Drumming to the Beat of Different Marchers *(2nd Edition)*
Finding the Rhythm for Differentiated Learning
Dr. Debbie Silver, Jill Norris, Peter Reynolds

**Summary**
The revised edition of *Drumming to the Beat of Different Marchers* features Dr. Debbie Silver’s poetry, wisdom, and humor with the art of award-winning illustrator Peter H. Reynolds. Teachers and administrators will be inspired by Debbie's poignant stories and thrilled with the practical advice as they learn about relevant research findings. A valuable discussion guide is included to help interested teams find the rhythm of the differentiated learners in their classrooms. Don’t miss your opportunity to read this exciting new resource!

**Author Bio**
**Debbie Silver** is an educational speaker, an author, and a humorist. She is a former award-winning teacher. **Jill Norris** is the author of children’s and young adult books. **Peter Reynolds** is an award-winning children’s book illustrator and author. He wrote and illustrated *The Best Kid in the World, The Dot, Ish, My Very Big Little World,* and *The North Star.*

The Definitive Middle School Guide *(2nd Edition)*
A Handbook for Success
Sandra Schurr, Marjorie Frank, Kathleen Bullock

**Summary**
This must-have resource for middle school educators has been newly updated and improved to include current research. Each module includes: an overview, findings from published literature, important information summarized and made accessible in a list format, reproducible activity pages for using with students, and a wrap-up, Reflect & Review, that allows educators to connect the new information to their specific situation. This comprehensive resource is organized for its ease of use in workshops, in-service programs, and classrooms!
If They Can Argue Well, They Can Write Well
Using Classroom Debate to Help Students Think Critically, Research and Evaluate Internet Sources, and Write and Speak Argumentatively
Bill McBride

Summary
Classroom debate is used as the platform for critical thinking and writing in this helpful teacher's resource. Every student can become a great debater. The key concepts of argumentation, critical thinking, and meeting academic standards align in a single, engaging format in this book. Packed with practical, hands-on activities, this collection teaches students to argue effectively, research information, think critically, and write persuasively. Also included is in-depth discussion on online research and emphasizes the timely skill of evaluating the validity of various internet sources. This revised edition provides specific connections between book content and the Common Core State Standards, as well as a new section on debate skills.

Author Bio
Dr. Bill McBride is an international speaker, educator, former middle and high school teacher and reading specialist, and contributor to the development of a number of textbook series. He is the author of Building Literacy in Social Studies, Carrying a Load of Feathers, Entertaining an Elephant, and What's Happening? He is an author-in-residence for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and also trains teachers in content area reading, teaching to gender differences, student engagement, Common Core literacy, using technology in the classroom, and vocabulary development. He lives in San Francisco.

Teach Students to Manage Their Own Behavior
Engaging Literacy Experiences About Real-Life Issues: The School Dayz Program
Ron Klemp

Summary
Self-management methods to help students explore and analyze everyday issues. Teach Students to Manage Their Own Behavior presents a new approach to discipline in the classroom by encouraging middle grades students to explore issues before they result in troubling behavior. The interactive discussion modules offer real-life vignettes that provide a proactive method for understanding and dissecting common student behavioral problems. Through engagement with each narrative, students can reflect on and solve problems of behavior, social issues, and social interactions that fill their daily lives, including such topics as bullying, cheating, peer pressure, fear, discrimination, and self-destructive behavior. By allowing students to connect the narrative stories with their own experiences, this resource provides a platform for young adults to think about their own attitudes and behaviors, analyze issues, discuss the underlying causes of their behavior, and recommend solutions. In the process, students grow in self-control, self-esteem, respectful behavior, and connecting with others.

Author Bio
Ron Klemp has been a teacher for more than 30 years and now trains teachers at Santa Monica College and California State University-Northridge. He is the author of Teaching Kids to Manage Their Own Behavior and the coauthor of What's Happening? He lives in Culver City, California.
If You Don’t Feed the Teachers They Eat the Students! (2nd Edition)
Guide to Success for Administrators and Teachers
Neila A. Connors, Jennifer Streams, Angela Reiner,...

Summary
Packed with words of wisdom and inspiration, this is one book no administrator or teacher should be without. Dr. Neila Connors presents practical tips to improve school climate, communicate with parents and students, teach to the standards, and make a difference in students’ lives. All this in an enjoyable, easy-to-read format, If You Don’t Feed the Teachers They Eat the Students will leave you laughing your way to a more successful school year.

Taming of the Team
How Great Teams Work Together
Jack Berckemeyer

Summary
Getting the best out of students is made easier by using teaming to nurture their educational, emotional, social, and developmental needs, and this guide is a blueprint for teambuilding in any school setting. True stories and practical strategies make this an effective and entertaining tool for assembling and managing a team within a professional learning community. It includes a dynamic “3-5-3 Action Plan” for improving student behavior as well as tips for using teams to address Common Core State Standards. The book guides teams through resolving conflicts; planning ahead and preventing time wasting; setting consistent expectations for students; and connecting curriculum, instruction, and calendar schedules. It is a helpful combination of humor and instruction that will help any school with teambuilding.

Author Bio
Jack Berckemeyer is a consultant and a former middle-level teacher. He worked for the Association for Middle Level Education for 13 years, nine of which as assistant executive director. He is currently the director of Nuts & Bolts Symposia and works with schools all over the world. He is the author of Managing the Madness: A Practical Guide to Middle Grades Classrooms and a coauthor of The What, Why, & How of Student-Led Conferences. He lives in Denver, Colorado.
Digging Up the Past
Archaeology for the Young & Curious
David Veart

Summary
Honor Award, 2012 NZ Post Children's Book Awards

What do moa eggs, seeds chewed by rats, and 600-year-old footprints have in common? Archaeologists in New Zealand deal with artifacts like these every day to determine how people lived years ago. This fascinating book chronicles the work of these patient scientists as they dig up the past, journeying to the top of volcanoes, beneath city streets, and within Maori pa and explorers' huts. Sharing their discoveries—obsidian adzes, enamel cups, and the carved prow of a canoe, for example—this account narrates the remarkable, uncovered stories of Polynesian voyagers and Pakeha sealers, Maori gardeners and Chinese storekeepers. Engaging and informative, it offers great insight into the science of archaeology while encouraging readers to do some excavating of their own.

Author Bio
David Veart is a New Zealand Department of Conservation historian and archaeologist, who was recently appointed a member of the Heritage Advisory Panel of the Auckland Council. He is the author of First Catch Your Weka.

Loco-Motion
Physics Models for the Classroom
Ed Sobey

Summary
Using the concept of "learning by doing," this classroom activity book contains an impressive collection of instructions and guidelines for building physics models that fly through the air, drive on the ground, or paddle through water. Students will use experimentation and analysis in these intriguing physics projects to inspire new and improve upon old designs. Each model is presented in a specific educational context, so teachers can instruct with hands-on experimentation. Students will explore science concepts such as gravity, air pressure, kinetic energy, Newton's laws, electrical circuitry, buoyancy, and inertia. Detailed materials lists and step-by-step directions for building models are structured so that the teacher becomes the director of research and development in a classroom of young engineers. The models discussed in the book include gravity-powered cars, balloon racers, hovercrafts, gravity ball launchers, flying saucers, catapults, chemical mini-rockets, swamp boats, and submarines. Kids are encouraged to test, modify, and redesign based on observation of their models ...

Author Bio
Ed Sobey is a science educator and curriculum specialist, and is the author of Inventing Toys. He lives in Redmond, Washington.
**Let's Enjoy Nature**  
*Over 500 Ideas for Activities*  
Mildred Masheder, Susanna Vermaase

**Summary**  
For children, teachers and parents: How to get in touch with nature, how to care for the planet, 500 ideas for children ages three to fourteen, 150 illustrations

**Author Bio**  
*Mildred Masheder* is a former lecturer in child development at the University of North London.

---

**No Student Left Indoors (2nd Edition)**  
*Creating a Field Guide to Your Schoolyard*  
Jane Kirkland

**Summary**  
The essential educator’s guide to helping students discover, observe, and record nature in their schoolyard—urban, suburban, or rural—this book outlines a class, grade, or school-wide project connecting history, language arts, art, and technology. This is a complete source for place, project, and standards-based nature studies conducted under current conditions of any schoolyard, with no need for a special outdoor classroom. Included are case studies, stories, instructions, and resources for getting kids into the outdoors.

**Author Bio**  
*Jane Kirkland* is the author of more than 50 books, including the award-winning Take a Walk® series. She is also a naturalist, a photographer, and a motivational speaker who visits schools, conducts workshops, and presents at conferences. She has appeared on Animal Planet TV, NPR, and PBS, and in such magazines as *Family Circle, Green Teacher, Parenting, Parents*, and *Redbook*. She lives in Downingtown, Pennsylvania.
**Everyday English**
*Getting to Grips With the Basics of the Language*
Michelle Finlay

*Everyday English* is an amusing and accessible guide to the basics of the language, teaching users to write correct and unambiguous English in any situation, business or personal.

**Summary**
An amusing and accessible guide to the basics of the language, teaching users to write correct and unambiguous English in any situation, business or personal

A poor command of English is a considerable obstacle in almost every walk of life, from conducting business to dealing with everyday problems. This book teaches readers the simple rules and tricks that will help anyone to master the language. Rather than a guide to everything one would ever want to know about the language, it is a basic companion to the nuts and bolts, designed to help native and non-native speakers alike to speak and write with clarity and precision. The book offers advice on many different areas including the writing of letters, reports, and other texts, where it is often vital to convey meaning and purpose simply and clearly. It also includes sections on sentences, parts of speech, punctuation, and common pitfalls to avoid.

**Author Bio**
Michelle Finlay is a former copywriter for Penguin Books. She runs the blog everydayenglishetcetera.blogspot.com.

---

**Collins Academic Skills – Group Work**
*B2+*
Patrick McMahon

**Summary**
Work together for academic success

Collins Academic Skills Series: Group Work will give you the skills you need to work well with others, and help you feel confident contributing to group projects at university.

Through practical exercises and real-life case studies you will learn how to

- form effective groups
- assign roles
- establish rules
- deal with difficult group situations.

Collins Academic Skills Series: Group Work will help you to make the most of your time at university.

- Ten chapters with clear information and practical exercises
- Real-life case studies from university students
- Information on academic expectations - understand the requirements of studying at university
- Helpful tips and summaries
- Answer key and glossary

Group Work is part of a new six-book series to help international students achieve academic success at college or university. It is designed to support students who are studying, or preparing to study, at an English-speaking institution.

Suitable for students whose level of English is Upper Intermediate / CEF level B2 / IELTS 5.5 and higher.

Other ...
Collins Academic Skills – Research
B2+
Anneli Williams

Summary
Improve your reading and referencing skills

Collins Academic Skills Series: Research will give you the skills you need for successful academic reading and referencing.

Learn how to
• choose the right sources
• access information
• think critically when reading texts
• make concise notes

Collins Academic Skills Series: Research will help you to make the most of your time at university.

• Clear information and practical exercises
• Information on academic expectations - understand the requirements of studying at university
• Helpful tips and summaries
• Answer key and glossary

Research is part of a new six-book series to help international students achieve academic success at college or university. It is designed to support students who are studying, or preparing to study, at an English-speaking institution.

Suitable for students whose level of English is Upper Intermediate / CEF level B2 / IELTS 5.5 and higher.

Other titles in the Collins Academic Skills Series
Group Work • Lectures • Numbers • Presenting • Writing

Collins Academic Skills – Writing
B2+
Els Van Geyte

Summary
A step-by-step guide to writing better academic essays

Using this guide will teach students the skills and strategies needed to write well-structured essays, reports, and case studies, and achieve academic success at school. They will learn how to interpret the question; structure their work; paraphrase, quote, and reference sources; avoid plagiarism; and understand their reader. This guide includes a complete 2500-word model essay.

Author Bio
Els Van Geyte has been working at the English for International Students Unit at the University of Birmingham for more than 10 years, and is the author of Reading for IELTS.
Learning About Winter with Children's Literature
Margaret A. Bryant, Marjorie Keiper, Anne Petit

Summary
Taking a thematic approach to learning that employs seeing, hearing, reading, and writing, these books outline three four-week, cross-curricular units that develop the competencies children need to become fluent, independent readers and writers. While each unit focuses primarily on language-phonics skills, structural analysis, punctuation, capitalization, poetry, and comprehension— they also include math, science, social studies, music, art, and even mini-lessons in French for cross-cultural appreciation. Understanding that student ability levels in younger grades can vary widely, lesson plans are keyed to three types of learners: emerging, typical, and advanced. The series includes three titles that cover fall, spring, and winter, and the books can be used independently or together throughout the school year.

Author Bio
Margaret A. Bryant has been a teacher for more than 30 years. She has published numerous articles on the topic of adapting curriculum to the needs of gifted children. Marjorie Keiper was certified in diagnostic and perspective reading. Anne Petit is certified in L.D. tutoring and has been a teacher for 28 years.

Learning About Spring with Children's Literature
Margaret A. Bryant, Marjorie Keiper, Anne Petit

Summary
Taking a thematic approach to learning that employs seeing, hearing, reading, and writing, these books outline three four-week, cross-curricular units that develop the competencies children need to become fluent, independent readers and writers. While each unit focuses primarily on language-phonics skills, structural analysis, punctuation, capitalization, poetry, and comprehension—they also include math, science, social studies, music, art, and even mini-lessons in French for cross-cultural appreciation. Understanding that student ability levels in younger grades can vary widely, lesson plans are keyed to three types of learners: emerging, typical, and advanced. The series includes three titles that cover fall, spring, and winter, and each can be used independently or together throughout the school year.

Author Bio
Margaret A. Bryant has been a teacher for more than 30 years. She has published numerous articles on the topic of adapting curriculum to the needs of gifted children. Marjorie Keiper was certified in diagnostic and perspective reading. Anne Petit is certified in L.D. tutoring and has been a teacher for 28 years.
Learning About Fall with Children's Literature
Margaret A. Bryant, Marjorie Keiper, Anne Petit

Summary
Taking a thematic approach to learning that employs seeing, hearing, reading, and writing, these books outline three four-week, cross-curricular units that develop the competencies children need to become fluent, independent readers and writers. While each unit focuses primarily on language-phonics skills, structural analysis, punctuation, capitalization, poetry, and comprehension—they also include math, science, social studies, music, art, and even mini-lessons in French for cross-cultural appreciation. Understanding that student ability levels in younger grades can vary widely, lesson plans are keyed to three types of learners: emerging, typical, and advanced. The series includes three titles that cover fall, spring, and winter, and each can be used independently or together throughout the school year.

Author Bio
Margaret A. Bryant has been a teacher for more than 30 years. She has published numerous articles on the topic of adapting curriculum to the needs of gifted children. Marjorie Keiper was certified in diagnostic and perspective reading. Anne Petit is certified in L.D. tutoring and has been a teacher for 28 years.

