Chapter 2

Key Reference Works Related to Children's Literature

Once upon a time it was difficult to find accurate information about children's literature, but that time has passed. Since the mid-1970s, many reference works related to children's literature have been published. Some, such as *Something about the Author*, are multivolume works that take up an entire library shelf. Others, such as the recently published *International Companion Encyclopedia of Children's Literature*, take the form of one hefty volume. A listing of all these reference works would have over one hundred entries. There are, however, 96 key reference works that I have found to be especially helpful. What follows are descriptions of these works. The first section deals with works that focus on authors, which is followed by a section that covers works that take a general approach. The next section deals with works that are organized by the titles of children's books, and the last section describes works that focus on criticism.

**Works that focus on authors**

*Something about the Author* Gale Research began publishing this ongoing series in 1971. As its founding editor, Anne Commire, stated in the first volume, the series is intended to provide readers with an “almost personal introduction to authors.” Every volume includes entries on one hundred or more children's authors or illustrators. Each entry provides key biographical information, the addresses of the author and/or the author's agent, an overview of the author's career, a listing of the awards and honors the author has received, a chronological bibliography of the books written or illustrated by the author, and information about other published sources that focus on the author. The entries are arranged alphabetically within each volume. There are cumulative indexes at the back of every other volume of the series—one for authors and the other for illustrators. To locate an entry about a particular author, readers should look up the author's name in the most recently published volume of the series that has indexes. The indexes indicate which volume or volumes have entries on the author.
Since Gale Research brings out about four new volumes of this series each year, Something about the Author tends to provide the most current information of all the reference works that focus on children's authors. Consequently, it is often the best place to turn for information about authors who have recently emerged on the scene. Also, the series often publishes updated entries on authors whose careers span many years. For readers who are seeking scholarly analyses of a particular author's works, however, Something about the Author is not the best reference work available. The entries in this series tend to be short and aimed at a general audience.

Something about the Author: Autobiography Series
Gale Research began publishing this series in 1986. The entries in the series are written by the authors or illustrators themselves and usually run about 10,000 words. The subjects are given free rein when writing these entries. Some of the entries are fairly formal accounts of the subject's career, while others are very personal essays that delve into such subjects as the author's childhood or family life. These entries usually include photographs and other visual material. At the end of each entry is a bibliography of the author's works. There is a cumulative index at the back of each volume.

In most cases, the authors and illustrators included in this series have not written full-scale autobiographies. Thus, for readers who are interested in an author's thoughts about his or her life and career, this reference work is well worth consulting. Readers, however, should be aware that there are many children's authors and illustrators who are not included in this series.

Authors and Artists for Young Adults
Gale Research began this series in 1989. It follows the same format as Something about the Author, as it focuses more on authors and illustrators whose works have a young adult audience. Many of the same authors that are included in Authors and Artists for Young Adults are also included in Something about the Author.

As one would expect, Authors and Artists for Young Adults has entries on important young adult authors, such as Judy Blume, Robert Cormier, and Walter Dean Myers. It also, however, includes entries on authors whose works are intended primarily for adults but are often read by teenagers, including William Faulkner, Hermann Hesse, Stephen King, Sam Shepard, Agatha Christie, and David Eddings.

Dictionary of Literary Biography
Of the various reference works published by Gale Research, this series is perhaps the most scholarly in tone. All the volumes in this series provide in-depth biographical essays which trace an author's writing career, discuss the evolution of the author's literary reputation, and appraise the author's major works. These essays are written by noted scholars. The volumes in this series are organized thematically. There are now eight volumes that focus on children's authors, four of which deal with American authors and four that deal with British authors. Another volume dealing with British children's authors is planned.

Volume 22, titled American Writers for Children, 1900-1960, came out in 1983 under the editorship of John Cech. Among its 45 entries are essays on...
Works Related to Children’s Literature: Works that focus on authors

Volume 42, titled *American Writers for Children Before 1900*, came out in 1965 under the editorship of Glenn E. Bates. Among its 42 entries are essays on Laura May Alcott, Frances Hodgson Burnett, Mary Mapes Dodge, Joel Chandler Harris, Howard Pyle, Harriet Beecher Stowe, and Kate Douglas Wiggin.


Volume 161, titled *British Children’s Writers Since 1960: First Series*, came out in 1996 under the editorship of Caroline C. Hunt. Among its 50 entries are essays on Joan Aiken, Susan Cooper, Helen Cresswell, Leon Garfield, Madeline Dican Wyne Jones, Philippa Pearce, and Margery Sharp.


