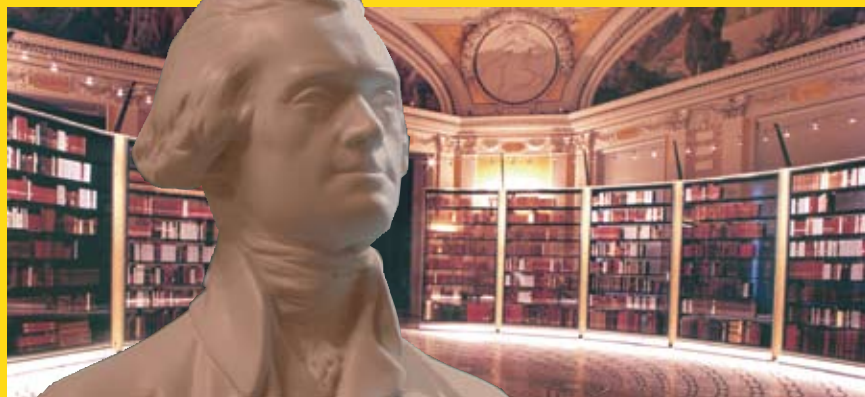
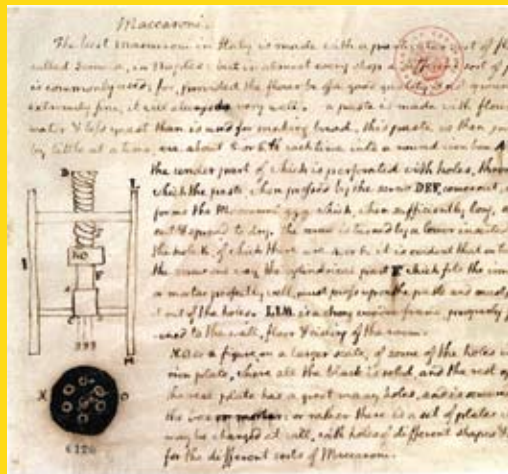


Visit Thomas Jefferson's Library on the **second floor**...



The first Congressional Library was destroyed during the War of 1812 when the British burned the U.S. Capitol, which then housed the Library. Jefferson, the owner of the largest private book collection in North America, offered to sell his entire library to replace what was burned. In 1815 Congress purchased Jefferson's **6,487 volumes** for \$23,950. The nation's library today mirrors Jefferson's universal approach to collecting and is the world's largest library.

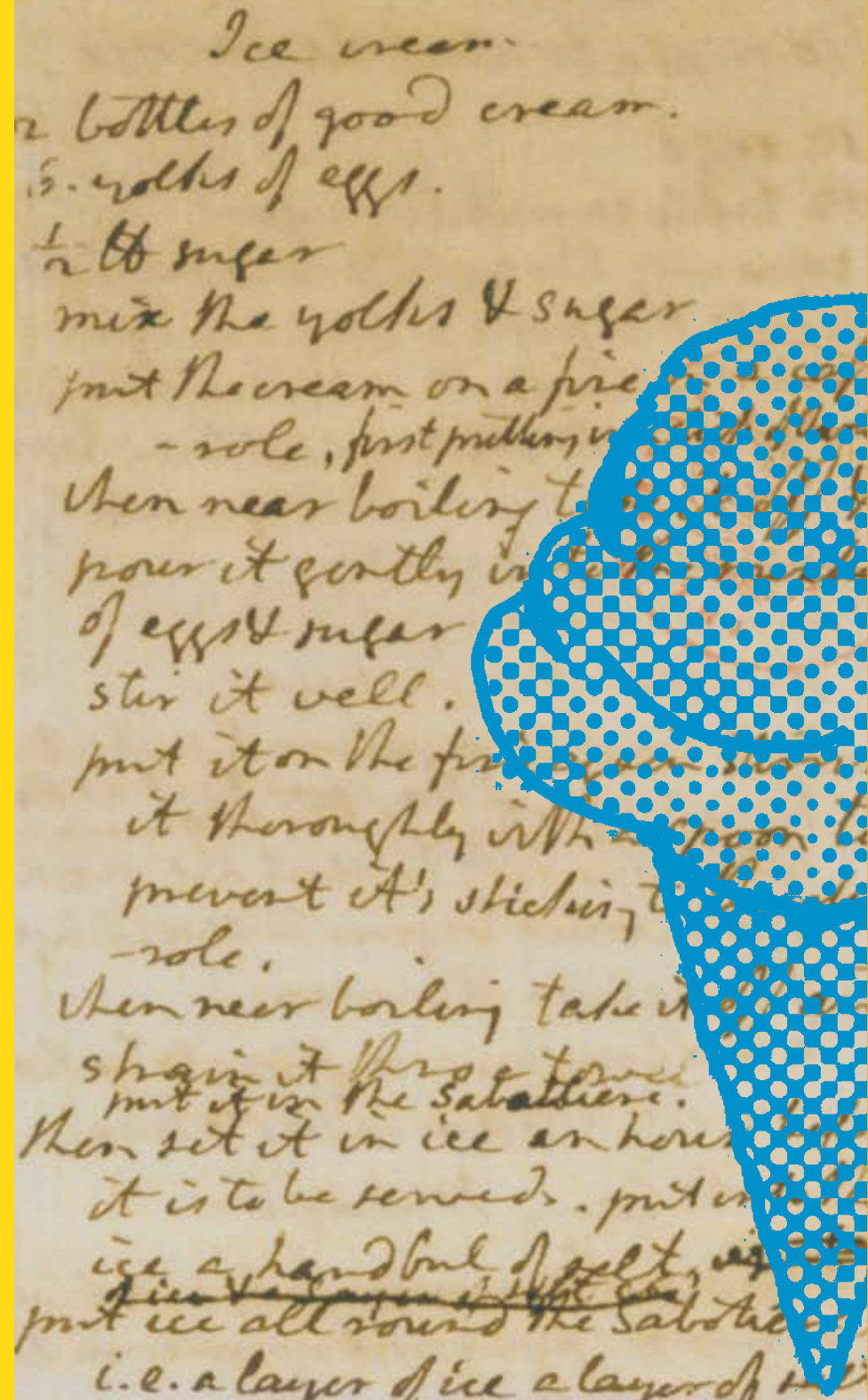
This exhibition, *Thomas Jefferson's Library*, reveals how books were vital to his education and well-being throughout his life. It provided him with a broad knowledge of the contemporary and ancient worlds.