Big Words for Little Kids
Step-by-Step Advanced Vocabulary Building
Charan Langton, Michael Levin

Summary
Designed to introduce elementary school children to common Greek and Latin prefixes, suffixes, and roots, this vocabulary primer promotes the understanding of word structure and meaning rather than the tedious memorization of long word lists. Each lesson introduces a new word part, featuring examples of new words with explanations that children can understand. Light informative vignettes, quizzes, and practical exercises support each lesson.

Author Bio
Charan Langton is a scientist. Michael Levin, MD, is a pediatrician specializing in childhood developmental and educational issues. They are the coauthors of The Verbal Math Lesson, Volume I; The Verbal Math Lesson, Volume II; and The Reading Lesson. They both live in Danville, California.
### Tender Topics
**Picture Books About Childhood Challenges**
Dorothy Stoltz, Elaine Czarnecki, Buff Kahn

**Summary**
A reading specialist, an outreach librarian, and a children’s librarian combine their considerable expertise in this essential guide for parents that brings reading, early literacy, child development issues, and picture books together. Advising parents who are wondering how to talk to their young child about difficult topics such as death, loneliness, or fear, this authoritative collection of appropriate picture books makes broaching the subject easier. Arranged by topic, this annotated listing includes more than 300 high-quality, carefully selected picture books that are ideal for opening discussion about tender topics and establishing bonds between generations that can help parents and children better weather the challenges families face every day.

**Author Bio**
**Dorothy Stoltz** is the head of outreach services and programming for Carroll County Public Library and the project director for early literacy training and early literacy peer coaching wiki project. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland. **Elaine Czarnecki** is a literacy consultant with Resources in Reading and a teacher in the Johns Hopkins University graduate reading program. She serves as a consultant and trainer for Maryland public libraries and has delivered early literacy training sessions to library systems across the country. She lives in Annapolis, Maryland. **Buff Kahn** is children services supervisor at the Eldersburg branch of the Carroll County Public Library. She serves on Maryland Library Association’s children’s services division and helps train librarians statewide on peer coaching best practices. She lives in Eldersburg, Maryland.

### Ready, Set, Read
**Building a Love of Letters and Literacy Through Fun Phonics Activities**
Janet Chambers

**Summary**
An interactive program for teaching kids phonics and other key literacy skills, this book provides instructions for constructing hands-on alphabets for literacy lessons and play. Activities include drawing letters in applesauce, sand, nuts, and finger paint; experimenting with vocal sounds and feelings; and creating letter- and sound-themed crafts from inexpensive and easy-to-find materials. Using the ideas and activities from this book, children will be able to immerse themselves in the world of letters using all their senses.

**Author Bio**
**Janet Chambers** has taught reading and writing to children of all ages for 20 years. She lives in Northport, Alabama.
Easy Reading
Finding Joy and Meaning in Words
Laura Rose

Summary
Teachers and parents can significantly improve children's comprehension, enjoyment, and personal involvement in reading at any grade level by using the series of activities provided in this book. Because the ability to imagine is a key skill that many struggling readers often lack, this book outlines strategies to teach students how to add vivid mental pictures to their reading. In a clearly designed set of lessons, students are taken through a series of steps—drawing on the images they see in their minds, prompted by memories recalled through sensory connections and powerful events, and listening to richly descriptive texts—to learn how to create visual images when reading. The lessons in this book are scripted, so teachers can begin using the activities immediately. Included are relaxation exercises designed to ease students into the reading process.

Author Bio
Laura Rose is a lecturer and consultant with more than 20 years experience teaching in K-8 classrooms. She is the author of Developing Intelligence Through Literature; Folktales; Picture This; and Write to Read and Spell. She lives in Eureka, California.

The Reading Lesson (2nd Edition)
Teach Your Child to Read in 20 Easy Lessons
Michael Levin, Charan Langton

Summary
Based on phonics and whole language skills, this method advances children ages 3 to 8 from knowing their alphabet to reading second-grade-level picture books.

How do I use the Reading Lesson?
There are twenty lessons in this book. Each lesson takes about two weeks to complete (with about 15 minutes of study per day). Before starting a lesson, we suggest that you read the instructions for that lesson. Each lesson begins with an introduction and a description of how to proceed. For example, lesson two introduces the letters "m", "d", and "r". At the beginning of the lesson, there is an introduction with some words of advice and thoughts on how to go through the sounds of those letters and how to read them in words.

Author Bio
Michael Levin, MD, is a pediatrician who specializes in behavioral, attention, and learning problems in young children. Charan Langton, MS, developed this program while teaching their two children to read. They live in Danville, California.
Read with Me
Best Books for Preschoolers
Stephanie Zvirin

Summary
This authoritative guide—with a core focus on reading readiness and helping position children to succeed in school—offers more than 300 age-appropriate and subject-specific book selections from librarians for reading time with children. From board and picture books to hot new books, these recommendations reflect family, community, play, and the environment. Mirroring a child's world as they grow and mature, chapters include segments on reading together, friendship, places near and far, and making believe. These titles have been culled from the American Library Association's "best" lists and professional review journals.

Author Bio
Stephanie Zvirin is an editor for the American Library Association (ALA) where she acquires and develops professional books for ALA Editions and edits the ALA Editions' Children's Programming Monthly magazine. She was previously Books for Youth editor at Booklist Magazine, review journal of the ALA. She is a former teacher and a library director, and is the author of The Best Years of Their Lives. Her articles and reviews have appeared in numerous publications, such as Book Links, Chicago Parent Magazine, and the Los Angeles Times. She lives in Chicago.

The MI Strategy Bank (2nd Edition)
800+ Multiple Intelligence Ideas for the Elementary Classroom
Ellen Arnold

Summary
Elementary educators learn to recognize how students learn best—and adjust their lesson plans accordingly—with this handbook's Multiple Intelligence (MI)-based strategies. Starting with a diagnostic interview for each child that helps teachers develop the best instructional methods for their classrooms, this guide provides hundreds of specific teaching methods that strengthen each of the eight intelligences in any classroom situation. Case studies from actual strength-based assessments (one for each of the eight intelligences) outline examples for how these strategies can be applied at any grade level to improve such skills as reading, writing, spelling, math, note taking, and listening, as well as to minimize behavior problems. In this updated edition, 50 specific strength-based interventions that range from vocabulary retention and reading comprehension to self-discipline and task completion show how each of the eight intelligences can be utilized in the teaching of a single lesson. A selection of grade-specific content includes using MI theory to teach story writing, singing, and ...

Author Bio
Ellen Arnold is the director of Arncraft, an educational consulting company dedicated to helping learners of all ages unlock their potential. She lives in Rochester, New York.
**An Asset Builder’s Guide to Service-Learning**

Eugene C. Roehlkepartain, Mary Byers, Thomas Brigh...

**Summary**

Combining service-learning and the asset framework in congregational, school, and youth program settings, this resource is designed as a workbook and includes ideas, suggestions, and worksheets to make the most of the asset-building potential of any service-learning program.

**Author Bio**

**Eugene C. Roehlkepartain** is the Senior Advisor to the President and Director of Family and Congregation Initiatives at Search Institute. He is the author of more than 20 books and numerous newspaper, magazine, and journal articles on youth development, families and parenting, spirituality and congregational life, community building, and related issues.

---

**The Best of Building Assets Together**

**Favorite Group Activities That Help Youth Succeed**

Jolene L. Roehlkepartain

**Summary**

This indispensable resource presents more than 150 "best of the best," thought-provoking, varied, and engaging activities for ages 12 to 18 that will energize and inspire any group of young people. Grounded in Search Institute’s 40 Developmental Assets framework, these games and projects explore a wide range of issues that affect youth development, including family communication, school climate, peer relationships, service-learning, and self-esteem. The book includes more than 25 new activities as well as dozens of favorites, all updated with input from asset builders across North America. From physically challenging to thought-provoking, engaging to reflective, each activity focuses on a unique concept and offers a creative vehicle for studying a topic such as leadership, diversity, and community involvement (among others), allowing team leaders to empower young people to discover their own strengths. Includes real-world tips from educators and youth providers with over 50 reproducible handouts in English and Spanish.

**Author Bio**

**Jolene L. Roehlkepartain** is an author, parent educator, and founder of Ideas Ink, a consulting company that focuses on parenting, children’s issues, youth development, and education. She is the author of 22 books, including Building Assets Together, Fidget Busters, Parenting Preschoolers with a Purpose, Raising Healthy Children Day by Day, and Teaching Kids to Care and Share. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
Intelligence Builders for Every Student
44 Exercises to Expand Multiple Intelligences in Your Classroom
David Lazear

Summary
Teachers will expand students' knowledge of Multiple Intelligences with engaging activities that can work individually or in groups. This handy resource includes activities to build kinesthetic body awareness; deep hearing, listening, and understanding; linguistic humor; mathematical skills in everyday settings; and group dynamics. These activities can be integrated into content area classes and into the teaching of thinking skills, cooperation, self-awareness, and special needs programs.

Author Bio
David Lazear is the founder of New Dimensions of Learning, an organization that helps train educators and businesspeople to apply cutting-edge research on multiple intelligences and other brain-based approaches to instruction and business. He is the author of numerous books, including Eight Ways of Teaching and The Intelligent Curriculum. He lives in Chicago.

Imagitronics: Mind-Stretching Scenarios to Launch Creative Thought and Develop Problem-Solving Skills
Donald Ambrose

Summary
Imagitronics is a collection of mind-stretching scenarios designed to help students develop creative thought processes and critical problem-solving skills. These scenarios are intended to be used in a variety of educational settings, from classrooms to corporate training programs. By engaging students in these imaginative activities, educators can enhance students' ability to think creatively and solve problems in novel ways.
**Square Pegs**

*Building Success in School and Life Through Multiple Intelligences*

Jean Bowen, Marianna Hawkins, Carol King

**Summary**

This MI book goes beyond the classroom to help teachers teach students learning skills they'll use throughout life. Set up in an easy-to-use format, each activity has clear objectives. Numerous reproducible activity sheets, teacher resource sheets, wall posters, and cartoons help students learn how to take control of their attitudes, thoughts, and feelings; use the personal intelligences to create a positive learning environment for themselves; develop strategies for applying each type of intelligence to a variety of curricular areas; and develop general life skills (focus, organization, communication).

**Author Bio**

Jean Bowen directed professional development at The Howard School in Atlanta, Georgia, where she also served as principal. She developed educational material that focused on strategies to help students make competent and successful decisions about their own learning. Over the last 25 years, she has presented workshops on topics related to locus of control to various organizations in the United States, China, and Canada, and has lectured on the subject at McGill University in Montreal. She resides in Atlanta, Georgia. Carol King, M.Ed., is the Director of Special Services for the Torah Day School in Atlanta. She has presented workshops on music and learning disabilities at the International Conference of Learning Disabilities Association, State Convention of the Council for Exceptional Children, and Georgia Independent Schools Association Conference. She lives in Doraville, Georgia. Marianne Hawkins, M.Ed., directs the Assessment and Family Education Center at The Howard School in Atlanta, where she designs and implements comprehensive language communication and speech services. She g...

---

**The Diversity Myth**

*Multiculturalism and the Political Intolerance on Campus*

David O. Sacks, Peter A. Thiel, Elizabeth Fox-Geno...

**Summary**

This is a powerful exploration of the debilitating impact that politically-correct "multiculturalism" has had upon higher education and academic freedom in the United States. In the name of diversity, many leading academic and cultural institutions are working to silence dissent and stifle intellectual life. This book exposes the real impact of multiculturalism on the institution most closely identified with the politically correct decline of higher education-Stanford University. Authored by two Stanford graduates, this book is a compelling insider's tour of a world of speech codes, "dumbed-down" admissions standards and curricula, campus witch hunts, and anti-Western zealotry that masquerades as legitimate scholarly inquiry. Sacks and Thiel use numerous primary sources-the Stanford Daily, class readings, official university publications-to reveal a pattern of politicized classes, housing, budget priorities, and more. They trace the connections between such disparate trends as political correctness, the gender wars, Generation X nihilism, and culture wars, showing how these have play...

**Author Bio**

David O. Sacks is a research fellow at The Independent Institute and is vice president of product strategy at PayPal, Inc. He has worked as a legislative aide to U. S. Representative Christopher Cox and received his A.B. in economics (1994) from Stanford University. His articles have appeared in The Wall Street Journal, National Review, Policy Review, and Academic Questions. Peter A. Thiel is a research fellow at The Independent Institute and is chairman and CEO at PayPal, Inc. He has worked as a derivatives trader at Credit Suisse Financial Products, a securities lawyer for Sullivan & Cromwell, and a speechwriter for former Education Secretary William J. Bennett. He received his A.B. in philosophy (1989) and J.D. (1992) from Stanford University. They both live in Palo Alto, California.
**The Art of Being Cool**

**The Pursuit of Black Masculinity**

Theodore Ransaw

**Summary**

Addressing the challenges facing adolescent black males, this book analyzes and stresses the importance of identity development. It helps educators and parents understand the importance of cultivating a positive black male identity and how this overlooked aspect of childhood development impacts young adults. Solutions for finding a balance between academics and social activities are also provided.

**Author Bio**

Theodore Ransaw, PhD, is a professor of communication at the University of Las Vegas. He lives in Las Vegas, Nevada.

---

**Educating Black Girls**

Jawanza Kunjufu

**Summary**

Making use of the latest trends and statistics, *Educating Black Girls* is a guidebook that looks at the academic performances of African American girls from kindergarten through high school. This work dissects such issues as the disproportionate number of black girls suspended from school; the low expectations of teachers; and the small number of African American girls who pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. It also offers more than 50 potential solutions for improving academic achievement.

**Author Bio**

Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu is an educational consultant and the author of more than 40 books, including *Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys*, *A Culture of Respect*, the bestselling *Raising Black Boys*, and *Understanding Black Male Learning Styles*. He lives in Chicago.
**Hip Hop Street Curriculum**

*Keeping It Real*

Jawanza Kunjufu

**Summary**

Refuting the myths that black youth are unable to excel at academics and are limited to careers in professional sports, rap music, or drug dealing, this motivational book aims to engage teens by bridging the gap between school and hip hop culture. Topics such as the ability for many youths to memorize rap lyrics verbatim and how those skills can translate into academia, are discussed along with more general issues, including peer pressure, media, sexuality, career development, and gang activity. Written in an adolescent-friendly style, this much-needed book for educators seeks a different way of approaching students.

**Author Bio**

**Jawanza Kunjufu, PhD**, is the author of 24 books, including the Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys series; Black Students. Middle Class Teachers; Satan, I’m Taking Back My Health; and State of Emergency. He lives in Chicago.

---

**Understanding Black Male Learning Styles**

Jawanza Kunjufu

**Summary**

Offering information for use inside and outside of the classroom, this educational resource delineates how black males learn differently from other students and what can be done to most effectively reach them. Outlining the differences as both behavioral (attention span, aggression, maturation, energy level, and pressure from peers) and educational (verbal skills, organization, gross and fine motor skills, and reading interests) among others, this proposal provides real-world experiences alongside theories, making this an essential guide for educators, parents, counselors, psychologists, and others involved with black male adolescents. A section on how the majority of teachers, who are nonblack and female, can extend their education to overcome differences within the normal classroom setting, and help to reduce the number of black males in special education, is also provided.

