

management information useful for library professionals in other institutional settings as well.—*Jennifer A. Bartlett, Head of Reference Services, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky*

The Essential Lapsit Guide: A Multimedia How-To-Do-It Manual and Programming Guide for Stimulating Literacy Development from 12 to 24 Months. By Linda L. Ernst. Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman, 2015. 276 p. Paper \$72 (ISBN: 978-1-55570-761-3).

Ernst brings her thirty-five years of experience to this update and compilation of two previous books: *Lapsit Services for the Very Young* and *Lapsit Services for the Very Young II*. Ernst's prose is very accessible and engaging, and the book's structure guides the progression of learning for the librarian who uses it.

The book is divided into two parts. In the first part, "Program Foundations," Ernst provides a brief and clear discussion on current brain research and its implications for librarians and library services. Next, she discusses the audience for lapsits: not just the child, but the caregiver, librarian, and library staff. Ernst devotes space to the families of special needs children, teen parents, grandparents, and bilingual families. The third chapter, which discusses outreach services, facilities, collections, partnerships, funding, and grants, is full of ideas to spark librarians' imaginations so they can apply these ideas in their own communities.

The second part of the book, "Program Building Blocks," will help the librarian build a lapsit program in the library. Chapter 4, "The Play's the Thing—Books, Rhymes, and Programs," will become the most well-thumbed portion of the book. This chapter begins with planning the story time and covers many things to think about, such as scheduling, program set-up, and adult education. Following this, the author includes an annotated bibliography covering suggested themes and tips for how to engage the audience for each of 180 books. Next comes an extensive catalog of rhymes, some of which marked with icons indicating that are also included as mpg files on the book's online companion site. But best of all is a series of programs by theme, complete with every book, rhyme, and song listed: a perfect introduction to help a new librarian to get started quickly, but also a way to provide new ideas for the experienced librarian. The last program suggests basic scripting for the presenter to use. In the final chapter, the author discusses the use of a variety of enhancements including music, puppets, flannel board, and props, as well as ideas for other creative activity programs for this age group. The book's appendix includes examples of handouts and templates that are helpful as a starting point. Each chapter is followed by bibliographies of books, articles, e-resources, and resource lists. "Multimedia" is part of this book's title, and it does not disappoint: in fact, "multimedia" might just be the most valuable aspect of the book. ALA Editions has provided a companion website where librarians can access a bibliography of chapter resources in PDF form, all the rhyme and song lyrics in a Microsoft Word document,

downloadable PDFs of all the handouts and activities from the "enhancement" section of book, and, best of all, mpg files of the author performing some of the rhymes and songs included in the book. What a gift for the musically challenged librarian! These awesome resources are found at <http://alaeditions.org/webextras>.

This book should be one of your public library's most used resources. *The Essential Lapsit Guide* provides the building blocks for a successful lapsit program in any public library. It provides a starting point for new librarians and a refresher course for the more experienced. Long after librarians use this book to develop their story time program, the information will give them confidence to continue building their own "library" of lapsit programs. A must-have for every public library in the business of early literacy.—*Jenny Foster Stenis, Readers Services Manager, Pioneer Library System, Norman, Oklahoma*

Experiencing America's Story through Fiction. By Hilary Susan Crew. Chicago: ALA, 2014. 208 p. Paper \$57 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1225-6).

This book is packed full of historical fiction titles to incorporate into curriculum, aid in collection development, or to assist with reader's advisory. Organized chronologically, the book begins with the colonization and settlement of America and proceeds through contemporary America, which, according to the author, begins in 1980. The author ends with a bibliography and an index that includes authors, titles, and major historical events.

The book's nine chapters are divided by time period. Some chapters include novels that cover the entire period. All of the chapters cover the major events of the time period, such as westward expansion, Native American history, civil rights, and so forth. Young adult books are listed first, and each annotation includes publisher information, grade recommendations, awards, a summary, and at least two discussion questions. Adult fiction books are listed next, and the annotations include the same information about each novel, except for award information. The author does an admirable job of including well written books appropriate to the time period, such as *Two Girls of Gettysburg*, by Klein, for the Civil War section and *Code Talker*, by Bruchac, for the section on World War II. The only section that is lacking is the final chapter on contemporary America, which includes titles about the Iraqi War and immigrant and minority experiences.

This book is ideal for secondary and postsecondary librarians to use as a tool for collaboration with history teachers. It will also be useful in collection development. History departments that wish to add fiction to their curriculum would also find this a helpful, well-laid-out resource. Even public librarians could find this useful in choosing books for historical fiction book clubs for teens and adults.—*Melanie Wachsmann, Reference/Teen Librarian, Lone Star College-CyFair Branch Library, Cypress, Texas*

Guide to Reference in Business and Economics. Edited by Steven W. Sowards and Elizabeth Leonard. Chicago: ALA, 2014. 298 p. Paper \$65 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1234-8).