*Children’s Literature Review* launched a special section in 1996 to provide readers with a guide to the published criticism and commentary related to children’s authors. Since its debut, *Children’s Literature Review* has evolved into one of the most consulted reference works in the field. Each volume contains entries on eight to ten authors. A typical entry begins with a short overview of the author’s life and career followed by a section called “Author’s Commentary,” which includes excerpts from interviews and articles in which the author discusses his or her own work. The next section provides excerpts from articles that take a general approach to the author’s work. The final section of the entry deals with criticism and commentary pertaining to particular books by the author. For the most part, the material excerpted in...
this section comes from published book reviews. The sources of all the quoted
notas in each entry are carefully identified. At the end of each volume, there
are three cumulative indexes—one focuses on authors, another on book titles,
and the third on the authors' nationalities. As it is the case with most of reference
works published by Gale, readers should always turn to the indexes included in
the most recently published volume in the series.

When readers are using Children's Literature Review, they should keep in
mind that most of the information included in the entries is excerpted from
published sources. On occasion, not all of the information included in the
original sources is reprinted in the excerpts. Thus, readers can often find
additional information and insights by locating and reading the original
sources from which these excerpts came.

Junior Book of Authors: Before Gale Research began publishing works on
children's literature, the Junior Book of Authors was the best source for infor-
mation about children's authors. When H. W. Wilson published the first vol-
ume of this series in 1934, it was the first major reference work to focus on
children's authors. Compared to the entries in the Something about the Author
series, the entries in the Junior Book of Authors are not as fully developed. They
tend to be only a few paragraphs long, and they do not include complete bibli-
ographies of the authors' works. Nevertheless, this series is sometimes the
only reference work to include information about lesser known children's authors
from the first half of the twentieth century.

Volume one of the series, titled The Junior Book of Authors, came out in
1934 under the editorship of Stanley J. Kunitz and Howard Haycraft. It
includes 268 entries, each of which is accompanied by photograph of the
author. Many of the entries are written by the children's authors themselves.
Kunitz and Haycraft edited a preface of this volume, which appeared in
1951. The second edition authors 289 entries, 129 of which are new.

Volume two, titled More Junior Authors, came out in 1963 under the editor-
ship of Muriel Felder. It includes 268 entries, most of which focus on
authors who achieved prominence during the 1950s and early 60s.

Volume three, titled The Third Book of Junior Authors, came out in 1972
under the editorship of Burns De Montreville and Donna Hill. It includes
entries on 255 authors, most of whom achieved prominence during the
1960s and early 70s. Unlike the entries from the earlier volumes, each entry
in this volume includes a bibliography of selected works by each author and a
list of references that provide additional information about the author. This
volume also includes a cumulative index to all the volumes in the series.

Volume four, titled The Fourth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators, came
out in 1978 under the editorship of Burns De Montreville and Elizabeth D.
Crawford. It includes 239 entries, one third of which deal with illustrators.
The entries on authors deal primarily with those who gained prominence
during the mid-1970s, but there are entries on illustrators from a variety of
periods. This volume includes a cumulative index.

Volume five, titled The Fifth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators, came out
in 1983 under the editorship of Sally Holmes Holzie. It includes 259 entries
on authors and illustrators, most of whom achieved prominence during the
For 1970s and early 1980s, this volume includes a cumulative index.

Volume 6, titled *The Sixth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators*, came out in 1989 under the editorship of Sally Holmes Holze. It includes 236 entries on authors and illustrators, most of whom achieved prominence during the 1970s. This volume includes a cumulative index.

**Twentieth-Century Children's Writers.** The third and most recent edition of the biennial reference work was published by St. James Press in 1988. Edited by Tim Chval, it includes 860 entries. These entries focus on twentieth-century English-language authors who write fiction, poetry, or drama for children. Each entry includes key biographical information, a complete bibliography of the author's works, and a short discussion of the author's most important contributions to children's literature. The book also features an appendix that has entries on major nineteenth-century children's authors.

Nearly all of the authors included in *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers* are covered in more detail in *Something about the Author*. There are occasions, however, when readers would rather consult a one-volume book that deals with the complications involved in using a multi-volume work. For readers who are trying to track down the publication date of a particular book by a children's author, identify the nationality of an author, or find some other bit of specific information about an author, *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers* is a good source to consult.