**Author Bio**

**Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu** is an educational consultant and the author of more than 30 books, including Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys, A Culture of Respect, the bestselling Raising Black Boys, and State of Emergency. He lives in Chicago.
**Keeping Black Boys Out of Special Education**

**Jawanza Kunjufu**

**Summary**

This critical analysis looks at the disproportionate number of African American males in special education. Arguing that the problem is race and gender driven, questions covered include *Why does Europe send more females to special education? Why does America lead the world in giving children Ritalin? Is there a relationship between sugar, Ritalin, and cocaine? and Is there a relationship between special education and prison?* More than 100 strategies to help teachers and parents keep black boys in the regular classroom, such as revising teacher expectations, increasing parental involvement, changing teaching styles from a left-brain abstract approach to a right-brain hands-on approach, redoing the curriculum, understanding the impact of mass media, and fostering healthy eating habits.

**Author Bio**

**Jawanza Kunjufu** is the author of 23 books, including the Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys series, *Black Students. Middle Class Teachers, Satan, I'm Taking Back My Health*, and *State of Emergency*. He lives in Chicago.

---

**Changing School Culture for Black Males**

**Jawanza Kunjufu**

**Summary**

Addressing the many unique academic challenges that face black males—from low self-esteem, absenteeism, fatherlessness, and gangs to not accepting middle-class values, the impact of hip-hop culture, and drugs—this book provides answers and hope to teachers and the afflicted students and their families. With more than 75 solutions for educators to implement in their schools, including mentoring programs, rites of passage, internships, motivational speeches, counseling, and cooperative learning, this helpful resource shows how issues of retention, illiteracy, special education, and dropping out are simply symptoms of a much larger disease, and, if left unaddressed, will continue to stunt the education of black students.

**Author Bio**

**Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu** is an educational consultant and the author of more than 40 books, including *Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys, A Culture of Respect*, the bestselling *Raising Black Boys*, and *Understanding Black Male Learning Styles*. He lives in Chicago.
100+ Educational Strategies to Teach Children of Color
Jawanza Kunjufu

Summary
Because the attrition rate for new teachers in high-poverty schools averages between 40% and 50% over the first five years of teaching, this investigation offers practical solutions to more than 100 of the daily challenges they face. With an emphasis on pragmatic approaches that can be accomplished in the classroom, the book argues that many of the skills necessary for teaching in urban schools are not properly taught in university programs and that most white teachers simply have to learn by experience. Written from a black perspective and supported by real-life examples and details rather than theory, this helpful compendium of advice and expertise tackles issues of race and class while outlining the many ways in which the American school system is designed to contribute to a teacher's struggle.

Author Bio
Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu is an educational consultant and the author of more than 25 books, including Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys, A Culture of Respect, Raising Black Boys, and State of Emergency. He lives in Chicago.

200+ Educational Strategies to Teach Children of Color
Jawanza Kunjufu

Summary
With an emphasis on pragmatic approaches that can be accomplished in the classroom, this almanac of teaching solutions provides inner-city educators with 100 all-new strategies to daily challenges. As turnover rates remain excessively high among teachers in urban schools—83 percent of whom are white females who were ill-prepared by their college programs—the type of firsthand experience offered by this helpful manual continues to be an essential source of training. The advice and expertise presented is fully supported by real-life examples rather than intangible theory, and the details directly tackle issues of race and class while offering a legitimate criticism of the American school system that poses many of the problems that teachers face.

Author Bio
Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu is an educational consultant and the author of more than 30 books, including Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys, A Culture of Respect, Raising Black Boys, and State of Emergency. He lives in Chicago.
African Americans and Standardized Tests
The Real Reason for Low Test Scores
Veda Jairrels

Summary
With a surprisingly honest and hard-hitting approach, this volume postulates that a lack of reading experiences in the African American household is the true cause of low scores on today’s standardized tests. The discussion stresses the significance of literacy in a child’s future and the importance of parental involvement toward shaping that future. In an educational climate where most of the blame for a child’s poor performance is placed upon the teachers, the curricula, and the social structure of the schools, this discussion ultimately places the responsibility back in the hands of the family and offers them suggestions for improvement. It also provides recommendations for educators, churches, concerned citizens, and Black Greek sororities and fraternities.

Author Bio
Veda Jairrels, JD, PhD, is a lawyer and a professor of education at Clark Atlanta University. She lives near Atlanta.

Reducing the Black Male Dropout Rate
Jawanza Kunjufu

Summary
Outlining the 10 most significant reasons behind the high drop-out rate amongst black male students, this guide provides more than 30 solutions towards addressing this national crisis. Revealing that currently close to one half of black males do not graduate from high school, this exploration pursues the causes behind this alarming statistic and looks at many angles of the issue, including poor parental involvement, low expectations from teachers, boredom, negative peer pressure, and lack of positive role models. The solutions presented—including smaller classes, single gender classrooms, relevant Afro-centric curriculums, cooperative learning, motivational speakers, and higher expectations from teachers—are designed to provide prevention strategies for administrators and teachers, as well as empowerment principles for students.

Author Bio
Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu is a nationally recognized educational consultant and the author of more than 30 books, including 100+ Educational Strategies to Teach Children, Black Students. Middle Class Teachers., Countering the Conspiracy to Destroy Black Boys, and Raising Black Boys. He lives in Chicago.
**A Moving Experience**

**Dance for Lovers of Children and the Child Within**

Teresa Benzwie, EdD

**Summary**

More than 100 exercises help children discover qualities of space, time, numbers, their bodies, and rhythm. Children learn to feel good about themselves, establish values, and respect and support one another as they explore creative movement.

**Author Bio**

Teresa Benzwie, EdD, developed her own distinctive method of guiding children toward self-acceptance and the mastery of basic skills through the use of creative movement. Teresa has a diverse background in the arts, psychology, holistic health, and education. She resides in New Jersey.

---

**Pathways**

**A Guide for Energizing & Enriching Band, Orchestra, & Choral Programs**

Joseph Alsobrook

**Summary**

Here are solid and exciting solutions to the challenges of running an effective school music program, suggestions on how to motivate students to grow as musicians, and ways to retain students. Musician and teacher Joseph Alsobrook explains how to meet the needs of music students while simultaneously enjoying a rewarding and meaningful career as a music educator. Offering his wisdom with hands-on suggestions for practical and creative teaching methods, Alsobrook shows teachers how to build a music program filled with dedicated students and backed by a loyal community.

**Author Bio**

Joseph Alsobrook is a middle and high school band director and the vice president of the Northeastern Oklahoma Band Directors Association. He lives in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma.
Teaching Band and Orchestra
Methods and Materials
Lynn G. Cooper

Summary
This book covers every critical area in the professional life of band and orchestra teachers working at the primary and secondary levels. Topics explored include recruiting and retention, creating lesson plans, assessment, curriculum development, selecting literature, running effective rehearsals, and organizing concerts. Also addressed are the administrative realities of being a music teacher, from the job search to fundraising. A plethora of forms, sample letters, charts, and lists of suggested literature round out this resource-packed text.

Author Bio
Lynn G. Cooper is the chair of the music department, director of bands, and professor of music at Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, where he conducts the concert band and teaches courses in conducting and instrumental music education. He is the Kentucky state chair for the Society of Music Teacher Education and a past state chair of the College Band Directors National Association. He has served on the board of directors of Kentucky Music Educators Association, for which he is the president-elect. He lives in Wilmore, Kentucky.

Confessions of a First-Year Maestro
A Guide for Your First Year of Teaching
Catherine Bell Robertson, Tim Lautzenheiser

Summary
From fundraisers to irate parents and from meeting other teachers to measuring for new marching band uniforms, stories from a music teacher's first year on the job are shared in this lighthearted book. Centered on journal entries written during her first year as director of bands, choirs, and ensembles at a parochial high school, this book captures the surprises, joys, and woes of her hectic year. As a survivor and now veteran teacher, she also looks back on this challenging time and offers insightful reflections.

Author Bio
Catherine Bell Robertson is a high school music teacher. She lives in Hartland, Wisconsin.
Teaching the Screen
Film Education for Generation Next
Michael Anderson, Miranda Jefferson

Summary
Digital video and film technologies are transforming classrooms across the world. Teaching the Screen looks beyond the buttons and knobs to explore ways of teaching video and film effectively in secondary classrooms. More and more young people have access to low-cost filming and editing technologies-mobile phones, computers, portable digital players-which is changing the experience of digital storytelling. Approaches to classroom teaching and learning need to change too. The authors offer a new pedagogy of film storytelling that draws on research from effective classroom film learning practice. They contextualize screen learning within different educational settings, discuss how teachers can highlight aesthetics in film appreciation and filmmaking, and explore the impact of different technologies. Teaching the Screen is essential reading for educators who want to create engaging learning and teaching activities with screen technologies in secondary English and other subject areas.

Author Bio
Michael Anderson is senior lecturer in drama education at the University of Sydney. He is the coauthor of Real Players and the coeditor of Drama Education with Digital Technology. Miranda Jefferson is a high school teacher and lecturer in drama and screen learning at the University of Sydney.

An Eye for Art
Focusing on Great Artists and Their Work
National Gallery Of Art

Summary
Introduce children ages 7 and up to more than 50 great artists and their work with this lively family-oriented art resource. This treasure trove from the National Gallery of Art features works of art by, among others, Raphael, Rembrandt, Georgia O'Keeffe, Henri Matisse, Chuck Close, Jacob Lawrence, Pablo Picasso, and Alexander Calder, representing a wide array of artistic styles and techniques. Each chapter is focused on a theme ranging from studying nature and observing everyday life to breaking traditions and telling stories and includes works from a broad spectrum of artists, art mediums, nationalities, and time periods. Forty fun activities throughout will inspire the artist and art appreciator in every child. Written by museum educators with decades of hands-on experience helping children connect with art and the lives of artists, the projects include molding a clay figure inspired by Edgar Degas's sculptures; drawing an object from touch alone, inspired by Joan Miró's experience as an art student; painting a double-sided portrait reflecting physical traits and personality trait...

Author Bio
The National Gallery of Art maintains one of the world's most renowned collections of American and European masterpieces from the 13th century to the present. The collection includes paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculpture, decorative arts, and new media arts. It is located in Washington, DC.
Keeping the Arts Alive
Creating and Sustaining Youth Programs That Matter
Kristin A. Rapp

Summary
Based on compelling research and the author's personal experience running programs that support arts in education, this collection of practical advice not only explains why arts education is vital but also provides tools and resources to help develop and maintain sustainable arts programs for young people. This helpful guide provides arts educators and youth workers with solutions to withstand budget shortfalls, ways to create or maintain arts programs, and methods to enrich the lives of all participants. The book covers topics including developing a program, fund-raising and "friend-raising," and integrating the arts into other school curricula and the community at large. Other concepts discussed include art therapy, art as a tool for social change, and arts-integrated education as a means to cultivate necessary creative skills for the global economy of the future.

Author Bio
Kristin A. Rapp is the founder and executive director of ArtPeace, Inc. with more than 20 years of experience as a social worker, therapist, and teaching artist. She has worked with children, teens, and families with challenges in mental health, chemical dependency, and developmental disabilities, as well as those in the juvenile justice or foster care systems. She lives in Rochester, New York.

Art Is Every Day
Activities for the Home, Park, Museum, and City
Eileen S. Prince

Summary
Art isn't just what you find in a museum, a sculpture park, or a one-period-a-week elementary school curriculum—art is every day. This handy resource offers more than 65 ideas for parents, grandparents, teachers, and others who want to bring meaningful, rich, and fun art experiences into children's lives. The projects are easy to do and require only inexpensive or free materials. Children will:

- Go on a photographic scavenger hunt looking for forms and shapes
- Write a short biography based on a museum portrait using only clues found in the painting
- Practice printmaking using Styrofoam plates
- Explore perspective by following the shapes of buildings viewed from different angles
- Make a sand casting on a trip to the beach

Art Is Every Day is the perfect resource for parents whose children's school has cut its art program, for grandparents who want to share fun activities with their grandchildren, or for art teachers who would like to support their curriculum with fresh ideas for field trips and homework assignments.

Author Bio
Eileen S. Prince has been an art education specialist for more than 40 years. She is the author of the bestselling Art Is Fundamental and Art Matters.
**Art Is Fundamental**  
*Teaching the Elements and Principles of Art in Elementary School*  
Eileen S. Prince

**Summary**  
This comprehensive art curriculum can easily be integrated into any teacher’s existing instruction and provides thrilling and rewarding projects for elementary art students, including printmaking techniques, tessellations, watercolors, calligraphic lines, organic form sculptures, and value collages. Detailed lessons—developed and tested in classrooms over many years—build on one another in a logical progression and explore the elements of texture, color, shape, line, form, and value, and principles such as balance (formal, informal and radial), unity, contrast, movement, distortion, emphasis, pattern and rhythm. Each lesson also represents an interdisciplinary approach that improves general vocabulary and supports science, math, social studies, and language arts. Though written for elementary school teachers, it can be easily condensed and adapted for middle or even high school students. A beautiful eight-page color insert demonstrates just how sophisticated young children’s art can be when kids are given the opportunity to develop their skills.

**Author Bio**  
Eileen S. Prince has been an art specialist in the Indianapolis-area schools since 1970 and is the author of the bestselling *Art Matters*.

---

**Art Matters**  
*Strategies, Ideas, and Activities to Strengthen Learning Across the Curriculum*  
Eileen S. Prince

**Summary**  
This collection of ideas and lesson plans will help classroom and homeschool teachers integrate art into their general curriculum. These inventive and effective methods use the visual arts to inspire creative writing and drama; explore math, music, science, and history; and cultivate critical thinking skills. Art instructors will learn strategies for incorporating other areas of study into the art classroom. Ranging from thought-provoking suggestions to concrete, hands-on lesson plans, these activities include an extensive resource list for classroom teachers without an art background.

**Author Bio**  
Eileen Prince is an art specialist at Sycamore School for the Gifted and has received national recognition for her art curriculum. She lives in Indianapolis, Indiana.
How to Talk to Children About Art
Françoise Barbe-Gall

Summary
Anticipating how kids react to paintings by artists as diverse as Botticelli, Vermeer, Degas, Chagall, and Pollack, this resource for adults who want children to love and understand art prepares them for the types of questions kids ask. Providing parents and teachers with valuable tips for making any visit to a museum with children a success, this guide offers a great primer or refresher course on art history, allowing adults to confidently answer common questions, such as why some paintings are signed and others are not, some pictures are small and others are very large, and why the Dutch paint so much fruit. Questions and answers about 30 well-known paintings provide historical background, explain genres such as still life and portrait, and demystify religious and mythological themes. Color-coded tabs let adults flip to sections appropriate to the ages of their children (5-7 years, 8-10 years, 11-13+ years).