Thomas Jefferson  
["Maccaroni" machine with instructions for making pasta]  
Holograph drawing and text, 1787

### Thomas Jefferson's Macaroni Machine

While touring northern Italy in 1787, Jefferson prepared these plans for a macaroni machine. Jefferson also brought back the recipe for making French fries. So if your favorite foods include pasta and fries, you can thank Thomas Jefferson for helping to introduce them to the United States.



### Thomas Jefferson's Vanilla Ice Cream Recipe

What's your favorite flavor of ice cream? Thomas Jefferson apparently loved vanilla! Here is his personal recipe. **Have you ever made homemade ice cream?**

Thomas Jefferson  
[Vanilla ice cream recipe]  
Holograph text, 1780s

Find more fun facts about Jefferson at [www.americaslibrary.gov](http://www.americaslibrary.gov)



Quickly, let's go back downstairs to the **ground floor** to see our funniest exhibition. If you look closely you can find a few **jokes** to add to your act.



Do you like to laugh, sing, dance, or tell jokes? Inside this exciting exhibition you will see and hear some of America's best-loved entertainers dance, sing, and tell jokes.

This exhibition explores variety entertainment through the lens of **Bob Hope's** long and rich career, in which he continued to practice the variety traditions he learned on the vaudeville stage.



So long for now—we hope you enjoyed your visit today. Please share what you learned with your friends and come back and see us again. We're always adding cool things for you to explore. You can use the Library of Congress to research many topics. Until next time, visit us online at [www.myLOC.gov](http://www.myLOC.gov).



# LIBRARY OF CONGRESS Discovery guide for KIDS & FAMILIES



Welcome to the Library of Congress. During your visit today, use this guide to explore the Thomas Jefferson Building and its architecture, learn about the Library's history, and discover fascinating exhibitions.

## Let's get started on the **first floor**...



Stand in the center of the floor on the sun-shaped **compass** (an instrument used for navigation). You are going to use this compass to find your way to the next activity, but first notice all the symbols you see here. They are signs of the **zodiac**—your zodiac sign is the astrological symbol that your birthday falls under.

### Can you find your sign?

Ask someone to help you.