*Children's Books and Their Creators* was published by Houghton Mifflin Company in 1995. *Children's Books and Their Creators* is a one-volume work that provides biographical and critical overviews of children's authors and illustrators. Anna Sibley, the book's editor, made a special effort to include entries on authors and illustrators who have come into print since World War II.

Although *Children's Books and Their Creators* is very similar to *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers*, there are some differences that are worth noting. The entries in *Children's Books and Their Creators* are generally longer and more analytical than the entries found in *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers*. Sibley's book, however, do not include the comprehensive bibliographies and lists of references that accompany all the entries in *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers*. Unlike *Twentieth-Century Children's Writers*, Sibley's book also includes entries on subjects other than particular authors and illustrators. There are entries, for example, on Canadian children's literature, awards and prizes, Canadian children's literature, comic books and graphic novels, international books for children, fantasy literature, Latin America's books, magazines for children, and poetry for children. Another special feature found in Sibley's book is a series of entries titled "Voices of the Creators" in which children's authors or illustrators discuss their lives and works.

*Writers for Children: Critical Studies of Major Authors Since the Seventeenth Century* was published by Charles Scribner's Sons in 1988. It contains 84 lengthy essays on children's authors who have "worked with the best of them." All of the authors included in this volume are deceased and their major works have remained in print at New York: St. James Press, 1989.

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least two generations after their original publication date.

The entries in Writers for Children are very similar to the entries in the Dictionary of Literary Biography volumes pertaining to children's authors. Both of these reference works feature scholarly essays written by noted authorities in children's literature, and both reference works cover many of the same authors. However, since all of the existing DLB volumes focus on either American or British children's authors, there are a number of very important children's authors from other countries who cannot be found in the DLB volumes. To its credit, Writers for Children includes entries on several such authors, including Hans Christian Andersen, Jean de Brunhoff, Carlo Collodi, Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm, Lucy Maud Montgomery, Charles Perrault, Felix Salten, and Johanna Spyri.

Black Authors and Illustrators of Children's Books When Garland Publishing brought out Barbara Rollcock's Black Authors and Illustrators of Children's Books in 1992, it was the first reference work to have such a focus. Garland brought out an expanded second edition of this book in 1992. The second edition has entries on 150 authors and illustrators, including Ashley Bryan, Alice Childress, Lucille Clifton, Donald Crews, Rosa Guy, Virginia Hamilton, Dorolores Johnson, Julius Lester, Walter Dean Myers, Jerry Pinkney, John Steptoe, Eleanora Tate, and Mildred Taylor.

Black Authors and Illustrators of Children's Books works especially well when it is used in conjunction with Something about the Author. Rollcock's book does a good job of identifying African American authors and illustrators of children's books, including those who are lesser known or who are not easily identified as being Black. However, because the entries in this book are usually only two or three paragraphs long, they do not provide a lot of information. In many cases, readers can find additional information about these authors and illustrators in Something about the Author.

Works that take a general approach


Dictionary of American Children's Fiction is intended to provide readers with key information. For readers who want to know what book a character comes from, when a book was published, who wrote a particular title, or where a story is set. Dictionary of American Children's Fiction is good place to turn for dependable answers.

Although not quite as comprehensive as the Dictionary of American Children’s Fiction, Helbig and Perkins’ Dictionary of British Children’s Fiction is still a source of specific information about British children’s books and their authors.

Dictionary of Children’s Fiction from Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, and Selected African Countries Written by Alethea K. Helbig and Agnes Regan Perkins, this reference work was published by Greenwood Press in 1992. Helbig and Perkins provide entries on book titles, authors, major characters, and settings. It features 726 entries based on 263 books. In selecting which books to include in this work, Helbig and Perkins placed their emphasis on books that are written in English.

This book is one of the best reference works available that deals with children’s literature from an international perspective.

International Companion Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature Edited by Peter Hunt, the International Companion Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature was published by Routledge in 1996. This book is one of the only reference works in this field that does not focus on authors or individual titles. Instead, the book contains 86 scholarly essays which are organized around the following four subheadings: “Theory and Critical Approaches,” “Types and Genres,” “The Context of Children’s Literature,” and “The World of Children’s Literature.”

Among the ten entries in the section titled “Theory and Critical Approaches” are essays on reader-response criticism, psychoanalytic criticism, feminist criticism, and illustration and picture books.

