The focus of *The Blue Book on Information Age Inquiry, Instruction, and Literacy* is just what is needed: a one-stop sourcebook designed to serve as a theoretical model for designing and implementing a K–12 information literacy program. Having its origin in a monthly column published in *School Library Media Activities Monthly*, this is an update and revision of *Key Words, Concepts, and Methods for Information Age Instruction*, published in 2003.

The focus of *The Blue Book* is information inquiry: what it is, how it benefits today’s learners, how it functions in the information age, and how to teach it effectively. Part I examines the concepts and models of information inquiry, search, and use models, and discusses the instructional role of the library media specialist and instructional media specialist, among many other topics. Part II takes the inquiry concepts that have been introduced and discusses the implementation of them in the student research process. This section is aimed at middle schools, but the information and materials can be adapted for high school and college use as well.

Part III, “Key Words for Instruction in Information Inquiry,” is perhaps the most useful part of the book. Each key word, such as “bias,” “primary sources,” “synthesis,” or “evidence,” is defined and discussed in great detail. These have been nicely designed to be reproduced for handouts and study guides. Each section provides references for further reading, and there is an extensive bibliography of selected Web resources on K–16 information literacy instruction at the end. The book is very well organized and can be read serially or consulted as needed.

Daniel Callison and Leslie Preddy have created an excellent resource for K–12 library media specialists, but colleges and universities also will find it extremely useful. Its greatest strength is the thoroughness with which this subject is covered, and even those who have been teaching information literacy for many years will find new ideas and resources here.—*Mark Watson, Instruction Librarian, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale*


Freeman fans know what to expect from her work: clear annotations of outstanding read-aloud books across a broad spectrum of ages, interests, and subjects, along with curriculum integration, follow-up ideas, and related readings. Readers will not be disappointed in her latest book in the *Books Kids Will Sit Still For* series. It is typical Freeman at her best. The author has selected more than 1,700 titles. Each listing contains the full bibliographic citation, suggested grade level, a brief hook rather than a synopsis (no spoilers here!), Freeman’s trademark germ suggesting how to use the book in education, and a list of related titles in brief citation form, with author, title, publisher, and copyright date only. A thorough bibliography and indexes organized by author or illustrator, title, and subject enhance the usefulness of the volume.

Children’s librarians, teachers, and anyone who reads to children will find this book an invaluable tool for creating lesson plans, developing read-aloud programs, and going beyond the “read the book aloud, then pick up another” style of sharing books with young people. Her integration germs are creative, practical, and age-appropriate for the suggested grade levels. The activities she proposes do not require elaborate props or supplies other than those typically found in a classroom or a library’s children’s department.

The volume would be worth the purchase price for the booklists alone, but Freeman offers much more. The opening section, “About Children’s Books and Ways to Use Them,” is filled with gems of information, anecdotes, statistics, and Freeman’s witty commentary. Topics in this section include a list of qualities necessary to be a great school librarian, a section on book evaluation and awards, a discussion of why the Finns are the world’s best readers, and much more. Freeman’s writing has a natural flow reminiscent of her rapid-fire speech. Reading her work is almost like sitting down to a one-sided chat with an old book-loving friend.—*Terri L. Street, Library Media Specialist, Longfellow Middle School, Norman, Oklahoma*


Dedicated to the memory of Bill Katz, who mentored “this project through his last days,” this volume’s topic is described by its title. Its purpose and audience, while not explicitly stated, are implied by the following statement in the brief introduction: “This book reflects the current practices in academic libraries, presents various viewpoints, offers suggestions, and attempts to be globally relevant” (1). The work consists of eleven articles that are somewhat artificially organized into three chapters: “Common Issues,” “Special Issues,” and “Future Issues.”

The authors are all academic librarians who possess suitable credentials plus current knowledge of their subject matter, and who generally write well. They often draw upon practice at their institution, outline major issues, and offer prescriptive suggestions for better practice. Five of the eleven articles are written by contributors from Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Testifying to the international perspective, a chapter subheading uses the British term “electronic short loan” for “electronic reserve.” The emphasis is on contemporary developments, but the discussion about corporate annual report digitization at the University of Pennsylvania by Cynthia L. Cronin-Kardon and Michael Halperin contains fascinating historical background information. David Stern’s outline of alternative access and pricing models and Stephen Good’s discussion of personal digital assistant serials are future-oriented. Most topics pertinent to the subject,