State Publications for School Libraries: A Selective Bibliography

Eileen McGrath

Are you looking for attractive publications that span the curriculum? Do you want the teachers at your school to use library materials in their classes? Are you trying to convince your administrators that the library can be a resource for both students and staff? Would you like to make your modest book budget go further? Are you acquiring state publications for your library?

If you answered "yes" to the last question, then you are on your way to solving the problems posed by the earlier questions. Each year the agencies and institutions of the State of North Carolina produce thousands of publications to aid the citizens of the state. These publications cover subjects from economics to health education to natural history. Many of the publications can be used by educators for planning, professional development, and course preparation. Other publications are aimed directly at schoolchildren and can be used either for class assignments or recreational reading. Many state publications are free, and those that are not are available at a modest cost.

The bibliography that follows contains a selection of state documents appropriate for school libraries. The first section contains publications for teachers, administrators, and guidance counselors. The second section lists titles that teachers can use in conjunction with specific courses.

This bibliography is just a small sample of the many state publications that are appropriate for school libraries. Librarians who are interested in learning about additional publications should consult the sources listed at the end of the bibliography. State publications may be obtained directly from the issuing agencies. Librarians who want to examine publications before acquiring them should consult the collections at their public libraries or request titles through interlibrary loan from the State Library.

Resources for Teachers, Administrators, and Counselors


This is a guide for teacher aides working with primary grade students on communications skills. Although meant for aides in a particular setting, the guide has wider appeal because of the useful information it contains on the role of aides in the classroom and in the school system. The handbook tells aides what to expect from colleagues and students, and it also helps aides understand what will be expected of them. Includes bibliographies.


This is a listing of the private schools in each county. Information for each school includes the following: grades, enrollment, staff size, religious affiliation (if any), makeup of the student body, accreditation status, address, phone number, and name of the principal. Also included are statistics on private school enrollment and a list of private school organizations in the state.


This directory contains an alphabetical listing of therapists holding North Carolina certification. The entry for each professional includes his or her name, address, and license number. A geographical index at the end can be used to locate therapists in local areas. This is a useful resource for counselors and other staff who encounter troubled families.


This volume is a clear, well-done collection of

Eileen McGrath is Cataloger of the North Carolina Collection in the Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
education-related statistics. It shows how North Carolina compares with the other states in the areas of demographics, school enrollment, attendance, faculty characteristics, general financial resources, and school revenues and expenditures. The rankings are followed by a section which uses bar graphs to display recent trends in the areas covered by the statistics. Includes a helpful glossary.

**North Carolina Approved Teacher Education Programs.** Raleigh, N.C.: Division of Program Approval, Dept. of Public Instruction, 1985.

This volume lists the forty-four institutions within the state that offer programs leading to initial and advanced teacher certification. Information for each school includes: enrollment and other basic information, names of the dean and the chairman of the education department, a phone number, approved programs listed by field, and other accreditation. Appendices include a list of directors of student teachers, regulations for the National Teacher Examinations, and summaries of the reciprocity plans recognized by the State of North Carolina.


This is the basic education directory for the state. It lists members of the State Board of Education and staff of the Dept. of Public Instruction, the Controller's Office, and local education agencies. It also lists public schools, special schools, colleges, universities, trade schools, and statewide professional associations for educators.


The Statistical Profile is a comprehensive summary of statistical data on North Carolina's education system. It includes statistics on students, school personnel, expenditures, and courses of study. Information is presented for the state as a whole and for individual educational agencies.

**Resources for Classes**


This brief, annotated bibliography lists books for use in grades K-8. The annotations include plot summaries and evaluations of the physical characteristics of the books. Order information is also included. This is a part of the series of "Special Lists" put out by the Division of Media Evaluation Services on topics of current interest. The division also publishes a series of "Advisory Lists" on computer courseware, audio-visual materials and print media.


This is a scholarly guide to the Museum's collection of Spanish paintings. It is one of many attractive volumes on the exhibitions and collections at the Museum. These catalogues serve as a good introduction to art appreciation and to the state's art collections. The illustrations can be used in art appreciation courses in any grade, but the textual material in some volumes requires a high school reading level.


This is just one of over a dozen educational brochures put out by the Committee on topics from Elizabethan religion to the animals of the New World. These brochures are attractive, informative sources of information on the early history of the state and related topics; they can be used in grades five and above.


This biography of the eighteenth-century merchant John Wright Stanly is a good supplementary reading for social studies lessons about North Carolina's Revolutionary War experiences. It includes a bibliography and is appropriate for high school students. This is just one of many informative publications from the historic sites in the state.

**North Carolina Calendar of Events.** Raleigh, N.C.: Division of Travel and Tourism, Dept. of Commerce. Annual.

This pamphlet contains a chronologically arranged listing of cultural and recreational events in the state. The list includes civic celebrations, theatrical productions, musical programs, and sporting events. Date, place, a contact person, and a phone number to call for more information are listed for each event. The current calendar is a good source to consult when planning field trips.