Among the 56 entries in the section titled “Types and Genres” are essays on fairy and folk tales, playground rhymes, poetry, drama, animal stories, high fantasy, science fiction, family stories, school stories, historical fiction, and children’s magazines.

Among the eighteen entries in the section titled “The Context of Children’s Literature” are essays on children’s book publishing in Britain, children’s book publishing in the United States, censorship, prizes and precursors, librarianship, and bibliotherapy.

Among the 31 entries in the section titled “The World of Children’s Literature” are essays on children’s literature from France, Spain, Germany, Russia, Eastern Europe, Israel, the Arab world, Africa, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada.

Oxford Companion to Children’s Literature Written by Humphrey Carpenter and Mari Prichard, this single-volume work was published by Oxford University Press in 1984. Carpenter and Prichard deal with children’s literature from Britain, United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Their book includes nearly 2,000 entries, about 900 of which focus on authors or illustrators. There are also entries on important books, major children’s magazines, famous characters from children’s literature, and other related topics.
Works that focus on titles

Touchstones: Reflections on the Best in Children’s Literature. Edited by Perry Nodelman, this three-volume work was published by the Children’s Literature Association. Unlike many reference works that focus on children’s authors, Touchstones contains scholarly essays on individual books for children.

Volume one, which was published in 1985, focuses on classic novels for children. Among its 28 entries are essays on Louisa May Alcott’s Little Women, Lewis Carroll’s Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland, Frances Hodgson Burnett’s The Secret Garden, Louisa May Alcott’s Little Women, Robert Louis Stevenson’s Treasure Island, J. R. R. Tolkien’s The Hobbit, Mark Twain’s The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, and E. B. White’s Charlotte’s Web.

Volume two, which was published in 1987, deals with collections of fairy tales, myths, legends and poetry. Among its 20 entries are essays on Richard Chace’s Jack Tale, Joel Chandler Harris’s Tales of Uncle Remus, Andrew Lang’s The Blue Fairy Book, Edward Lear’s Book of Nonsense, and Howard Pyle’s The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood.

Volume three, which was published in 1989, deals with picture books. Among its 19 entries are essays on Wanda Gag’s Millions of Cats, Etra Jack Keats’s The Snow Day, Robert McCloskey’s Make Way for Ducklings, Beatrice Potter’s The Tale of Peter Rabbit, Maurice Sendak’s Where the Wild Things Are, and Dr. Seuss’s The Fierce and Terrible Hat of Bartholomew Cubbins.

Reacham’s Guide to Literature for Young Adults. Edited by Kirk H. Bents and Suzanne Niemeyer, this five-volume series was published by the Walter Beacham Company between 1989 and 1991. The series contains entries on about 1000 books for older children and adolescents. Most of the entries are on novels, but it also includes entries on short stories, collections, biographies, autobiographies, and a few works of nonfiction.

Although this series is intended for a general audience, it is especially well suited for students who are doing research projects on particular books. All of the entries follow a formal that young readers can easily understand. Each entry is divided into ten subsections. The first section deals with the author’s life and career, which is followed by an overview of the book’s content. The second section discusses the book’s setting, and the fourth deals with the mentor and characters found in the book. The next sections address the book’s literary qualities and its potential for sparking controversy. The subheadings for the various sections are “Topic for Discussion,” “Ideas for Reports and Papers,” “Related Film/Adaptations,” and “For Further Reference.”
This Land Is Our Land: A Guide to Multicultural Literature for Children and Young Adults  Written by Alethea K. Helbig and Agnes Began Perkins, this one-volume work was published by Greenwood Press in 1994. Helbig and Perkins provide annotations for 559 books published from 1965 through 1995. Although most of these books are novels, there are also annotations on collections of stories from the oral tradition and works of poetry. This Land Is Our Land is organized around four major ethnic groups within the United States: African Americans, Asian Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native American Indians.


World Historical Fiction Guide for Young Adults  Edited by Lee Gordon and Cheryl Tauska, this book was published by Highsmith Press in 1993. Gordon and Tauska provide entries on 800 historical novels written for young adults. The book includes entries on classic novels as well as works written more recently. Each entry provides a full bibliographic citation, a summary of the plot, a note about the book's setting, and information about the book's reading level.

