

## COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT PLAN

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RATIONALE

A school-based collection development plan provides the framework that gives a philosophical and practical rationale for the growth of an appropriate school resource collection consisting of exemplary resources that support student learning across the curriculum. Collections must be built continuously, both in depth and breadth; otherwise, they will decline in quality and value. Consistent and balanced growth should satisfy ongoing needs as well as anticipate future demands.

In no particular order, the reasons for establishing a collection development plan are:

- to formulate a strategy for development of the school resource collection which supports the school development renewal plan.
- to give direction to future growth and thus assist establishing priorities for the allocation of budget.
- to assure that the school library will be committed to reflecting the school culture and all facets of the school program.
- to communicate to administration, staff, and the community the purpose, scope, and nature of the collection.
- to help assure continuity of purpose and direction when staff changes occur.
- to establish criteria and procedures for the selection and weeding of materials.
- to guide schools in assessing the collection.
- to help minimize personal bias related to transient fads, social tastes in selection.
- to have clear processes in place should a selection decision be challenged.