These surveys described the characteristics, conditions, and opinions of North Carolinians. Brief, annual "Overview" volumes covered a variety of health, economic, and social topics. Special surveys contained in-depth reports on topics such as education, crime, and drunken driving. These surveys can be used in social studies discussions or in preparation for public speaking assignments. Texts can be read by grades seven and above, but the technical notes require some familiarity with statistics.


This is the standard source for historical information on the state and state government, and as such it belongs in every school library. It includes basic facts and documents on the state's history, along with information on state government, officeholders, the counties, election results, and historical miscellaneous. Much of the information in it can be brought up to date with the North Carolina Manual.


This collection reproduces historic maps. The maps range from 1586 to 1896, and they show changing geographical knowledge and patterns of settlement in the state. Useful for middle school classes and above.


This is a handy, single-volume compendium of information on the state's history and government. It includes basic constitutional documents, the history and organization of state government, historical lists of state officers, biographical sketches of current state officials, and information on higher education, elections and political parties, and the formation of the counties. The section "Historical Miscellanea" contains the answers to such questions as "What is the state flower?" and "What is the state bird?" The Manual updates much of the information in North Carolina Government, 1585-1979.


This is a comprehensive summary of statistical data generated or compiled by state agencies. It includes information on population, housing, births and deaths, social services, education, law enforcement, agriculture, business and industry, energy, employment, the environment, and government. Some non-North Carolina data figures are included for comparisons.


This is a brief guide to the poisonous snakes in the state. The pamphlet begins with a general discussion of snakes and then follows with a section on each of the poisonous species. The snakes are described, and their distribution and habits are given. The volume includes maps, illustrations, and a bibliography. The text of the pamphlet can be understood by students grade five and above, but the bibliographic references are for a higher reading level.


This is a well-illustrated introduction, written for children, on the origins, daily life, and achievements of Native Americans. Supplementary materials in the volume include a list of Native
American organizations in the state and a list of places to visit to see examples of Indian culture. Appropriate for middle school classes and above.

This is a compilation of statistical data for counties, planning regions, and metropolitan statistical areas in the state. The information for each unit includes the following: population, economic data, crime statistics, transportation statistics, and statistics of health, education, and government. This is a good source for many student projects; statistics can be read by students in grades seven and above.

This bibliography is an excellent starting point for the study of any of North Carolina's counties. It includes historical, sociological, anthropological, and architectural studies, as well as special editions of local newspapers, promotional materials, and published collections of photographs. The volume is organized by counties with a separate section for works covering more than one county. Includes some titles for middle school classes, but many of the sources require a higher reading level.

Tar Heel Junior Historian. Raleigh, N.C.: Published for the Tar Heel Junior Historian Association by the North Carolina Museum of History. Published three times during the school year.
This historical magazine is aimed at schoolchildren. Each issue focuses on a particular topic but it also includes news of the association and of historical contests and activities around the state. Some articles are by professional historians, but others are written by students. This publication is meant for middle school and junior high students.

This exhibition catalogue shows the museum's holdings of North Carolina pottery. It includes a historical overview of this art form and a discussion of the main styles and families of potters. This is a good introduction to pottery, and it could be used in conjunction with studio work by students or class trips to local potters. This is just one of the useful publications from the galleries and museums at the University of North Carolina system institutions.

For additional assistance in selecting state publications see:
This is a comprehensive listing of state publications received and cataloged by the State Library. Libraries may subscribe to the Checklist for free. It is the essential source for learning about new state publications.

This selection aid can be used by librarians who want to collect state documents with reference value. The list was not compiled specifically for school libraries, but a coding system indicates those titles that are appropriate for collections of various levels.

Spotlight on PR - SELA 1988

Members of SELA are invited to participate in competition for awards which will be presented for 1987-1988 print media in five categories:
- Annual Reports
- Newsletters
- Fliers/brochures
- Calendars of Events
- Bookmarks/bibliographies

This competition is sponsored by the Public Relations Committee of the Southeastern Library Association. Send five copies of each entry to Judy McClendon, Richland County Public Library, 1400 Sumter Street, Columbia, South Carolina, 29201.

Entries must be received by June 1, 1988. Winners will be announced at the 1988 Biennium in Norfolk.

In addition, the spotlight on PR will continue in Norfolk with a Swap 'N Shop. Please send 50 copies each of your best promotional materials to Mary Mayer-Hennelly, Norfolk Public Library, 301 East City Hall Avenue, Norfolk, VA 23510. Mark: Hold for Swap 'N Shop. Deadline for receipt of Swap 'N Shop items is October 15.

For additional information contact:
Judy McClendon
Community Relations Librarian
(803) 799-9084