**Capricorn** (The Goat)  
Dec 22–Jan 19

**Aquarius** (The Water Bearer)  
Jan 20–Feb 18

**Pisces** (The Fish)  
Feb 19–Mar 20

**Aries** (The Ram)  
Mar 21–April 19

**Taurus** (The Bull)  
April 20–May 20

**Gemini** (The Twins)  
May 21–June 21

**Cancer** (The Crab)  
June 22–July 22

**Leo** (The Lion)  
July 23–Aug 22

**Virgo** (The Virgin)  
Aug 23–Sept 22

**Libra** (The Scales)  
Sept 23–Oct 23

**Scorpio** (The Scorpion)  
Oct 24–Nov 21

**Sagittarius** (The Archer)  
Nov 22–Dec 21

Stand on the center of the compass and walk south. Look at the little children known as “Putti” (used in Renaissance art) on the staircase.

### See if you can find:

a rabbit  grapes

a fish  a crocodile  wheat



Gutenberg Bible

Don't miss this special collection on the **first floor** before going upstairs... stand on the center of the compass and walk east.

### LIBRARY OF CONGRESS BIBLE COLLECTION

The Gutenberg Bible (1455) and the Giant Bible of Mainz (1452–1453) are two monumental works that represent the end of an era (the handwritten book) and the beginning of an information explosion (the printed book) in Europe.

# FUN FACTS

### How old is the Library of Congress?

The Library was established by an act of Congress in 1800.

### Where was the Library of Congress originally located?

It was located in the Capitol until that space became too small and the Library needed to have its own building.

### When and where did the Library move?

A design competition was held in 1873 for the new library, but the cornerstone was not laid until August 28, 1890. The doors to this building opened on November 1, 1897.

### How much did the building cost to build?

The budget was \$6 million dollars, but the final cost was \$150,000 under budget. So what was the final cost of the building?

### How small is the smallest book at the Library of Congress?

The pages are so tiny they can be turned only with the use of a needle.

### Does the Library of Congress have a copy of every book ever published?

No, but materials are added to the collections of the Library at a rate of 10,000 items per business day.

Did you know that the Library of Congress has more than 650 miles of bookshelves, and more than 138 million objects in 470 languages?

## Explore the **second floor**...

Can you find the mosaic of Minerva?

Use the interactive kiosks around the hall to help you find her.



Can you find the image with wings? She is Nike, a representation of Victory, similar to those erected by ancient Greeks to commemorate their success in battle. Does the shape of Nike's wings look familiar? Can you spot an owl and a ram's head?

What is odd about the feet in this Minerva mosaic? Stand to the left of Minerva. Which way are her feet pointing? Now stand directly in front of her. Which way are her feet pointing? How did they do that?

Look down. How many pieces do you think it took to create this floor mosaic? Imagine how much time the artist spent making sure everything fit together.



### ▲ Mosaic Home Activity:

When you get home create your own mosaic using small squares of different colored paper.



There's more to find on the **second floor**! How about these?



Where can you find the rosettes? These rosettes are architectural adornment.

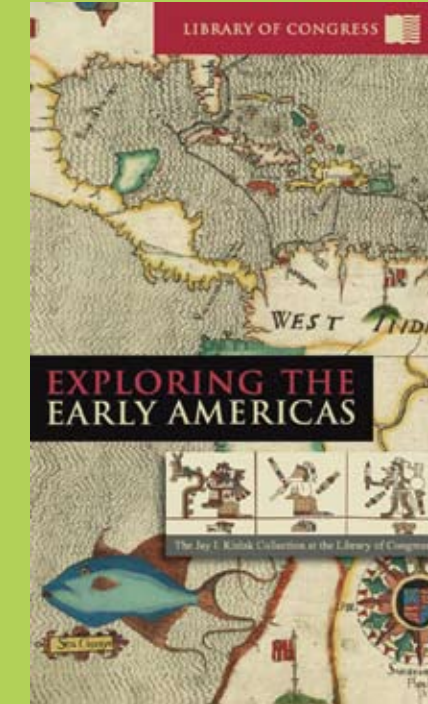


Can you find the hound dog in a mural? (Hint: Look up!)



Where do you see this Corinthian column and stained glass? This is a classic example of a Corinthian column—the most ornate of all column styles.

## Enticing exhibitions to discover on the **second floor**...



### EXPLORING THE EARLY AMERICAS

This exhibition examines indigenous cultures, the drama of the encounters between Native Americans and Europeans, and the changes caused by the meeting of the two worlds. The exhibition features selections from the Library's Jay I. Kislak Collection.

What important role did the jaguar play in Maya culture?



### CREATING THE UNITED STATES

This exhibition helps you understand how the drafts of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights were forged out of insight, invention, creativity, collaboration, and compromise. The exhibition shows you how these founding documents have played a significant role throughout American history and continue to influence your life.

Can you think of a way that one of the founding documents affects your daily life?

There's more on the **second floor**...