Good Citizens: American Childhoods from the Gilded Age to the Post-War Era

A Digital Exhibit Created for the Digital Public Library of America

Objectives:
- Create a comprehensive exhibit about American childhoods using the Omeka platform to display content from the vast holdings of the Digital Public Library of America.
- Curate an exhibit that shows the transformation of childhood in America from the 1880s to the 1940s.
- Assemble a versatile digital product that highlights cultural shifts in America that led to the production of “good citizens.”

Process:
- Chose a topic that highlights DPLA’s diverse holdings.
- Wrote an historical analysis of our topic and created cohesive thematic categories.
- Curated a dynamic collection of images.
- Compiled relevant metadata adhering to Dublin Core Schema standards.
- Designed and built a digital exhibit using the Omeka platform.

Outcomes:
- Constructed an innovative online exhibit for the Digital Public Library of America featuring:
  - 40 engaging images with descriptive metadata.
  - 4 thematic sections focusing on American children’s home lives, school, playtime, and work.
  - 18 vignettes highlighting the spectrum of experiences that encompass childhoods in America.

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