A to Zoo: Subject Access to Children's Picture Books  The 4th edition of Carolyn and John L المت's A to Zoo was published by R. R. Bowker in 1993. A to Zoo is a frequently used by children's librarians because it helps them answer many of the questions they are asked. Often a child or a parent will approach a children's librarian and ask a question like the one I recently put to a librarian I know: "My son is interested in knights," I said. "Do you know of any picture books that feature knights?" She took out A to Zoo, looked under the heading of Knights, and read me the titles of six books. In addition to knights, A to Zoo provides 800 other subject headings. Over 14,000 picture books for preschool children through second graders are listed in the book.

Works that focus on criticism

Children's Literature: A Guide to the Criticism  Written by Linnea Hendrickson, this guide to criticism was published by G. K. Hall in 1987. Hendrickson provides publication information and brief annotations for articles, books, and dissertations relating to children's literature criticism. The book is divided into two major sections. Part A is titled "Authors and Their Works," and Part B is titled "Subjects, Themes, and Genres." Hendrickson also provides an "Index of Critics," and an "Index of Authors, Titles, and Subjects." Most of the sources cited in this book date between 1970 and 1980, although some older sources are also included.
Research and Professional Resources in Children's Literature: Picking a Patchwork Quilt. Edited by Kathi C. Short. Research and Professional Resources in Children's Literature was published by the International Reading Association in 1985. This is a good reference work to use in conjunction with Hendrickson's Guide. The book provides information and brief annotations for articles and books about children's literature, but Short's book focuses on the sources that were published between January 1985 and December 1993. Short also provides an author index and a subject index.

Children's Literature Abstracts. Founded in 1973, Children's Literature Abstracts, is published by the International Federation of Library Associations. Six issues of this publication come out each year. Four of these issues contain abstracts of articles that deal with children's literature, and the other two issues contain abstracts of recently published books and pamphlets. In most issues of Children's Literature Abstracts there are eighteen subheadings under which the abstracts are listed, including 'Authors and Illustrators,' 'Awards, Prizes, and Organizations,' 'Curriculum, Instruction, and Bibliography,' 'Fantasy and Science Fiction,' 'Historical and Sociological Studies,' 'National and Minorities Literatures,' 'Nonfiction,' 'Poetry,' and 'Young Adult Literature.' The sources that are abstracted in this reference work come from a selection of countries. Consequently, American users of this reference work may have to use interlibrary loan services to obtain copies of some of the articles that are abstracted in Children's Literature Abstracts.

Children's Book Review Index. While Reference Index has brought out two volumes this reference work each year since 1973, Children's Book Review Index provides access to reviews of children's books published in about 175 periodicals. The entries are arranged by the names of the authors. An illustrative example of a title index can be found at the end of each volume.

In order to use Children's Book Review Index, readers need to know the original publication date of the book that they are looking up. In addition, by checking the annual volume that corresponds with the book's publication date, researchers should also check the next couple of volumes. The reason for this is that book reviews often come out a year or two after the book was first published.

The Horn Book Guide to Children's and Young Adult Books. Founded in 1923, The Horn Book Guide is published twice a year by The Horn Book, Inc. This reference work provides 'short critical annotations of all books for and children's books published in the United States. The editors of The Horn Book Guide strive to cover each of these books no later than six months after its original publication. Every book that is covered is rated on a scale of one to ten, with one being outstanding and six being unacceptable.

The Horn Book Guide is an especially useful tool for librarians who are responsible for selecting the books to be included in the children's sections of libraries.
Chapter 3

Journals and Periodicals Related to Children's Literature

Wishing to conduct the research for this chapter, I asked a number of children's literature specialists to name all of the children's literature journals with which they were familiar. In most cases, they listed seven or eight journals, but the names they mentioned varied considerably. The librarian whom I spoke with often listed Horn Book, Journal of Youth Services in Libraries, and Ballantine. The reading specialist cited such journals as Teaching and Learning Literature, Journal of Children's Literature, and New Advocate. The people who taught children's literature courses in English departments frequently mentioned The Lion and the Unicorn, Children's Literature, and Children's Literature (Association Quarta). Almost everyone I spoke to was surprised to learn that there are many eight periodicals that deal extensively with children's literature and at least another twenty-three that regularly publish articles on the topic. The findings of my informal survey suggest that the subdivisions within the field of children's literature have had the unfortunate effect of limiting the readership of the numerous journals involved with children's literature. One of my goals in writing this chapter is to help the members of these various subdivisions to become more familiar with the journals in the other subdivisions.