Author Bio
Françoise Barbe-Gall is a lecturer in art history at l’Ecole du Louvre in Paris, France.

Attention Without Tension
A Teacher’s Handbook on Attention Disorders (ADHD and ADD)
Edna Copeland

Summary
A complete educators’ handbook, this guide addresses the characteristics and causes of the attention disorders ADHD and ADD and reveals methods of treatment for children who have them. This reference highlights real-life experiences and solutions to help families and provides numerous reproducible worksheets, from symptom checklists and behavior charts to sample letters and parent handouts.

Author Bio
Edna D. Copeland, PhD, is a child/clinical psychologist. She and Valerie L. Love, MEd, are the coauthors of Attention, Please!: ADHD/ADD: A Comprehensive Guide for Successfully Parenting Children with Attention Disorders and Hyperactivity.
Empowering Youth with ADHD
Your Guide to Coaching Adolescents and Young Adults for Coaches, Parents, and Professionals
Jodi Sleeper-Triplet

Summary
Unveiling a powerful and proven methodology for teens and young adults with ADHD, this guidebook offers complete instruction for professionals and parents on what ADHD coaching for young people is and how it can dramatically improve the lives of the afflicted. A groundbreaking approach, this handbook discusses powerful intervention practices to help youths with ADHD break through barriers and succeed in their lives. The thorough, hands-on guidance makes for an ideal resource for all individuals interested in learning more about coaching young people with ADHD—including life coaches interested in expanding their practices to a new market; academic tutors and personal organizers wondering if they would like to become trained as an ADHD coach; and therapists, psychiatrists, and pediatricians confused about what ADHD coaches do.

Author Bio
Jodi Sleeper-Triplet is a master and senior certified ADHD coach and the president of JST Coaching, LLC, a company designed to provide coaches with the tools to serve the needs of youth. She lives in Herndon, Virginia.

Problem Solver Guide for Students with ADHD
Ready-to-Use Interventions for Elementary and Secondary Students
Harvey C. Parker

Summary
Parents and teachers need strategies for helping children with ADHD who have problems in organization, behavior, study habits, reading, written language, and socialization. The hundreds of solutions offered in this quick-reference guide offer nuts and bolts ideas that work with ADHD kids in both elementary and secondary school. Information is offered on how to help students with short attention spans, how to reduce disruptive behavior, and how to improve reading comprehension, math skills, and written language. Also recommended are study strategies to improve organization, time management, and note taking, as well as social skills tips to help students get along better with others.

Author Bio
Harvey C. Parker, PhD, is a clinical psychologist and cofounder and former executive director of CHADD, Children and Adults with Attention Deficit Disorders. He lives in Plantation, Florida.
Silly Books to Read Aloud
Rob Reid

Summary
Acclaimed children’s book authority Rob Reid creates the ultimate guide to choosing fun and funny stories to read with and to your children and grandchildren. With a concentrated look at the content and appeal of many different titles, he helps you find exactly the right books to share with young ones. More than simply a recommended reading list, the books in this guide assist with language development while also encouraging good reading habits, improved comprehension, and broadened vocabulary. Those looking for suggestions outside this book will find a “Hall of Fame” listing of notable children's literature authors for any age level. Featuring a comprehensive selection of stories for preschoolers, emergent readers, and children ready for chapter books, this guide is a go-to for parents, grandparents, teachers, and caregivers.

Author Bio
Rob Reid is a writer and an instructor at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire. He is the author of Family Storytime, Reid's Read-Alouds, and Something Funny Happened at the Library. He lives in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Understand Child Development
Carolyn Meggitt

Summary
A complete guide to child development from birth to 16 years Assuming no prior knowledge of the subject, this guide takes readers through physical, cognitive, moral, and behavioral aspects of a child’s development. It covers key figures such as Piaget, Freud, and Bowlby as well as looking at the work of more contemporary theorists. Case studies offer practical understanding while illustrations back up key points.

Author Bio
Carolyn Meggitt is a former nurse and midwife.
**Remarkable Books About Young People with Special Needs**

**Alison Follos**

**Summary**
Matching children with special needs to books and stories that will motivate and engage them, this book is a valuable collection for any parent, grandparent, caregiver, or teacher who lives or works with young people who have disabilities. This vast and varied selection of books offers individuals who may be isolated by their differences the security and companionship of stories they can identify with. Describing more than 100 stories featuring characters who have disabilities—from physical handicaps, ADHD, Asperger’s syndrome, and dyslexia to survivors of psychological or physical trauma—the guide points to narratives that can help make these conditions understandable and familiar. Selecting books that dissolve limitations and spark the imagination, this resource helps all kinds of adults and children empathize and truly connect.

**Author Bio**

Alison Follos is the author of *Reviving Reading*, and has contributed to numerous publications, including *Library Media Connection*, *School Library Journal*, and *Voice of Youth Advocate*. She lives in upstate New York.

---

**Autism Spectrum Disorders**

**What Every Parent Needs to Know**

**Alan I. Rosenblatt, Paul S. Carbone**

**Summary**

Autism Spectrum Disorders: What Every Parent Needs to Know is an invaluable resource for parents and caregivers of children who have been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Prepared under the editorial direction of 2 distinguished pediatricians who are autism experts—one of whom is also the parent of a son with autism—this book helps you understand how ASDs are defined and diagnosed and provides you with information on the most current types of behavioral and developmental therapies. It also helps parents understand what they can do to help promote a smooth transition from adolescence through the teen years and into adulthood.

Topics include
- Symptoms, frequency, and types of ASDs
- Accessing care
- Services in the community
- Tapping into educational resources
- Behavioral and developmental treatment
- The role of complementary and alternative medicine
- Screening tools
- Adolescence and beyond

You'll also find inspirational and supportive stories from other parents that will help you recognize that you're not alone on this journey. Autism Spectrum Disorders: What ...

**Author Bio**

Alan I. Rosenblatt, MD, FAAP, is a neurodevelopmental pediatrician and teaches general pediatrics at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. He has combined patient care, advocacy, and teaching throughout his career in a variety of clinical settings in the United States and abroad and has received awards for clinical excellence and for his advocacy efforts. He has held professional leadership positions at the local, state, and national levels, including on the Autism Expert Panel of the American Academy of Pediatrics. He lives in Chicago. Paul S. Carbone, MD, FAAP, is a general pediatrician with an interest and experience in the area of autism spectrum disorders and related developmental disabilities. He is an assistant professor of pediatrics at the...
**Great Group Games Cards on the Go**

**50 Favorite Team Builders**

Susan Ragsdale, Ann Saylor

**Summary**

A portable version of the bestselling book, *Great Group Games*, this card deck features 50 popular games printed on colorful cards. Teachers and group leaders will find tips and methods to engage students and learners of all ages in any setting. The fun, low-prep games offer surefire ways to transform a group into a cohesive team, and they are based on the stages of group development and represent a variety of learning styles.

**Author Bio**

Susan Ragsdale and Ann Saylor are nationally recognized trainers and program consultants in the youth and community development field. As cofounders of the Center for Asset Development, they have equipped youth and adults in agencies such as the YMCA of the USA, Americorps, and the Tennessee Department of Health. They are the coauthors of *Building Character from the Start, Great Group Games*, and *Ready to Go Service Projects*. Susan Ragsdale lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Ann Saylor lives in Pleasant View, Tennessee.

---

**Study Strategies Plus**

**Building Your Study Skills and Executive Functioning for School Success**

Sandi Sirotowitz, Leslie Davis, Harvey C. Parker

**Summary**

Designed for students in secondary school, this book of exercises and lessons helps them develop study strategies that include organization, reading comprehension, note-taking skills, and test-taking skills. It first describes the executive functions of the brain—the processes that help people stay organized, manage time, pay attention, plan future behavior, and inhibit behavior—then provides the practical strategies needed to develop those functions. The practical exercises provided help with attention, communication, memory, time management, and self-control—valuable lessons for studying that are essential for proper learning and retention. By improving the way students prepare for school and learn, school success can be achieved.

**Author Bio**

Sandi Sirotowitz, MEd, is a cofounder of Educational and Diagnostic Services, Inc., and is the coauthor of *Study Strategies for Early School Success, Study Strategies Made Easy*, and *Vocabulary Unlimited*. She lives in Newton Center, Massachusetts. Leslie Davis, MEd, is a cofounder of Educational and Diagnostic Services, Inc., a comprehensive learning center based in South Florida. She is the coauthor of *Study Strategies for Early School Success, Study Strategies Made Easy*, and *Vocabulary Unlimited*. She lives in Weston, Florida. Harvey C. Parker, PhD, is a clinical psychologist. A cofounder and former executive director of Children and Adults with Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (CHADD), he has been highly involved in the advocacy for better understanding and treatment for children, adolescents, and adults with ADHD. He is the author of *The ADHD Hyperactivity Handbook for Schools* and *The Problem Solver Guide for Students with ADHD*, and the coauthor of *Study Strategies for Early School Success*. He lives in Weston, Florida.
Study Strategies Made Easy
A Practical Plan for School Success
Leslie Davis

Summary
Designed by leading educational specialists to teach valuable study skills to students in grades 6-12, it teaches students how to learn the true key to acquiring knowledge. Strategies focus on organizational skills, time management, improving reading comprehension, vocabulary development, communication, how to study for tests effectively, memorization, and more. There are self-tests and reproducible forms to be used by individual students. This book contains valuable information for teachers and parents who work with students to develop study strategies for school success. Study Strategies Made Easy is the result of extensive research and is successfully used in leading schools and learning centers throughout the United States and Canada.

Author Bio
Leslie Davis, MEd, and Sandi Sirotowitz, MEd, earned masters degrees in exceptional education and they founded Educational & Diagnostic Services, Inc., a comprehensive learning center in South Florida. Harvey C. Parker, Ph.D. has been one of the country’s leading ADHD advocates. In 1987, he and two parents of children with ADHD started CHADD, a national organization founded to help children and adults with ADHD. Dr. Parker is an author and coauthor of over ten books and Internet websites on ADHD, study strategies, and behavior management. He lectures nationally to parents and professional groups and maintains a private practice in clinical psychology in Plantation, Florida.

Train Your Brain for Success
A Teenager's Guide to Executive Functions
Randy Kulman

Summary
Executive functions are a set of thinking, problem-solving, and self-control skills that tell the brain what to do, and this book demonstrates the ways kids use executive functions in school, at home, and in their other activities and shows how these skills can be improved through sustained effort. Beginning with a test to determine executive-functioning strengths and weaknesses, the book then explores in detail eight distinct sets of skills, including planning, organization, focus, time management, self-control, flexibility, memory, and self-awareness. In addition to giving an overview of each executive-functioning skill and how these skills are used in the real world, the book—intended as a self-directed learning guide for students themselves—also provides teens tools and tips for improving executive functions, including how to use video games, iPods, cell phones, and other electronic media to their advantage. A section for teachers and parents who may be dealing with a teenager with one or more executive dysfunctions is also included, as well as information for teens on how to rec...

Author Bio
Randy Kulman, PhD, is the founder and president of LearningWorks for Kids, an educational technology company that specializes in using video games to teach executive-functioning and academic skills. For the past 25 years, Dr. Kulman has also been the clinical director and president of South County Child and Family Consultants, a multidisciplinary group of private practitioners that specializes in assessment and interventions for children with learning disorders and attention difficulties. He is the author of numerous essays on the use of digital technologies for improving executive-functioning skills in children and is the coauthor of a chapter in the book Designing Games for Ethics: Models, Techniques, and Frameworks. He lives in Wakefield, Rhode Island.
Spark Student Motivation
101 Easy Activities for Cooperative Learning
Jolene L. Roehlkepartain

Summary
Teachers looking to effectively achieve classroom goals by connecting with students through differentiated instruction and cooperative learning will find targeted activities for inspiring students in this unique handbook. Using innovative research that delineates 200 “spark” categories that key into students' interests and passions, this guide offers easy exercises to help students get to know each other, follow the rules, and work more effectively in groups. Most of the activities and handouts can be completed in less than 15 minutes, and each combines a traditional method of teaching with the emerging, research-based “spark” method to help teachers tap into students' multiple intelligences and achieve better results on both the developmental and academic levels.

Author Bio
Jolene Roehlkepartain is an author and parent educator who presents workshops on asset development to parents, child care providers, educators, health care professionals, faith communities, librarians, and community leaders. She is the author or coauthor of more than 25 books, including Building Assets Together, Fidget Busters, Parenting Preschoolers with a Purpose, Raising Healthy Children Day by Day, and Teaching Kids to Care and Share. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Get Things Going (2nd Edition)
85 Asset-Building Activities for Workshops, Presentations, and Meetings
Susan Ragsdale, Ann Saylor

Summary
Fun-filled activities to transform meetings, workshops, trainings, and group culture are included in this thoroughly revised edition. It features a refreshing collection of icebreakers and mixers that help groups get acquainted, a variety of team-building activities that focus specifically on increasing participants’ knowledge and understanding of the 40 Developmental Assets®, and interactive games for intergenerational audiences. For meeting closers, the book also includes activities that help participants reflect on the information they've learned and spark enthusiasm for continued involvement with asset building. It is perfect for team leaders or workshop presenters to engage others, build trust, and incorporate the Developmental Assets® in creative and meaningful ways.

Author Bio
Susan Ragsdale and Ann Saylor are nationally recognized trainers and program consultants in the youth and community development field. As cofounders of the Center for Asset Development, they have equipped youth and adults in agencies such as the YMCA of the USA, Americorps, and the Tennessee Department of Health. They are the coauthors of Building Character from the Start, Great Group Games, and Ready to Go Service Projects. Susan Ragsdale lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Ann Saylor lives in Pleasant View, Tennessee.
A Tribute to Teachers
Wit and Wisdom, Information and Inspiration About Those Who Change Our Lives
Richard Lederer

Summary
Appraising the true heroes of the classroom, this compilation looks closely at the teachers who change lives one day and one lesson at a time. Instructors from all backgrounds are covered, from literature and poetry to film and even those captured in comic strips. Detailed statistics are presented, proving that teachers really do make a difference, and a collection of side-splitting jokes and riddles celebrate the most unheralded, exhausting, income-challenged, and ultimately, rewarding of all professions. Chapters include Sunday School Bloopers, Students Say the Darnedest Things, and Why I Flunked Out of High School.

Author Bio
Richard Lederer is the author of more than 35 books, including Anguished English, Crazy English, Get Thee to a Punnery, The Gift of Age, More Anguished English, and the coauthor of Super Funny Animal Jokes and Wild and Wacky Animal Jokes. He is a former teacher, having taught English and media for 27 years. He has been named International Punster of the Year and Toastmasters International’s Golden Gavel winner. He lives in San Diego.

