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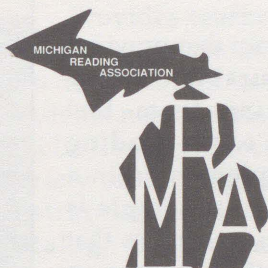
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# Children and the Library

by Beth G. Greene and Mia Kapacinskas

The library is an obvious resource center for students and teachers alike. The role of the library, though, is becoming more important as we increasingly recognize that literacy is essential for everyone who hopes to succeed in our society. This annotated bibliography contains citations that offer suggestions about ways teachers and librarians can use the library to help students learn. While many curriculum plans today include library skills, time prevents a full exposition and students are thus denied a valuable tool for learning.

The articles summarized below are concerned with ways to motivate children to use the library and, more importantly, to read. Teachers and librarians must take the initiative to teach students basic library skills and to share their own enthusiasm about reading. Only then will encouragement to read and excitement about expanding reading horizons seem realistic. With good library skills and an interest in reading for pleasure as well as for school, a lifelong attachment to literacy is sure to follow.

The ERIC database includes a large number of citations on the topic: Children and the Library. The descriptor term "library" calls up hundreds of citations in the ERIC database, many of which deal with college students and adults rather than children. Interested readers should use

the search terms: library, school libraries, library instruction, library skills, and adult literacy to locate additional resources not included in this bibliography.

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**EJ 366 437.** Callaghan, Linda Ward (1988, February). Children's Services--What Do They Mean to the Rest of the Profession? **American Libraries**, 19 (2), 102-03.

Discusses the library's responsibility toward children including the development of literacy skills, the use of public libraries by latchkey children, and increased demands for youth library services. Examines the need for children's services now to improve the outlook for adult services later.

**ED 308 482. Celebrating the National Reading Initiative.** (1989). Sacramento: California State Department of Education. 98 pp.

Challenges readers of all ages to celebrate the wonder of words arranged on the printed page. Contains descriptions of activities that have been highly successful in drawing children into literacy and keeping them there. Provides 64 activities that can be performed in the home, at school, in the library, around town, and around the world.

ED 255 904. Fowler, Zinita (1983). Monster Magic: A Reading Activities Idea Book for Use With Children. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press. 72 pp.

Presents a usable resource for librarians and teachers in planning and implementing a program for young library users and students. Explains ways to stimulate children to use the library. Contains ideas for activities, background and sources, a list of books to read, games, and a monster music section.

ED 263 553. McVitty, Walter (1985). School Libraries: Look Them Up! Check Them Out! Primary English Notes (PEN) No. 52. Rozelle, Australia: Primary English Teaching Association (PETA). 7 pp.

Focuses on the school library. Describes the role of the school library. Discusses the library as resource center, the kinds of resources contained there, the function of the teacher-librarian, scheduling library activities, library and research skills, ways to develop a life-long love of books and reading, and establishing a classroom library.

ED 255 858. Smith-Lawrence, Paula, and Gary, Suzanne Tumblin, (Eds.). (1980). Ready, Set, Read! A Reading Comprehension Program for Children. Tuscon, AZ: Tuscon Public

Library. 43 pp.

Discusses a program that provides children with pleasurable reading experiences by letting them feel successful in their early reading attempts. Can be implemented in a public library setting and employs reading comprehension techniques that have been found effective. Focuses on helping to prevent problems before they arise. Contains sample lessons and suggestions for conducting discussions.

ED 277 040. Stevenson, Jean (1987). Weaving Connections with Language Arts. Grand Forks: University of North Dakota, Center for Teaching and Learning. 11 pp.

States that teachers and librarians can help students make connections between what they already know and new material by integrating the language arts across the curriculum. Discusses how students can benefit from class projects assisted by a librarian. Includes ideas on how to bring essential components of reading enjoyment to the classroom.

ED 236 562. Thomas, James L., and Loring, Ruth M. (Eds.). (1983). Motivating Children and Young Adults to Read. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press. 105 pp.

Discusses determining, capturing, and maintaining children's interest in the reading process. Contains sections on student activities and interests, methodology, strategies for organizing, implementing, and evaluating reading programs, and specific suggestions for motivating students to read.

ED 269 028. Today's Libraries: A Resource Guide for Teachers. (1984). Ventura County, CA: Superintendent of Schools.

Provides teachers with ready to use activity sheets and suggests discussion topics to teach basic skills students need to use both school and public libraries effectively. Includes a variety of teaching aides to help with instruction on how to use a card catalog, microfilm catalog, and computer online catalog. Suggests independent activities which can be adapted to any grade level.

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