This chapter provides key information about a wide variety of journals and periodicals that publish articles about children's literature. The first part of the chapter provides descriptions of journals that focus largely on children's literature and supplies subscription information for these journals. The chapter closes with an annotated list of twenty-two other journals that contain articles on some aspects of children's literature. All of the journals covered in this chapter are either published in the United States or are widely available in America. This chapter does not include information on journals that focus on just one author. Such journals are usually published by organizations that are devoted to particular authors, and I have made note of these publications in my chapter on organizations related to children's literature. Readers should also be aware that the information I have provided about the costs of subscribing to these journals is always subject to change.
Children's Literature in Education

Published quarterly by the Human Sciences Press. Children's Literature in Education is an international journal with editorial offices in both North America and the United Kingdom. It publishes critical evaluations of individual authors or single works, pedagogical articles related to the use of children's literature in the classroom, and examinations of the reading process and its role in childhood and adolescence. It also occasionally includes reviews of professional or scholarly books about children's literature. Annual subscription rates are $32 for individuals and $135 for institutions.

The Dragon Lodge

The Dragon Lodge is published three times a year by the Children's Literature and Reading Special Interest Group of the International Reading Association. Intended primarily for teachers, it includes articles on incorporating children's literature in the elementary school curriculum, information about authors, reviews of children's books, and annotated bibliographies of children's books that relate to particular themes. It is possible to subscribe to Dragon Lodge without joining its sponsoring organization. The annual subscription rate is $10.

Emergency Librarian

Described in its promotional literature as a "magazine for school library professionals," Emergency Librarian is published five times a year. It has offices in both Canada and the United States, and it covers material from both countries in its articles and book reviews. While many of its feature articles deal with issues related to library services, it often publishes articles that relate directly to children's literature. Recent examples include an article on the portrayal of parents in contemporary children's books and an article on recent changes in the children's book publishing industry. Emergency Librarian also runs several regular columns that focus on children's literature, including "Books for Children," "Books for Young Adults," and "Portraits," which is actually a series of interviews with children's authors. The annual subscription rate is $44.

The Five Oaks

The Five Oaks, which is published five times a year by the Hamline University Graduate School, is intended for librarians, educators, book collectors and other readers who are seriously interested in children's literature. Each issue is focused on a theme, such as Australian children's books or holidays and festivals. Usually the cover story and several other articles relate to the theme of the particular issue. Also contained in each issue is a section titled "New Books of Merit," which features reviews of recently published children's books. The annual subscription rate is $20.

The Horn Book Magazine

Founded in 1924, Horn Book is the oldest children's literature journal in the United States. It is published six times a year, and it features a wide variety of articles and numerous reviews of books for children and adolescents. It also publishes the acceptance speeches delivered by the winners of both the Caldecott and Newbery awards. At the back of each issue is a section titled "The Horn Bookstar," which includes announcements of awards, conferences, and other items of interest to the children's

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And Reading SIG
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Winchester, VA 22601

For subscription information:

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Seattle, WA 98124-1069
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For subscription information:

The Five Oaks

Crossroads Center
Mpls 55404
1536 Hewitt Ave.
Hamline University
St. Paul, MN 55104
(612) 644-7377
email: fiveoaks@eq.hamline.edu
Website: http://www.hamline.edu/depui/gradprog

For subscription information:

The Horn Book Magazine

11 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 227-1550
email: hornbook@hbook.com
Journal of Children’s Literature Published twice annually, the Journal of Children’s Literature is sponsored by the Children’s Literature Assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English. It publishes a wide variety of articles related to children’s literature, including critical studies of individual authors and works, discussions of teaching strategies involving the use of children’s literature, and analyses of children’s responses to works of literature. Some of the most recent releases address the topic of “Teaching as Readers of Literature.” The normal subscription rate, which includes membership in the Children’s Literature Assembly, is $20.

Journal of Youth Services in Libraries Journal of Youth Services in Libraries is published quarterly by the American Library Association. It is the official organ of the Association for Library Services to Children (ALSC) and the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), both of which are divisions of the American Library Association. Although this journal does not focus entirely on children’s literature, it regularly publishes interviews with authors, articles about improving children’s access to works of literature, and reviews of books about children’s literature. It also publishes acceptance speeches delivered by the winners of both the Caldecott and Newbery awards. For members of ALSC or YALSA, the subscription cost is included in their membership fees. Information about joining these organizations can be found in chapter 4 of this book. The annual subscription rate for individuals who do not belong to ALSC or YALSA is $40.