Test Success!
How to Be Calm, Confident and Focused on Any Test
Ben Bernstein

Summary
A comprehensive training guide on how to improve test scores, these lessons avoid memorization and answering strategies and instead address the test-taker individually to determine what he or she needs personally to perform well at test time. Based on 40 years of teaching experience and 30 years of clinical psychology experience, this book distills the best practices used by elite athletes, artists, and top business performers to create a system that can be applied to any test, including the SAT, ACT, LSAT, MCAT, GRE, licensing exams, finals, and even driving tests. The system trains users to be calm, confident, and focused: the durable and dependable “three legged stool” for successful performance. Also included are special chapters for parents and teachers to learn how to be helpful to their children and students as well as online access to additional test prep material for further study.

Author Bio
Ben Bernstein, PhD, is a psychologist, teacher, and performance coach whose career has spanned 40 years in education, psychology, and the arts, including coaching in such diverse settings as psychiatric hospitals, prisons, primary schools, and universities. He was invited to be a resource artist at the Sundance Institute, where he worked one-on-one with writers who subsequently went on to win Pulitzer Prizes, Tony Awards, and Academy Awards. He lives in Oakland, California.
**Learn, Serve, Succeed**
*Tools and Techniques for Youth Service-Learning*
Kate McPherson

**Summary**
Classroom teachers and youth program leaders looking for material on service-learning will treasure this comprehensive how-to guide. This practical handbook takes a step-by-step approach through every stage of a service-learning project: from choosing the appropriate assignment to planning, organizing, and evaluating results upon completion. Twenty reproducible handouts and instructions make it easy to lead students through the service-learning world while reflection exercises ensure that they will contextualize the importance of their work and that the lessons learned will stick with them. This is the one-stop resource for planning, implementing, and assessing successful integration of meaningful community service with classroom instruction.

**Author Bio**
Kate McPherson is the director of Project Service Leadership and assists teachers and schools in developing service-learning curricula and programs. She received the 2002 National Service-Learning Practitioner Award and is a member of the Service-Learning Provider’s Network, an advisor for Generator School, and an adjunct professor for Portland State University’s Service-Learning Certification Program. She lives in Vancouver, Washington.

---

**Creating a Culture of Academic Integrity**
*A Toolkit for Secondary Schools*
David Wangaard, Jason Stephens

**Summary**
Responding to the growing epidemic of academic dishonesty, this authoritative text lays the groundwork for a positive school makeover. This guide—which culled research from six high schools in Connecticut that indicated that more than 90 percent of students participate in some form of cheating during the average school year—provides teachers, school administrators, and parents with a toolkit of resources and strategies needed to engender a culture of scholastic honesty. With reproducible handouts and instruction on establishing an Academic Integrity Committee, this unique resource provides a plan and policies that support a climate of honesty and hard work. A CD-ROM with copies of each handout and additional references is also included.

**Author Bio**
David Wangaard, EdD, is director of the School for Ethical Education. Prior to earning his doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Northern Colorado, he was a school principal in Alaska. He lives in Shelton, Connecticut. Jason Stephens, PhD, is an assistant professor in the department of educational psychology at the University of Connecticut, where he teaches on human learning and academic motivation. He lives in Ashford, Connecticut.
Notes on Teaching
A Short Guide to an Essential Skill
Shellee Hendricks, Russell Reich, Taylor Mali

The third title in the acclaimed Notes On series, Notes on Teaching is a short, essential primer of immediately useful and utterly relevant guidance can help anyone become a better teacher. The book's 170 "notes" deliver indispensable pedagogical truths, the highest standards of classroom conduct, a...

Summary
Notes on Teaching delivers utterly relevant guidance, lucid explanatory commentary, and helpful examples that will help anyone become a better teacher. Like its siblings in the Notes On series (Notes on Directing and Notes on Cooking), the book's clear, accessible, and practical insights into the art and craft of teaching invoke the spirit of Strunk & White's The Elements of Style and Sun Tsu's The Art of War, giving its audience the information they need in the way they want it: brief, efficient, direct. The notes are designed to provoke strong reactions--either in agreement or dissent--that will guide anyone who teaches to acknowledge, test, and debate their own beliefs. By turns provocative, funny, and unerringly blunt (#166 "Steer clear of the grumblers"), the authors understand that HOW the information is delivered is as valuable as the information itself. The book's afterword is by Taylor Mali, a teacher and one of the most well-known poets to have emerged from the poetry slam movement, famous for his poem, "What Teachers Make." Notes on Teaching is endorsed by: Wendy Kopp, Fou...

Author Bio
Shellee Hendricks is an international educator who currently teaches at the Benjamin Franklin International School in Barcelona. Russell Reich is a writer and the creative director and coauthor of the Notes On series. He lives in New York City. Afterword by Taylor Mali, a teacher and one of the most well-known poets to have emerged from the poetry slam movement, famous for his poem, "What Teachers Make."

Cybersafe
Protecting and Empowering Kids in the Digital World of Texting, Gaming, and Social Media
Gwenn Schurgin O’Keeffe

Summary
Children today are growing up in a world far different from the one in which their parents were raised. Between the Internet, gaming systems, mp3 players, and cell phones, today's kids are nearly always connected to something digital. And, because it's developing so fast, it's hard for parents to stay on top of the technology-and even harder to figure out how to help their kids make good decisions when it comes to these things. This informative book will guide parents through the landscape of the digital world, helping them better understand things like:

- The history and the future of the Internet
- Cyberbullying (and how to help kids deal with it if it happens to them)
- Social networking sites like Facebook and MySpace
- Gaming and virtual worlds
- Parental control systems that allow parents to monitor kids' online activities
- Digital footprints (and how kids can make sure theirs is a good one)

Beyond informing readers on the latest trends in technology, Dr. Gwenn gives provides the tools parents need to help their child navigate the digital world with insight and intelligence...

Author Bio
Gwenn Schurgin O’Keeffe, MD, FAAP, is a practicing pediatrician, health journalist, and CEO of Pediatrics Now, an online health and communications company. Through www.pediatricsnow.com and the nationally syndicated blog www.drgwennisin.com, she addresses issues ranging from general health to those concerning the intersection of health care and social media. She is a fellow and national spokeswoman of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and an executive committee member of the AAP's Council of Communications and Media and was the lead author of the council's social media and sexting tips. She lives in Boston
Building Resilience in Children and Teens (2nd Edition)
Giving Kids Roots and Wings
Kenneth R. Ginsburg

Summary
Confronting the overwhelming amount of stress kids face today, this invaluable guide offers coping strategies for facing the combined elements of academic performance, high achievement standards, media messages, peer pressure, and family tension.

The handbook acknowledges that adolescents commonly survive stress by either indulging in unhealthy behaviors or giving up completely, and its suggested solutions are aimed at strengthening resilience. The proposed plan enables kids from the age of 18 months to 18 years to build the seven crucial "C"s"—competence, confidence, connection, character, contribution, coping, and control—needed to bounce back from challenges.

A variety of approaches are featured such as building on natural strengths, fostering hope and optimism, avoiding risky behaviors, and taking care of oneself physically and emotionally. With new chapters on perfectionism, the negative portrayal of teens, military families, and what parents can do when resilience has reached its limits, this examination also includes two personalized guides for creating customized strategies...

Author Bio
Kenneth R. Ginsburg, MD, MSED, FAAP is an associate professor of pediatrics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and practices adolescent medicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. He is the author of But I'm Almost 13!: An Action Plan for Raising a Responsible Adolescent and the coauthor of Less Stress, More Success: A New Approach to Guiding Your Teen Through College Admissions and Beyond. He lives in Philadelphia.

The Right to Be Safe
Putting an End to Bullying Behavior
Cricket Meehan

Summary
From individual interventions to school- and district-wide programs, this book provides strategies and solutions for stopping bullying behavior. Its comprehensive approach covers all aspects of bullying and its consequences, providing the necessary information to keep kids safe. Ways to help students who are bullied, ways to intervene with students who show bullying behavior, guidelines on how to partner with parents to stop bullying, and best practices in bullying prevention are some of the many topics addressed in the book. It is the complete guide to stopping bullying behavior and creating a positive, healthy environment for kids.

Author Bio
Cricket Meehan, PhD, is the coordinator of School Mental Health Projects at Miami University's Center for School-Based Mental Health Programs. Her scholarly work includes research articles, book chapters, and numerous conference presentations throughout the United States. She lives in Liberty Township, Ohio.
Safe Places to Learn
21 Lessons to Help Students Promote a Caring School Climate
Paul Sulley

Summary
The 21 lessons in this resource for teachers and counselors help make school a place where all students feel supported and accepted so they can focus on classes, friendship, and fun activities. Over the course of the lessons, the leader introduces the concept of Developmental Assets®, teaches students how to build these assets for themselves and others, and gives them the tools to spread messages of kindness, caring, boundaries, and acceptance to other students and adults. Role-playing and other activities will help students learn to effectively stop meanness with a respectful, caring demeanor toward both victim and antagonist. Ultimately, school becomes a warmer place where both teachers and students thrive.

Author Bio
Paul Sulley has worked in the field of positive youth development for more than 20 years. He has been a Search Institute trainer since 2003. He lives in Spokane, Washington.

Healthy Teen Relationships
Using Values & Choices to Teach Sex Education
Martha Roper

Summary
With a comprehensive approach that goes beyond biology, this book explores the emotions and personal values that affect teens' sexual choices. It presents teachers with ways to encourage healthy talk about sensitive subjects, provides group activities designed to get teens thinking about their choices, and includes the latest information on safe sex, sexually transmitted infections, contraception, and abstinence. Helping create a safe place for adults and youth to talk about sex and sensitive topics, it gives ideas on how to work with parents and schools so everyone's values are respected, while teens still get the information they need. With topics that range from personal responsibility and values to media influences and teen pregnancy, this book's approach is "abstinence-plus" and is designed to integrate easily into any curriculum.

Author Bio
Martha Roper has been a teacher for 40 years and has been named one of the top-10 U.S. sexuality educators. She has been featured in Parents magazine and USA Today and has appeared on CBS Sunday Morning and as a regular guest for 15 years on KMOX radio in St. Louis. A member of the groundbreaking National Sexuality Education Guidelines Task Force, she also was named the National Health Education Professional of the Year. She and her husband jointly received the Lifetime Professional Service Award from Planned Parenthood of the Greater St. Louis Area. She lives in Manchester, Missouri.
What Adults Need to Know about Kids and Substance Use
Dealing with Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs
Katharine Sadler

Summary
Putting a difficult situation in perspective, this hands-on guide explains why youth abuse drugs, how to identify signs of substance abuse, and how to deal with the difficulties of this destructive behavior. This book includes a thorough list of the substances youth are most likely to abuse—including over-the-counter drugs and inhalants—and reproducible handouts that itemize the effects of each drug. Several scenarios are discussed, such as when a student admits to using drugs; when a student says a friend, sibling, or parent uses drugs; when to call a social worker; and when to call law enforcement. Teachers, counselors, and parents can all benefit from the helpful advice in this realistic look at working with kids and drugs in the 21st century.

Author Bio
Katharine Sadler, MEd, is a certified prevention professional and works as a community prevention specialist with Indiana Prevention Resource Center, part of Indiana University's School of Public Health. She has a master's degree in education with a school counseling emphasis. She lives in Elizabeth, Indiana.

Training Peer Helpers (2nd Edition)
Coaching Youth to Communicate, Solve Problems, and Make Decisions
Barbara B. Varenhorst

Summary
When young people struggle with problems, they often turn to their friends for help, and this guide provides adults with 15 sessions to prepare them for such challenges through skill-building activities, assignments, and 28 reproducible handouts. Based on the 40 Developmental Assets®—the essential building blocks of healthy development that young people need to succeed—in the face of peer pressure, and difficult decision making. Revised to include updated statistics about the percentage of youth who report experiencing each asset, as well as a CD-ROM packed with digital versions of the handouts, this edition will assure that young people truly can get by with a little help from their friends.

Author Bio
Barbara B. Varenhorst, PhD, is a leading pioneer in peer helping who began her work as a school counselor in the 1960s. The cofounder and past president of the National Peer Helpers Association, she served on numerous professional and academic boards and is the author of Real Friends and Training Teenagers for Peer Ministry.
Parent, Teacher, Mentor, Friend
How Every Adult Can Change Kids' Lives
Peter L. Benson

Summary
Detailing daily actions that have a lasting significance on kids, this guide for all adults shows that positive adult-child relationships are one of the most important factors affecting a young person's development. Rather than focusing on teens' problems, this handbook takes a proactive approach and highlights hopeful actions adults can take to have a positive impact on a young person's life. For example, adults will learn to use 30-second encounters to offer compliments and to ask meaningful questions of children that lead to deeper conversations. This call to action invites every adult to be an advocate for children and teenagers, promoting happier, healthier, and more successful youth.

Author Bio
Peter L. Benson, PhD, is the president and CEO of Search Institute and is regarded as an expert in child development. He is the author of All Kids Are Our Kids and What Kids Need to Succeed. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Strong Staff, Strong Students
Professional Development in Schools and Youth Programs
Angela Jerabek, Nancy Tellett-Royce

Summary
Good schools start with good teachers, and the thoughtful, positive approach found in this staff-development guide provides teachers, school administrators, and program leaders with step-by-step ways to inspire and motivate. Full of personal inventories and food for thought, this resource provides a comprehensive set of tools for incorporating the Developmental Assets®, a research-based framework for healthy child development, into a school or youth program. A CD-ROM of handouts from the book and supplementary assessment tools, as well as a Power Point presentation, is also included.

Author Bio
Angela Jerabek, MS, developed the Building Assets, Reducing Risks program to address academic failure, truancy, discipline, school climate, and chemical use in schools utilizing the Developmental Assets® as its foundation. She has presented at more than 50 conferences including the National Prevention Network Conference and the National Superintendent's Conference. She has a master of science in counseling and is a licensed primary and secondary teacher. Nancy Tellett-Royce is community liaison at Search Institute and a community- and youth-development expert. She is the former cochair of Children First and the creator of the Speaking of Parenting kit. They both live in Minneapolis.
Mentor Development for Teacher Training
A Scenario-Based Approach
Anne Punter

Summary
The 34 scenarios that make up this book are based upon real-life teacher-trainee issues. They are designed to stimulate analysis of those issues, to help the formulation of possible approaches to deal with them, and to promote reflection on the role of the mentor as a practitioner, advisor, critical friend, and assessor. There is no single solution to each issue, but the material prompts an in-depth discussion of what the issues are and a consideration of how to manage the complex set of factors towards a resolution.

Author Bio
Dr. Anne Punter is a senior lecturer in education at the University of Hertfordshire. She was awarded the British Educational Leadership, Management and Administration Society prize for research in 2002.

