
Sources

Professional Materials

Karen Antell, Editor

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Building a Core Print Collection for Preschoolers. By Alan R. Bailey. Chicago: ALA, 2014. 160 p. Paper \$57 (ISBN 978-0-8389-1219-5).

This is a comprehensive and concise resource for librarians, teachers, parents, and anyone interested in the best books for preschool-age children. In the preface, author Alan R. Bailey informs the reader of the book's purpose, which is to help caregivers find the right books to read to children, and points out that reading together is one of the most important things parents can do to prepare children for kindergarten. The preface also includes a list of the criteria Bailey used to evaluate whether to recommend a title. This is helpful both because it provides insight into the author's process and also because it aids readers in evaluating books on their own.

The list itself is impressive in its scope. Recommended books are helpfully divided into categories, such as colors, counting, nursery rhymes, board books, and more, which makes for easy searching. The succinct annotations for each book help the reader determine quickly whether a title might be a good match for their child. Many classics are included, along with sure-to-be future classics and lesser-known titles worth discovering.

Readers will enjoy finding familiar titles on the list but may also notice their personal to-read list growing with each page in this book, which makes many hidden gems of children's literature discoverable. In addition to the more than three hundred recommended titles, the book also includes a section listing additional resources for building a collection. All in all, this is a worthy addition to reference collections.—Lauren Bridges, *Children's Librarian, Mandel Public Library, West Palm Beach, Florida*

The Embedded Librarian's Cookbook. Ed. by Kaijsa Calkins and Cassandra Kvenild. Chicago: ACRL, 2014. 167 p. Paper \$48 (ISBN 978-0-8389-8693-6).

This unusually sized (ten inches wide by eight inches high) paperback book is designed for sharing. The wide page borders, excellent layout, and pleasing font make the pages ideal for copying. And that is exactly what librarians will want to do with these very useful "recipes" for embedded librarianship projects. It is amazing how much great information Calkins and Kvenild have stuffed into just 167 pages.

One minor complaint is that the authors never define the term *embedded librarian*. Although most academic librarians will be familiar with the term, a definition would be welcome because in some contexts, this term refers to a librarian's participation in online-only activities, and in other contexts, embedded librarianship includes both face-to-face and online ventures. Several similar titles, such as *Embedding Librarianship in Learning Management Systems* (Tumbleson and Burke, 2013) and *Virtually Embedded: The Librarian in an Online Environment* (Leonard and McCaffrey, 2014), focus exclusively on online environments. This volume, the sequel to the editors' 2011 book *Embedded Librarianship: Moving Beyond One-Shot Instruction*, considers embedded librarianship in all contexts.

RUSQ considers for review reference books and professional materials of interest to reference and user services librarians. Serials and subscription titles normally are not reviewed unless a major change in purpose, scope, format, or audience has occurred. Reviews usually are three hundred to five hundred words in length. Views expressed are those of the reviewers and do not necessarily represent those of ALA. Please refer to standard directories for publishers' addresses.

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