The Kabin Letter The Kabin Letter, as its title suggests, is a newsletter, not a journal, but it contains information that is difficult to find in longer periodicals. It specializes in nonfiction for children, which is an aspect of children’s literature that is often ignored by many children’s literature journals. The six issues that come out each year feature capsule reviews of recently published books for children. These reviews are organized around themes. The September 1996 issue, for example, features a series of reviews of books that deal with rules and rights. The annual subscription rate is $12.

Language Arts One of the major journals supported by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), Language Arts is published eight times a year. Based in the front of each issue, this journal covers “all facets of teaching and learning in language arts,” focusing primarily on issues concerning children of preschool through middle school age.” Although it does not focus entirely on children’s literature, it regularly includes articles about the role of children’s books in the elementary school curriculum. Each October, the journal publishes a list of children’s books that the editors consider to be especially notable. Annual subscription rates, which include membership in NCTE, are $46 for individuals and $99 for institutions.
Library Talk Library Talk is a sister journal to Book Report. Both are brought out by Linwood Publishing, and both are intended for school librarians. The main difference between the two is that Library Talk is for elementary school librarians and Book Report is for librarians working in junior and senior high schools. Published five times during the school year. Library Talk features articles about children's authors and illustrators, tips on library programs and activities involving children's literature reviews of recently published children's books, and a column about multicultural children's books. The annual subscription rate is $5.95.

The Mailbox Booklog The Education Center, the publisher of the Mailbox Booklog describes the magazine as the teacher's idea magazine for children's literature intended for kindergarten through third-grade teachers. Mailbox Booklog features start reviews of recent children's books, annotated bibliographies of books that teachers can use in thematic literature units, and tips sent in by teachers on how they incorporate children's literature in their teaching plans. Mailbox Booklog comes out four times a year. The annual subscription rate is $29.95.

Multicultural Review Multicultural Review is published quarterly by the Greenwood Publishing Group. Although it does not focus entirely on children's literature, it regularly includes articles about books for children and young adults. Some recent examples of such articles include an analysis of books about Latinos for children, a survey of Puerto Rican children's literature, and an interview with an African American writer and educator in which he discusses his approach to teaching multiculturalism in the public schools. It also publishes reviews of children's books and curricular materials. Annual subscription rate is $29.95 for individuals and $59 for institutions.

The New Advocate The New Advocate, a quarterly journal sponsored by Christopher Gordon Publishers, has emerged as a central orgin for the literature-based learning movement. Each issue is divided into four sections: "The Creative Process," which features articles by and about children's authors and illustrators; "Concepts and Themes," which consists of research reports and theoretical studies; "Practical Reflections," which features articles that provide practical information on how to use children's literature in the classroom; and "Children's Books: Responding to Literature," which publishes children's essays on personal responses to books that they have read. Each issue also includes a column entitled "Connecting Readers and..."
Another column titled "Connecting Educators with Children's Literature". The annual subscription rate is $30.

**Published quarterly**, the *Parent's Choice Foundation* describes itself as a "non-profit guide to all the media for children". Each issue features reviews of children's books. Also featured, however, are reviews of computer programs, magazines, television programs, software, and toys. Among the people who write for "Parent's Choice Foundation" are some very prominent figures in the field of children's literature, including the authors Julian Lester, Jane Yolen, and Jane Cooper, and such critics as Selma Lane, John Cech, and Peter Neumann.

The annual subscription rate is $20.

*School Library Journal* is published monthly. It is one of the best periodicals that reviews a significant percentage of the new books for children and young adults that are released each year. It also publishes book reviews, general articles, and book lists that deal with children's literature. The annual subscription rate is $40.

*The Thimble Press*, the leading children's literature journal from Great Britain, is published three times a year by the Thimble Press. It focuses primarily on British and Irish children's literature. The annual subscription rate is $27.

*Teaching and Learning Literature* is published bi-monthly by Excerpta Publishing. Dedicated to forging links between teachers and students, this journal includes pedagogical articles that explore the nature of children's literature. The annual subscription rate is $50.

*VOYA* (Voice of Youth Advocates) is published bimonthly by Scarecrow Press. It includes articles about young adult literature as well as reviews of books. The reviews are grouped in the following categories: young adult fiction, non-fiction, and book reviews. The annual subscription rate is $35.