Great Group Games
175 Boredom-Busting, Zero-Prep Team Builders for All Ages
Susan Ragsdale, Ann Saylor

Summary
Whether it's the kick-off of an event, a 20-minute gap between functions, or an all-day or multiday retreat, this sourcebook suggests a wide array of solutions for keeping young people upbeat, engaged, and unified. Offering icebreakers, "straight-up" games, and reflection activities, the book provides instructions for staging meaningful, fun interactions that encourage participants to think. Games are organized in sections identifying various stages of group-building, ranging from establishing foundational relationships and building upon them to transitions and celebrations. Among the games included are: Change Over-turn a tarp completely over while always remaining on the tarp; Common Ground-Which team has the most in common?; and You're a Star-team members guess whose celebrity name is on their backs. Details on timing and supplies are also featured for each activity.

Author Bio
Susan Ragsdale and Ann Saylor are nationally recognized trainers and program consultants in the youth and community development field. As cofounders of the Center for Asset Development, they have equipped youth and adults in agencies such as the YMCA of the USA, Americorps, and the Tennessee Department of Health. They are the coauthors of Building Character from the Start, Great Group Games for Kids, and Ready to Go Service Projects. Susan Ragsdale lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Ann Saylor lives in Pleasant View, Tennessee.
**Great Group Games for Kids**

*150 Meaningful Activities for Any Setting*

Susan Ragsdale, Ann Saylor

**Summary**

Building on the popularity of the bestselling *Great Group Games*, this new collection for the younger set shows teachers and group leaders how to make even the silliest activity meaningful. Complete with details on timing, supplies, set up, and suggested group size, this is the perfect grab-and-go resource for anyone working with elementary school age children. Far from frivolous, each "play with purpose" game concludes with discussion questions to build positive identity, friendship skills, and a host of other character traits kids need to succeed.

**Author Bio**

Susan Ragsdale and Ann Saylor are nationally recognized trainers and program consultants in the youth and community development field. As cofounders of the Center for Asset Development, they have equipped youth and adults in agencies such as the YMCA of the USA, Americorps, and the Tennessee Department of Health. They are the coauthors of *Building Character from the Start*, *Great Group Games*, and *Ready to Go Service Projects*. Susan Ragsdale lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Ann Saylor lives in Pleasant View, Tennessee.

---

**Teen 2.0**

*Saving Our Children and Families from the Torment of Adolescence*

Robert Epstein

**Summary**

Arguing that adolescence is an unnecessary period of life that people are better off without, this groundbreaking study shows that teen confusion and hardships are caused by outmoded systems that were designed to destroy the continuum between childhood and adulthood. Documenting how teens are isolated from adults and are forced to look to their media-dominated peers for knowledge, this discussion contends that by infantilizing young people, society does irrevocable harm to their development and well-being. Instead, parents, teachers, employers, and others must rediscover the adults in young people by giving them authority and responsibility as soon as they exhibit readiness. Teens are highly capable—in some ways more than adults—and this landmark discussion offers paths for reaching and enhancing the competence in America's youth.

**Author Bio**

Robert Epstein, PhD, is the former editor in chief of *Psychology Today*, a contributing editor to *Scientific American Mind*, and the host of the radio show *Psyched!* A visiting scholar at the University of California-San Diego and former university research professor at the California School of Professional Psychology, he is the founder and director emeritus of the Cambridge Center for Behavioral Studies and the developer of many parenting, adolescence, and other competency tests. He is the author of many articles and books, including The Big Book of series. He lives in San Diego, California.
When Teachers Talk
Principal Abuse of Teachers / The Untold Story
Rosalyne Susanne Schnall

Summary
Principal abuse of power and principal abuse of teachers, which has been clearly documented by teachers in this book, may very well be the most significant underlying cause contributing to the decline of public education in America today. Abusive and incompetent public school administrators who treat teachers with anything less than the dignity and respect they deserve do so at the direct expense of teachers, their student populations, and the communities in which they reside. Throughout the interviews in this book, teachers give detailed accounts of how principals do not provide them with the administrative support needed to effectively teach and maintain discipline in their classrooms. They explain how they have been prevented from functioning optimally and how their best efforts to help their students have been frustrated. The inevitable results are dysfunctional, permissive, non-disciplinary school environments which produce a steady stream of students who leave school and enter mainstream society totally unequipped to take on the responsibilities of functioning adults.

For de...

Author Bio
Rosalyne Schnall is a retired teacher with thirty-five years experience in the Chicago Public School System. She holds a Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Miami, FL. in Elementary Education, and holds additional Certification in Early Childhood Education. She completed thirty hours of Graduate work at Loyola University of Chicago, Graduate School of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, which included a course in “Survey Research Methodology.” During her years as a teacher, in addition to her regular education classes, she worked as a Home-Hospital teacher for the Chicago Board of Education for ten years, servicing sick, disabled, and terminally ill students, unable to attend school during the day. She also taught numerous extra programs during the week, which included both before and after-school Reading and Math Enrichment classes for the primary grades, as well as Saturday Academy classes. Her personal efforts were instrumental in opening an Extended Day Pre-Kindergarten Program at her overcrowded school. This program would accommodate preschool age...

The Handy Answer Book for Kids (and Parents) (2nd Edition)
Gina Misiroglu

Summary
As a launching pad for inquisitive young minds and a life raft for parents at wits end, this collection addresses a critical part of being a kid: asking questions. A wide variety of questions are answered, such as Is there life on Mars? Do rivers ever dry up? Why are there wars? Is there such a thing as a funny bone? What is DNA? Having this nearby will equip every parent for those difficult, absurd, or sometimes funny questions from their kids.

Author Bio
Gina Misiroglu is the author of several books, including The Handy Politics Answer Book and The Superhero Book. She lives in Los Angeles.
Ideas for Educators
42 Ready-to-Use Newsletters for School Success
Nathan Eklund, Adrienne Gilby

Summary
Written by two experienced teachers, this series of newsletters on CD-ROM offers educators and administrators a quick and easy way to learn and incorporate the Developmental Assets® into daily teaching practices. The newsletters can be printed out from the CD-ROM or sent via e-mail as complete documents, modified to fit a school’s individual needs, or even inserted into existing school and district mailings. Each newsletter provides an overview of a Developmental Asset and explains how it works in a classroom setting and then gives teachers strategies and tips for infusing that asset into working with students. Classroom strategies are easy to implement and can be quickly incorporated into classroom work without requiring special materials or elaborate preparation and can be adjusted to the needs and education levels of the students. Each newsletter also contains a section on fostering that Developmental Asset in a teacher’s life to aid in staff development.

Author Bio
Nathan Eklund, MEd, is an educational consultant at Search Institute, a professional speaker, and an educational trainer with 12 years of experience as a high school teacher. He is the author of How Was Your Day at School? Improving Dialogue About Teacher Job Satisfaction. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Adrienne Gilby, MEd, is a former high school teacher and an advocate of the power of public education. She lives in Foxboro, Massachusetts.

Seven Steps for Building Social Skills in Your Child
A Family Guide
Kristy Hagar, Sam Goldstein, Robert Brooks

Summary
Teaching children how to navigate the complex social universe, this everyday strategy guide helps them to develop healthy social skills. Informed by current research on character development, this handbook helps parents, educators, and health-care workers understand which critical social skills determine future success and how to incorporate the teaching of those skills into everyday life. Practical advice emphasizes building children’s resilience and the management of social conflicts while teaching them how to make and keep friends and appreciate their own strengths and the strengths of others. A troubleshooting section addresses common problems and how to solve them, and two addenda focus on specific socialization issues faced by educators and health-care workers.

Author Bio
Kristy Hagar, PhD, is a pediatric neuropsychologist at Children’s Medical Center of Dallas and an assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. She lives in Dallas, Texas. Sam Goldstein, PhD, is a coauthor of Angry Children, Worried Parents. He is a member of the faculty at the University of Utah and works as a clinical neuropsychologist at the Neurology, Learning and Behavior Center in Salt Lake City, Utah. Robert Brooks, PhD, is a coauthor of Angry Children, Worried Parents. He is on the faculty of Harvard Medical School and has a part-time medical practice. He lives in Needham, Massachusetts. They are the coauthors of Seven Steps to Help Your Child Worry Less.
Connecting in Your Classroom
18 Teachers Tell How They Foster the Relationships That Lead to Student Success
Neal Starkman

Summary
The principles of TEACH—trust, engagement, asset-building, care, and hard work—are the basis of this inspirational guide to improving teacher-student relationships. Eighteen teachers from across the country share their secrets of how to encourage responsibility, empathy, and hard work—qualities that lead to academic and personal achievement—in their everyday interactions with students. Rooted in the Developmental Assets™ approach, these narratives seek to foster the concrete, commonsensical, and positive experiences and qualities essential to raising successful young people.

Author Bio

Everyday Wisdom for Inspired Teaching
Tim Lautzenheiser

Summary
Combining humor with experiential wisdom, this call to action inspires educators to strive for excellence in their classrooms. Real-world questions, fears, and doubts that even the best educators experience are explored, including disciplining a classroom without becoming a dictator, turning failure into success, and creating a positive learning atmosphere. In discussing the factors that make for exceptional teaching, teacher and student leadership skills are addressed, with advice on assessing teacher leadership and choosing solution-driven student leaders.

Author Bio
Tim Lautzenheiser is the founder of Attitude Concepts for Today and the author of The Art of Successful Teaching, The Joy of Inspired Teaching, and Music Advocacy and Student Leadership. He is a former ensemble director at New Mexico State University, Northern Michigan University, and the University of Missouri. He lives in Bluffton, Indiana.
Building Character from the Start
201 Activities to Foster Creativity, Literacy, and Play in K-3
Susan Ragsdale, Ann Saylor

Summary
Grounded in the 40 Developmental Assets®, a research-based framework for healthy child development, this inspirational activity book lets kids have fun while building new skills and character. Kids are prompted to finish a coloring page with their own ideas and dreams while synopses of nearly 100 books include follow-up questions and ideas for taking the book's lessons even further. Fun for every grade level and area of interest is provided through word games, community-building games, team-building games, and more. Included with the book is a CD-ROM of reproducible handouts to engage kids even further, rounding out this ideal tool for teachers, day-care providers, and after-school program providers.

Author Bio
Susan Ragsdale is a leadership development trainer and Developmental Assets® specialist for the YMCA. She has worked with the YMCA, Search Institute, CharacterCounts!, and United Way to help equip adults to work with youth. She lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Ann Saylor is the cofounder of the Center for Asset Development and the former director of the community service program at Harpeth Hall School. She has worked with the Points of Light Foundation, has led a statewide youth council, and has directed camps and conferences. She lives in Pleasant View, Tennessee.

Great Group Skits
50 Character-Building Scenarios for Teens
Lynn Grasberg, Gina Oldenburg

Summary
Created by experts who teach improvisational theater, this resource for educators and youth workers provides new and creative role-playing exercises that tackle a wide range of topics. From small pieces for a few people to large-scale skits that involve an entire class, this guidebook helps educators engage with kids and helps them engage with each other. Rather than using line-by-line dialogue, the skits are designed as improvisational scenarios that give a starting point and let kids decide where to go, enhancing their creativity, self-reliance, and analytical skills. Each skit is designed to be as easy to prepare as possible and includes an estimated time, ways to modify the skit for various age groups, and a list of follow-up questions designed to reinforce the lessons learned. Also included is information on how to facilitate skits, get kids motivated and energized, and build trust. The skits are divided into categories that include imagination, teamwork, communication skills, motivation and leadership, peer pressure and integrity, and conflict resolution.

Author Bio
Lynn Grasberg is an improvisational theater instructor, a keynote speaker, and a comedienne. She is the author of Bounce Back! The New Play Ethic at Work. She lives in Boulder, Colorado. Gina Oldenburg is the executive director of the Creative Expressions Center, a speaker, and a playwright. She is the author of Energize! A Daily Guide to High Energy Living, and several plays. She lives in Denver, Colorado.
Activities on the Go
One-on-One Fun for Kids and Adults
Kate Brielmaier

Summary
This compact, portable guide is packed with creative activities that are guaranteed to strengthen bonds between adult and child through simple, low-prep, low-cost suggestions designed to reinforce one-to-one relationships. The varied ideas include a trip to the local library for favorite books to share, learning how to ice skate, snowshoeing at a nearby park, volunteering at a soup kitchen, and writing a one-act play and performing it for family or neighbors. Intended for a parent who wants to mix things up, a mentor looking for fresh ideas, or a counselor needing to break the ice, this pocket resource offers quick and effective ideas for meaningful and enjoyable interaction with a child.

Author Bio
Kate Brielmaier is an associate editor at Search Institute Press. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Engage Every Student
Motivation Tools for Teachers and Parents
Elizabeth Kirby, Jill McDonald

Summary
The challenge of motivating underachieving students is addressed in this classroom resource guide that advises teachers and other concerned adults to look beyond test scores and encourage under-performing middle school and high school students to find their motivational spark. Developmental benchmarks, reasonable expectations for results, and strategies for charting progress are discussed for a myriad of situations—including those with learning disabilities, family and environmental factors, different learning styles, and other root causes of motivational deficit—and paired with classroom strategies to address each unique case. A learning styles inventory and a multiple intelligence test are provided to aid in evaluation, and handouts and home strategies to share with parents are offered to reinforce the home-school connection.

Author Bio
Elizabeth Kirby, EdD, is an assistant professor in the education leadership department at Central Michigan University. She is a former middle school teacher who has published articles on teen victimization and school legal issues in Legal Memorandum and other law and education journals. She lives in Mount Pleasant, Michigan.
Jill McDonald, MEd, is an administrator in the Huron Valley school district who has worked as a middle and high school teacher, administrator, and at-risk program coordinator. She lives in Detroit, Michigan.
The Catechist’s Magic Kit
80 Simple Tricks for Teaching Catholicism to Kids
Angelo Stagnaro, Sean Pryor

Summary
Simple magic tricks for teaching spiritual truths to children are explained in precise detail in this distinctive compendium. The lessons faithfully follow the catechism of the Catholic Church, but many of the tricks can be used or adapted by teachers from other Christian denominations and other religions. Each trick is presented on a two-page spread and fully explicated by text and sequential illustrations. Magic tips for better performance are interspersed among the tricks, which are done with inexpensive household items such as cards, rope, tape and utensils. All aspects are clearly addressed, including what equipment is needed, what the audience sees, how to perform the trick effectively, and which bible verses to discuss with each trick. The strongest element of this book is the explanation of the theology and spiritual truths that underlie each trick in a simple and inspiring way. The mysteries of faith can be difficult to impart verbally to a young audience, and children can become restless and inattentive in a classroom setting; but this dynamic method of teaching religious pr...

Author Bio
Angelo Stagnaro has been a professional magician for more than 35 years. He performed as the house magician at F.A.O. Schwartz for three years, and is currently editor in chief of Smoke & Mirrors, the largest international professional monthly e-zine for magicians. He lives in New York City. Sean Pryor earned a BFA from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. He lives in Freehold, New Jersey.