The *Guide to Reference in Business and Economics*, edited by Steven W. Sowards and Elizabeth Leonard, is an outstanding reference resource that will be beneficial to academic and public librarians as well as to LIS students, LIS faculty members, and some corporate librarians. The majority of the book's content is derived from the "Economics and Business" section of ALA's online guide *Guide to Reference* (www.guidetoreference.org) and has been carefully curated by the editors to ensure that high-quality resources are highlighted.

Academic, corporate, and public librarians (such as those with responsibility for reference, course-integrated instruction, and collection development) will find value in the book's depth of content. The summary bibliographic information within the specific categories of each major heading is rich and includes ISBNs and URLs when applicable. The editors also have included several noteworthy print publications that are no longer in press.

LIS students and faculty will find this annotated work of more than 800 entries an extremely useful "fingertip guide" that can enhance and supplement course content. Beyond the classroom, the LIS educational community will also appreciate the annotations on various organizational and professional associations as another uniquely interesting element. Moreover, an entire chapter is dedicated to occupations and careers resources—critically important for LIS students and practitioners to keep at the ready for themselves and for those seeking credible information from largely nonprofit sources.

Students all across the higher education curriculum (especially business, economics, management, and law majors) will also find this guide to be very useful, both inside and outside of the academy. The wide range of contemporary resources covering economic conditions, world trade, and international information makes the book suitable for a wide range of course assignments. Additionally, the entry selections on many emerging interdisciplinary focus areas, including entrepreneurship/small business, business law, and human resources, are among the best available in a single guide.

The decision to offer to this guide in both print and electronic versions is also noteworthy. Many reference and user services practitioners will successfully argue the importance of providing both formats for a guide such as this in order to foster accessibility for use among a broad and diverse patron base.

This thoughtfully selected and well-organized resource guide is highly recommended.—*Alexia Hudson-Ward, Associate Librarian, Penn State Abington, Abington, Pennsylvania*

Guide to Reference: Essential General Reference and Library Science Sources. Edited by Jo Bell Whitlatch and Susan E. Searing. Chicago: ALA Editions, 2014. 248 p. \$65 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1232-4).

ALA's classic print publication, *Guide to Reference Books*,

was replaced in 2009 with the online *Guide to Reference*. As the online introduction states, the web subscription version of the *Guide to Reference* serves as a gateway with interactive features that the former print guide never could have replicated. Indeed, because print publications are by their nature hampered by size limitations, the online guide simply can provide more cross referencing, offer more extensive comparative evaluations and annotations of sources, and become more global in coverage.

With all this in mind, is there really a need for a new *Guide to Reference* in print? The new *Guide to Reference: Essential General Reference and Library Science Sources* is much more concise than the original print *Guide*, and far less comprehensive than either the print or online versions. Both the title and the introduction make it clear that this volume is not intended to replicate the original *Guide* but instead to provide what the editors consider to be the essential reference sources, with a particular focus on library science sources. Library science students are a target audience for this work, as it covers many print and online resources that would be valuable across a variety of library settings, including public and academic libraries and also, to a lesser extent, school libraries. The book also might be of use in small public libraries, which have an acute need to keep their collections current and well resourced.

The book is organized by resource category, such as biography, genealogy, newspapers, and so forth, and each resource entry is numbered. English language resources are emphasized, but some European and other international web resources also are included. Overall, *Guide to Reference* would be a very helpful guide for a library science student, a small library, or a librarian who wants to review their essential or ready-reference collection for currency. One glaring omission from this guide is a section on career resources, covering topics such as job searching, resume writing, and interview skills: This category of resources is required in most library reference collections, large or small. One hopes that such a section will be added to future editions.—*Laura Graveline, Visual Arts Librarian, Sherman Art Library, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire*

Letting Go of Legacy Services: Library Case Studies. Edited by Mary Evangeliste and Katherine Furlong. Chicago: ALA, 2014. 159 p. Paper \$55 (ISBN: 978-0-8389-1220-1).

Drawing on the organizational theories of noted business thinker and management consultant Peter Drucker, the editors of this volume have gathered together case studies and interviews that illustrate his concept of planned abandonment at work in libraries. Defined as the systematic evaluation of products and services, planned abandonment in libraries means examining reference, instruction, and collection development and abandoning those services that are no longer relevant in the present context. The editors argue that this strategy is the hallmark of innovative organizations and the key to libraries' future longevity.