

is the recent five-volume *Greenwood Encyclopedia of African American Literature* (Greenwood, 2005). This set provides essay-length entries with more substantive listings of resources and a chronology. Equally notable is The Scribner Writers Series two-volume set, *African American Writers* (Scribner, 2001) and *African-American Writers* (ABC-CLIO, 2000). All in all, students will find online subscription-based *The Oxford African American Studies Center* and *African American Experience* (Greenwood) as reliable and likely more appealing for their convenience.

The stated “emphasis on new and emerging writers” must be writers born after 1960, yet they make up less than ten percent of the volume. Much of the coverage is duplicative, including content on lesser-known yet important influences of African American culture, for example hip-hop icons Tupac Shakur, Ice-T, and Mos Def; the rap group Public Enemy; celebrity actress Queen Latifah; and self-confessed pimps turned writers Donald Goines and Iceberg Slim. A topical list of entries would have improved access to the volume’s contents. And although there are a few typographical errors (e.g., James Weldon Johnson’s dates are listed as 1871-1871) and noteworthy omissions (e.g., Arthur A. Schomburg and Paul Robeson) the volume is well done and approachable for beginning researchers. Selectors should weigh the benefits of purchasing yet another print source on this subject if they can afford the online products. This is an optional purchase for high school, community college, and lower division undergraduate libraries.—Katharine A. Webb, *Librarian, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology. Ed. by Neil J. Salkind. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage, 2008. 2 vols. acid free \$350 (ISBN 978-1-4129-1688-2).

Researchers in the field of educational psychology seek answers to some of society’s most important questions: How can we help human beings develop intellectually, physically, and socially? How is knowledge transferred? How do we excite people about learning? How do we make education relevant to students with different backgrounds and abilities? How do we ensure that teaching practices are effective? Educational psychology draws from assessment, cognitive, developmental, motivational, and social psychology, and is applied daily in everyone’s lives, not just those of K–12 students.

An encyclopedia has great potential to introduce novices to the findings of researchers and practitioners. Unfortunately, *Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology* tends to miss the mark. Some articles, such as ones on high-stakes testing and immigration, do a good job of connecting current interests to theories and practices in educational psychology. Unfortunately, even with the most expansive conceptualization of the topic, the connection between many other articles and educational psychology is unclear. For example, a two-page article on athletics focuses on the “Origin and Governance of Men’s and Women’s Athletics” and the “Role of the Athlete in Higher Education.” However, within an educational psychology

context, one might hope to find a discussion of the effects of sports involvement on academic performance, long-term implications of head injuries on cognitive functioning, the role of games in socializing youngsters, the difficulties student athletes may face in balancing their responsibilities, or other such topics. Similarly, a seven-page article on gangs discusses the various types of gangs, gang members, and violence, but does not point out how theoretical frameworks prevalent in educational psychology, such as Bandura’s insights on self-efficacy and social learning, might explain why adolescents join gangs. It also does not discuss in detail topics such as the recruitment and initiation of young people into gangs (a kind of educational activity), gangs in schools, or other topics of interest.

The intent of the work is to “[focus] on those topics that evoke the interests of the everyday reader” and “share this information in a way that is . . . informative without being overly technical or intimidating” (xxix). Thus one should not expect to find in-depth articles that address the interests of experts. Yet, the stated goal is undercut by more than thirty (of 275 total) entries relating to research methods (Salkind and Sage’s specialty). One can hardly imagine a novice coming to this source to find information on the “Confidence Interval” or “Standard Deviation and Variance.” Furthermore, if a library already owns Sage’s other methods works—especially its *Encyclopedia of Social Science Research Methods* (edited by Michael S. Lewis-Beck and others, 2004) or *Encyclopedia of Measurement and Statistics* (edited by Salkind, 2007)—such entries in the *Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology* are repetitive.

Editor Neil Salkind is misleading in asserting that there are currently “few comprehensive overviews of the field of educational psychology” (xxix). While there are no recent encyclopedias that I am aware of, there are worthwhile handbooks, including *Handbook of Educational Psychology* (Lawrence Erlbaum, 2006, edited by Patricia A. Alexander and Philip H. Winne), the *Praeger Handbook of Learning and the Brain* (Praeger, 2006, edited by Sheryl Feinstein), and several undergraduate-level readers and textbooks. Also, encyclopedias on education and human development will likely include much of the material offered here. In fact, when one compares the tables of contents, at least one hundred of the entries in *Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology* have a counterpart in Sage’s *Encyclopedia of Human Development* (2006). In summary, the *Encyclopedia of Educational Psychology* is recommended only for the most comprehensive collections.—Bernadette A. Lear, *Behavioral Sciences and Education Librarian, Penn State Harrisburg Library, Middletown, Pennsylvania*.

Encyclopedia of Global Warming and Climate Change. Ed. by S. G. Philander. Los Angeles, Calif.: Sage, 2008. 3 vols. acid free \$375 (ISBN 978-1-4129-5878-3).

After Davis Guggenheim’s hit movie featuring Al Gore, *An Inconvenient Truth* (Lawrence Bender Productions, 2006), the publishing industry awakened to a seemingly insatiable