How Was Your Day at School?
Improving Dialogue about Teacher Job Satisfaction
Nathan Eklund

Summary
Addressing the alarmingly low rate of job retention in classroom education, this guide offers practical advice to administrators and teachers for avoiding teacher burnout and increasing teacher satisfaction and performance. Since the quality of the classroom teacher is the single most important factor in predicting student success, retention of high-quality teachers is essential to student achievement. This discourse affirms that systemic change can be achieved by applying the strength-based approach of Developmental Assets® to the teacher-administrator relationship, and demonstrates the parallels between a nurturing environment for students and a nurturing environment for teachers. The common adversarial teacher-administrator dichotomy is abandoned in favor of multiple levels of accountability and change, and mutual goals for individual teachers and administrators are advanced. When every stakeholder in the school environment sees teacher job satisfaction as a win-win situation resulting in retention and higher student achievement, staff, students, and administrators can work together...

Author Bio
Nathan Eklund, MEd, is a professional speaker, an educational trainer, and a former teacher with 12 years of experience. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
How's My Kid Doing?
Practical Answers to Questions About Your Child's Education
Keith W. Frome

Summary
Parents' most pressing and worrisome questions about their children's elementary school experience are addressed in this helpful resource. The explosion of education options and the emphasis on parental involvement often confuse or intimidate parents, prompting such questions as How can I know what's going on in school if my child won't tell me? Do video games interfere with my kid's ability to learn? What is school choice? Does "No Child Left Behind" make classrooms better? Is it okay to bribe my son to motivate him to do his homework?

Explained in a simple and reassuring manner, apprehensive and concerned parents are advised to go easy on interrogation and to ask pointed questions about particulars: What was the worst thing about school today? may be a better conversation starter than How was school today? Topics range from curriculum and classroom concerns and homework and discipline questions, to social and moral issues. Insight is proffered into what motivates teachers, and suggestions for forging effective parent-teacher partnerships are included. This compilation of practical...

Author Bio
Dr. Keith W. Frome, EdD, is the author of the award-winning What Not to Expect: A Meditation on the Spirituality of Parenting, and a regular contributor to WBFO, Buffalo's NPR affiliate radio station. He is a former elementary school headmaster and a curriculum developer. He lives in Buffalo, New York.

Not Stupid
Anna Kennedy

Summary
When Anna and Sean Kennedy discovered that their sons Patrick and Angelo suffered with Asperger's Syndrome and autism respectively, they were truly devastated—but their family's troubles were just beginning. Placed in mainstream nurseries and schools, Patrick and Angelo endured traumatic experiences in a system woefully equipped to cater for their complex needs. Like so many parents, Anna and Sean, having been turned away by no fewer than 26 special needs schools when searching for appropriate educational facilities for the boys, were down—but not out. The local education authority had a fight on its hands. Anna was determined to prove that for children like her sons, the challenges of growing up with autism did not have to end in defeat. Through sheer guts and determination, they turned their situation into a victory for parent power by transforming a disused local school into a center of excellence for the care and support of those with autism. Anna's story, and that of her ever-improving sons, is a beacon of inspiration for parents of special needs children everywhere.

Author Bio
Anna Kennedy cofounded the charity Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support in 1997. By 1999, with the fellow directors, the Kennedys had opened Hillingdon Manor School, a specialist primary school for children with an autistic spectrum disorder. By 2003, Hillingdon Manor School had expanded to open a middle and upper school, and now provides specialist education for 85 children with autistic spectrum disorders aged between three and 19.
The No-Fault Classroom
Tools to Resolve Conflict & Foster Relationship Intelligence
Sura Hart, Victoria Kindle Hodson

Summary
Positing a radically new understanding of the root of conflict—unmet needs—this analysis boldly directs students and teachers to recognize feelings as important messengers of those needs. Refocusing attention from feelings to the needs behind the feelings addresses the underlying problem rather than the symptom; with this objective, the concept of the "No-Fault Zone" is introduced. It is a place in the classroom free from criticism or blame where students learn trust and respect for one another, develop successful conflict-resolution skills, and the responsibility for resolution shifts from teacher to students. The complete conflict resolution curriculum is included, providing step-by-step guidance and making this classroom kit a time-saver for busy teachers.

Author Bio
Sura Hart has been in the field of education for 23 years, teaching elementary, junior high, and high school, and currently works with the Peace Army in Costa Rica teaching peacemaking skills in schools. She is a certified trainer and the education director for the Center for Nonviolent Communication (CNVC), and is a coauthor of The Compassionate Classroom and Respectful Parents, Respectful Kids. She lives in Seattle. Victoria Kindle Hodson is a coach and a writer, and conducts workshops for students, parents, and teachers. She is a coauthor of The Compassionate Classroom; Discover Your Child’s Learning Style; and Respectful Parents, Respectful Kids. She lives in Ventura, California.

Empowering Youth
How to Encourage Young Leaders to Do Great Things
Kelly Curtis

Summary
Offering indispensable advice to anyone seeking to integrate empowerment into their youth work, this guide demonstrates how youth leaders, teachers, peer program advisors, adults who work with teens and adolescents, and any professional organization with a youth focus can foster leadership qualities in youth. Motivating examples are combined with activities, and reproducible self-assessment checklists to aid individuals and groups in evaluating their strengths and weaknesses in their efforts to empower youth. The tips included can be used in one-on-one situations, in groups, and in structured programs, and have been tested in varied circumstances, including youth programs, communities, classrooms, and faith-based organizations. The introduction outlines the Developmental Assets® framework, and the four empowerment assets are discussed in detail. The importance of being valued by community, treating youth as a valued resource, service to others, and ensuring safety are examined, and ideas for cultivating an environment conducive to empowerment are also discussed.

Author Bio
Kelly Curtis, MS, is a school counselor, a writer, a speaker, and the founder of Empowering Youth, Inc., which publishes positive youth-development curricula. She lives in New Richmond, Wisconsin.
Yoga Calm for Children
Educating Heart, Mind, and Body
Lynea Gillen, Jim Gillen

Summary
Filled with photos, illustrations, lesson plans, and an extensive quick-reference bibliography, this detailed manual is an indispensable guide for introducing yoga in public school and therapeutic settings, as well as a great handbook for parents who would like to share yoga with their children. Easy to use and appropriate for children and teenagers, it includes information on integrating the Yoga Calm technique with regular classwork, modifications for specific classroom situations, alignment and safety principles, anecdotal examples from the authors' direct experience, and "emotional first aid tips" to help young people maintain a calm center when they most need it.

Author Bio
Lynea Gillen, MS, is the cofounder of Yoga Calm, a school counselor, a registered yoga instructor (RYT-200), and an adjunct faculty member at Portland State University. Jim Gillen, RYT, is the cofounder of Yoga Calm and director of Still Moving Yoga in Portland, Oregon. He is a registered yoga instructor (RYT-500), an affiliated Anusara yoga instructor, ACE group fitness instructor, and a member of the International Association of Yoga Therapists. He has taught and developed youth programs for the National Science Foundation and the National Sports Center for the Disabled. They live in Portland, Oregon.

Sandplay and Storytelling
The Impact of Imaginative Thinking on Children's Learning and Development
Barbara A. Turner, Kristín Unnsteinsdóttir, Thomas...

Summary
Combining the fields of child psychology and child education, this groundbreaking work explores how engaging children in Jungian sandplay therapy and imaginative storytelling can improve classroom performance and to increase intelligence scores. Written by child specialists, it makes a solid argument for the necessary consideration of the unconscious and the inner world of the individual child in learning and advocates that curriculum design for children must include both imaginative therapeutic play and active attention to children's emotional needs. Educators, psychotherapists, and concerned parents alike will find this book informative and useful.

Author Bio
Barbara A. Turner, PhD, teaches sandplay and play therapy to mental health clinicians internationally and serves as consultant to practicing sandplay and play therapists. She is the author of The Handbook of Sandplay Therapy. She lives in Cloverdale, California. Kristín Unnsteinsdóttir is the director of the Learning Center at a small grammar school in Iceland. Thomas L. Armstrong is an award-winning author and speaker with more than 35 years of teaching experience from the primary through the doctoral level. He is the author of 14 books, including ADD/ADHD Alternatives in the Classroom, The Human Odyssey: Navigating the Twelve Stages of Life, and The Power of Neurodiversity: Unleashing the Advantages of Your Differently Wired Brain, and a former contributing editor to Mothering and more than 20 other periodicals, journals, and books. He lives in Cloverdale, California.
Engage Every Parent!
Encouraging Families to Sign On, Show Up, and Make a Difference
Nancy Tellett-Royce, Susan Wootten

Summary
Offering indispensable advice, this authoritative guide explores how teachers, program leaders, coaches, and other youth workers can forge partnerships with families and encourage meaningful parental involvement. Inspirational stories and icebreaker suggestions are combined with fun activities and reproducible handouts, all designed to increase parental communication. Event planning, volunteer recruitment, and sustaining parental participation are concisely addressed as are the topics of appropriate conduct, helping young people through transitional periods, complimenting parents and children, and setting boundaries. This title includes a CD-ROM of more than 40 reproducible pages from the book.

Author Bio
Nancy Tellett-Royce is community liaison at Search Institute and a community and youth development expert. She is also the former cochair of Children First and the creator of the Speaking of Parenting kit. She lives in Minneapolis. Susan Wootten is an editor at Search Institute Press and a former high school and community college English and mathematics teacher. She is active in public school, community, and church activities, and is the parent of three teenagers. She lives in Minneapolis.

Stand Up!
75 Young Activists Who Rock the World and How You Can, Too!
John Schlimm

Summary
Through their own voices and spirited calls to action, 75 of the world's most dynamic young activists share their extraordinary stories in this generation-defining collection for students, parents, teachers, volunteers, and community service leaders. Tapping into today's global youth movement where social entrepreneurship and activism merge at the intersection of business, pop culture, and nonprofit work, these stories showcase young men and women—some of whom started their efforts as early as three years of age—bringing savvy compassion and unstoppable courage to and from locations all over the world, including Africa, Pakistan, India, Peru, Colombia, Afghanistan, and the United States. Whether building freshwater wells in developing nations, fighting discrimination, saving animals, or honoring heroic soldiers, these are the young people on the frontlines, from mountain peaks to rainforests to school gardens and classrooms, changing the world for the better.

Author Bio
John Schlimm has been an activist and advocate for healthy living, education, and the arts for more than two decades through his work with organizations such as the American Cancer Society; the American Red Cross; Citizens Against Physical, Sexual & Emotional Abuse; and the Humane Society. He has appeared on national media outlets including The Ellen DeGeneres Show, the New York Times, Martha Stewart Living's Everyday Food, NPR's The Splendid Table, QVC, and Fox & Friends. He lives in St. Marys, Pennsylvania.
Helping Teens Handle Tough Experiences
Strategies to Foster Resilience
Jill R. Nelson, Sarah Kjos

Summary
Educators, mentors, congregational leaders, counselors, and other youth-serving professionals will find the tools they need to help young people with personal, familial, social, or cultural adversities in this resource. Specific crises are addressed, including youths who physically harm themselves, parents who are chemically dependent, abusive dating relationships, depression, and homelessness—solutions are offered for managing them. With reproducible handouts, examples of real-life situations, and ideas and topics for group discussion, this strength-based approach to working with youths empowers them to avoid becoming paralyzed by obstacles and instead face life with confidence.

Author Bio
Jill R. Nelson, PhD, is an assistant professor and clinical program coordinator for the counselor education program at North Dakota State University. She lives in Fargo, North Dakota. Sarah Kjos, MEd, is a counselor at Rape and Abuse Crisis Center of Fargo-Moorhead. She lives in Moorhead, Minnesota.

The American Challenge
Preserving the Greatness of America in the 21st Century
Robert C. Etheredge

Summary
Winner of the 2012 eLitAwards Gold Medal for Best History Book
Winner of the 2012 Independent Publisher Book Awards Bronze Medal for Best Adult Non-Fiction Ebook
Winner of the 2012 Next Generation Indie Book Award for Best Ebook
Finalist for the 2012 Next Generation Indie Book Awards in the Historical Non-Fiction category
Winner of the 2012 National Indie Excellence Book Award for Best History Book
Finalist for the Dan Poynter's Ebook Award for Best Multimedia Ebook

Offering a complete review of American history, civics, and culture, this unique collection provides both current and future citizens with the basics of the United States' common traditions and values in order to properly exercise their duties and obligations to vote responsibly. Amply illustrated and containing material not found in other sources, this book features a complete historical timeline of the United States; details of each presidential election, including vote totals and short profiles of each president; color flags of all states; history and care of the United States flag; maps showing statehood dates, Na...

Author Bio
**Teaching Kids to Change the World**

**Lessons to Inspire Social Responsibility for Grades 6-12**

Jennifer Griffin-Wiesner, Chris Maser

**Summary**

Through a series of modules, this resource offers educators and youth-group leaders a means of inspiring social consciousness and action among youth and teaches young people how to think, rather than what to think. Without money, power, or the right to vote, how do children and teenagers find a voice in society? How can educators and leaders talk meaningfully with students about such broad concepts? Avoiding partisan politics and moral debates, this resource equips educators with philosophical discussion questions, concrete illustrations, and active examples. Each component sets forth a theme or principle about change; a classroom experiment or activity that illustrates the theme; and an example of a social action or service project in which young people can participate to help create the change they wish to see, showing youth their role in the societal and environmental changes that occur across decades or even centuries.

**Author Bio**

Jennifer Griffin-Wiesner is a youth-development consultant and the author of Generators: 20 Activities to Recharge Your Intergenerational Group; The Journey of Community Change: A How-To Guide for Healthy Communities, Healthy Youth Initiatives; and Your Family: Using Simple Wisdom in Raising Your Children. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Chris Maser is the coauthor of Evaluating Sustainable Development: Giving People a Voice in Their Destiny as well as the author of more than 250 articles and 20 books, including The Perpetual Consequences of Fear and Violence: Rethinking the Future. He lives in Corvallis, Oregon.

---

**The New Teacher's Handbook**

**Practical Strategies & Techniques for Success in the Classroom from Kindergarten Through High School**

Yvonne Bender

**Summary**

Tailored for novice teachers of kindergarteners through high schoolers, this handbook explores the most common challenges inexperienced teachers face and offers techniques to overcome them successfully. While practical topics such as classroom organization, student discipline, and lesson plans are addressed, the often unmentioned realm of the politics of teaching is also discussed, with advice on how to deal effectively with administrators and parents. Bullet points, sidebars, helpful hints, appendixes, and frequently asked questions are included, making this resource instructional as well as motivational.

**Author Bio**

Yvonne Bender is a retired teacher with 30 years of experience teaching in Baltimore public schools. She is the author of A Parent's Guide to Child Control or Who's Boss Here, Anyway? She lives in Baltimore, Maryland.
Study Strategies for Early School Success
Seven Steps to Improve Your Learning
Sandi Sirotowitz, Leslie Davis, MEd, Harvey C. Par...

Summary
This collection of more than 70 study strategies teaches children in grades three through six efficient and effective learning techniques. Experienced educators share their tips to better organize school work, understand and use different learning styles, improve reading ability, and prepare for oral presentations and tests. Line drawings, charts, and diagrams enliven and clarify each of the strategies. Accompanying activity sheets round out the learning process.

Author Bio
Sandi Sirotowitz, MEd, Leslie Davis, MEd, and Harvey C. Parker, PhD., are the authors of Study Strategies Made Easy. Sandi Sirotowitz and Leslie Davis founded Educational and Diagnostic Services, Inc., a comprehensive learning center in South Florida. Harvey Parker is a clinical psychologist and educational consultant known nationally for his work in child and adolescent behavior and development. They all live in Plantation, Florida.

When Parents Ask for Help
Everyday Issues through an Asset-Building Lens
Renie Howard

Summary
With reproducible articles that speak directly to parents and caregivers about the dilemmas adolescents face, this collection reframes issues from an asset-based point of view to give parents plenty of encouragement, hope, and practical ideas.
The Parent-Teacher Partnership
How to Work Together for Student Achievement
Scott Mandel

Summary
With the National PTA's Standard for School-Family-Community Partnership as a framework, this guide offers advice for resolving common points of contention between parents and teachers, such as the most productive use of a parent-teacher conference, the best at-home environment for doing homework, the helpfulness of parental rewards for classroom performance, and a teacher's role in supporting a student with an at-home crisis. This solution manual draws from real-world experiences of parents, teachers, and administrators to tackle issues of communication, parenting skills, classroom volunteering, and mutual respect.

Author Bio
Scott Mandel has been an educator for more than 25 years and is the founder and developer of Teachers Helping Teachers, a website for educators. He is the author of Improving Test Scores and The New-Teacher Toolbox. He lives in Northridge, California.

Finding the Words
How to Talk with Children and Teens about Death, Suicide, Homicide, Funerals, Cremation, and other End-of-Life Matters
Alan D. Wolfelt

Summary
With this compassionate book by respected grief counselor and educator Dr. Alan Wolfelt, readers will find simplified and suitable methods for talking to children and teenagers about sensitive topics with an emphasis on the subject of death. Honest but child-appropriate language is advocated, and various wording and levels of explanation are suggested for different ages when discussing topics such as death in general, suicide, homicide, accidental death, the death of a child, terminal illness, pet death, funerals, and cremation. An ideal book for parents, caregivers, and counselors looking for an easy resource when talking to youths about death, this book can be used for any setting, religious or otherwise.

Author Bio
Alan D. Wolfelt, PhD, is a speaker, a grief counselor, and the director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition. He is the author of numerous books on grief, including Companioning the Bereaved, Companioning the Grieving Child, Creating Meaningful Funeral Ceremonies, Healing the Bereaved Child, Healing Your Grieving Heart, Understanding Your Grief. He lives in Fort Collins, Colorado.
Rethinking Middle Years
Early Adolescents, Schooling and Digital Culture
Victoria Carrington

Summary
Focusing on the need to move beyond developmentally based models to see the middle years pedagogy in historical, social, economic, and political contexts, this reference compares research from Australia to the international experience, and emphasizes the importance of understanding the risk of society's and young peoples' immersion in digital technologies and consumer culture. Teachers and schools can use this understanding to work more effectively with early adolescents, and policy-makers and education leaders can reshape the middle years reform agenda to improve professional practice and student outcomes.

Author Bio
Victoria Carrington is a professor and associate dean of research in the faculty of education at the University of Plymouth.

Great Places to Learn (2nd Edition)
Creating Asset-Building Schools that Help Students Succeed
Neal Starkman, Clay Roberts, Peter C. Scales

Summary
Rooted in research on more than 2 million children about the effect of Developmental Assets® on fostering academic achievement and a healthy school climate, this foundational book is a powerful, positive guide to infusing assets into any school community. From building awareness to sustaining system-wide changes, a step-by-step outline guides school administrators, principals, and teachers through the process of integrating assets into their school, while firsthand accounts provide the creative inspiration to adapt the concept to any situation. The included CD-ROM features a wealth of reproducible handouts, charts, action lists, and assessment tools with tips and materials for everyone—from principals to bus drivers—included in the asset-building process. This new edition is updated with Search Institute's latest data and new discussions on bullying, school violence, and the effect of the No Child Left Behind Act on school communities. The handouts that were sold separately from the first edition are also included.

Author Bio
Neal Starkman, PhD is the president of Flashpoint Development and the author of Connecting in Your Classroom; Hey, Coach!; Ideas That Cook; and Walking Your Talk. He lives in Seattle. Peter C. Scales, PhD, is a developmental psychologist at Search Institute. He is the author of Other People's Kids, A Portrait of Young Adolescents in the 1990s, and The Sexual Adolescent and the coauthor of Developmental Assets. He is a former national director of education for Planned Parenthood Federation of America, director of national initiatives for the Center of Early Adolescence at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and chair of the Alaska Governor's Commission on Children and Youth. He is the recipient of the U.S. Administration for Children, Youth, and Families' Commissioner Award. He lives in St. Louis. Clay Roberts, MS, is a senior trainer with Vision Training Associates and the founder of Roberts & Associates, a national educational consulting firm that has advised the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Justice, the National Cancer Institute, t...
The Compassionate Classroom
Lessons That Nurture Wisdom and Empathy
Jane Dalton, Lyn Fairchild

Summary
This inspiring guidebook supports teachers seeking to provide a nurturing and creative classroom environment for middle school and high school students. Lessons supply instruction for creating a community of empathy, reverence, self-awareness, and mindfulness. Each entry features a concise lesson plan ready for implementation, as well as a brief summary of the interfaith and secular philosophies that underpin the lesson. Educators are assisted in building connections among diverse populations, cultivating self-awareness, and rewarding reflective thinking. Handouts and sample writings offer inspirational models for students to explore identity and spirituality.

Author Bio
Jane Dalton has taught at elementary, secondary, and university levels. Lyn Fairchild teaches English at the Cary Academy in North Carolina.

For the Learners' Sake
A Practical Guide to Transform Your Classroom and School
Judy Stevens, Dee Goldberg

Summary
This proposal for a platform of education reform needed to prepare students for a 21st-century workplace and society draws on information and ideas from two current areas in neuroscience: brain research (physiology and applications to learning) and systems thinking (mental models). Analyzing the history of education methodology over the past two centuries, this book shows how the 19th-century factory model prevalent in schools today fails to produce the kinds of flexible thinkers and problem solvers needed in the 21st century. A comprehensive tour of the brain and details of the most recent neuroscience findings inform a plan to arm today's students with an education lacking in traditional classrooms. Also included are dozens of ideas for brain-compatible activities that can be adapted for use in the classroom.

Author Bio
Judy Stevens recently retired as the executive director for elementary schools at Spring Branch Independent School District in Houston, Texas. She currently works with teachers and administrators to apply brain research in the classroom. Dee Goldberg is the elementary coordinator for science and technology at Spring Branch Independent School District. They both live in Houston, Texas.
Groups, Troops, Clubs and Classrooms
The Essential Handbook for Working with Youth
Susan Ragsdale, Ann Saylor

Summary
This practical handbook is for teachers, volunteers, group leaders, youth counselors, coaches, and anyone who works with young people. Find practical and motivational advice for approaching young people from a strength-based perspective. Readers will learn about how kids' brains are wired, how to create inviting classrooms and meeting spaces, and how to connect with them in meaningful, lasting ways. The authors share dozens of strategies for activating and sustaining young people's innate strengths and skills so they can become positive forces for self-realization and community betterment.

Author Bio
Susan Ragsdale and Ann Saylor are nationally recognized trainers and program consultants in the youth and community development field. As cofounders of the Center for Asset Development, they have equipped youth and adults in agencies such as AmeriCorps, the Tennessee Department of Health, and YMCA of the USA. They are the coauthors of Building Character from the Start, Great Group Games, and Ready to Go Service Projects. Susan Ragsdale lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Ann Saylor lives in Pleasant View, Tennessee.

The Courage to Lead
L. Sterling, S. Davidoff

Summary
The introduction of outcomes-based education has necessitated a change in the leadership structures within schools. New education policies have been introduced that are intended to delegate far more authority and responsibility for leadership and management to school leaders than has been the case before. This book draws on the Teacher In-service Project's experience of working with school leaders who have been engaged in the process of making the adjustment. It challenges school leaders to reflect critically on their own approaches to leadership. The book offers a learning process, rather than merely providing tips or describing facts. It is a companion text to The Learning School, as it offers a practical application of the theory and principles espoused in that text.
The Classroom Teacher's Inclusion Handbook (2nd Edition)
Practical Methods for Integrating Students with Special Needs
Jerome C. Yanoff

Summary
Fourteen types of special-needs students are discussed in this handbook on meeting the needs of a diverse student population within a mainstream classroom. Ranging from students with behavior disorders, ADHD, and mental retardation to the blind, terminally ill, and gifted and talented, each profile includes a clear definition, characteristic behaviors, and suggestions for working with that student's specific strengths and weaknesses. A section devoted to inclusion strategies helps educators set goals for special needs students, define the roles of other students in the classroom, and work with the administration if mainstream placement is unsuccessful.

Author Bio
Jerome C. Yanoff is an adjunct special education professor and a former high-school special education teacher. He is the author of The Classroom Teacher’s Trouble-Shooting Handbook and The Excellent Teacher’s Handbook. He lives in Chicago.

Becoming a Practitioner-Researcher
A Gestalt Approach to Holistic Inquiry
Paul Barber

Summary
Employing a Gestalt approach that places investigators in the center of their own practice, this is an indispensable guide for anyone undertaking inquiries in complex or changing organizational settings. Aiming to build a picture of awareness by prioritizing how people perceive, feel, and act, this resource provides entries within an ongoing practitioner-research journal throughout the text. Mini case studies to help clarify key points, as well as three extended case studies designed to illuminate the real-life drama of being a researcher are also included.

Author Bio
Paul Barber is a fellow of Roffey Park and a visiting professor within Lifelong Learning at Middlesex University. He has a private practice as a consultant and therapist and teaches group facilitation, organizational consulting, and research methodology on masters and doctorate programs at several institutions in the United Kingdom.
Team Challenges
170+ Group Activities to Build Cooperation, Communication, and Creativity
Kris Bordessa

Summary
This helpful resource is designed to offer teachers, facilitators, and parents a wide variety of activities designed to cultivate children's problem-solving skills while fostering cooperation between group members. These hands-on projects teach children to experiment with building methods, discover new uses for everyday items, try on new personas, and express themselves as they work toward a solution as a team. Team members are required to think outside the box, communicate clearly, and cooperate with each other in order to complete each task. Activities include planning a five-day trek through the mountains; building a bridge out of marshmallows, straws, and paper; and moving a group of ping-pong balls from one location to another without touching the balls directly. Children will learn not only from each other, but also from observing how other teams navigate the tasks.

Author Bio
Kris Bordessa has written for more than 50 family and educational publications, including American Girl, Nick Jr. Family Magazine, Home Education Magazine, and Parenting.

The Tactful Teacher
Effective Communication with Parents, Colleagues, and Administrators
Yvonne Bender

Summary
By equipping teachers with the tools they need to communicate effectively with colleagues, parents, and administrators, this handbook prepares them to deal successfully with and understand the dynamics of a variety of work-related situations. Especially helpful for those new to the field, this guide teaches the skills to build effective communication, tailor messages to fit their recipients, and interact with difficult people and under pressure. Using specific scenarios, such as dealing with angry parents, sharing unpleasant information, or communicating in less-than-ideal school environments, different communication strategies, and why they work, are discussed in detail. Advice is also given on handling "The Social Addiction Trap" and those tricky "what's your opinion" questions with grace and aplomb.

Author Bio
Yvonne Bender has 30 years' experience teaching at all levels, as well as mentoring new teachers. She has served on numerous school boards including the Maryland's Citizen's Review Board for Children. She is the author of The New Teacher's Handbook, The Tactful Teacher: Effective Communication with Parents, Colleagues and Administrators, and The Power of Positive Teaching. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland.
The Compassionate Classroom
Relationship Based Teaching and Learning
Sura Hart, Victoria Kindle Hodson

Summary
The Compassionate Classroom is a long awaited how-to guide for educators who care about creating a safe, productive learning environment. With 45 years combined teaching experience, Sura Hart and Victoria Kindle Hodson merge recent discoveries in brain research with the proven skills of Nonviolent Communication and come to a bold conclusion – when compassion thrives, so does learning.

Learn powerful skills to create an emotionally safe learning environment where academic excellence thrives. Build trust, reduce conflict, improve cooperation, and maximize the potential of each student as you create relationship-centered classrooms. This how-to guide is perfect for any educator, homeschool parent, administrator or mentor. Customizable exercises, activities, charts and cutouts make it easy for educators to create lesson plans for a day, a week or an entire school year. The Compassionate Classroom is the first complete curriculum for teaching NVC to elementary age students.

Author Bio
Sura Hart and Victoria Kindle Hodson share a combined 45 years of elementary teaching experience, partnered with 12 years experience learning and teaching NVC. Hart is a CNVC Certified Trainer, an experienced presenter and worldwide leader in the incorporation of NVC in schools. Hodson is the co-author of the bestselling book, Discover Your Child's Learning Style. She is a prominent speaker and co-director of the Learning Success Institute in Ventura, California.

The Power of Positive Teaching
35 Successful Strategies for Active and Enthusiastic Classroom Participation
Yvonne Bender

Summary
Valuable and innovative classroom management strategies fill this indispensable guide to effective teaching. Explained in an easy-to-follow, concise format, each 2-3-page strategy includes a brief introductory scenario illustrating the technique's usefulness in the classroom, steps to implementing the strategy, a discussion of potential problems and suggestions for managing them, and viable ideas for adapting the techniques to fit different teaching situations. Quick-reference teacher-friendly sections include strategies that gain and maintain students' attention, build teamwork, keep students organized, enhance review and reinforcement lessons, and help sustain a positive learning environment.

Author Bio
Yvonne Bender is a retired teacher with over 30 years of experience teaching in city and county public schools. She is the author of The New Teacher's Handbook. She was recently appointed by the governor of Maryland to a four-year term as a member of the Citizen's Review Board for Children. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland.
1-2-3 Magic for Teachers
Effective Classroom Discipline Pre-K through Grade 8
Thomas W., PhD Phelan, Sarah Jane Schonour

Summary
Offering advice for teachers eager to develop better discipline in the classroom, this guide provides practical methods for eliminating disruptive behavior, encouraging productive work habits, and communicating with parents. Clear lessons and straightforward language reveal how to measure discipline in a classroom environment, as well as how to handle difficult situations, such as transition times, assemblies, lunchtime, and field trips. A separate chapter for school administrators explains how to support classroom teachers in creating discipline and how to evaluate those teachers.

Author Bio
Thomas W. Phelan, PhD, is a member of the Illinois and American Psychological Associations and is the author of 1-2-3 Magic, All About Attention Deficit Disorder, and Surviving Your Adolescents. He lives in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. Sarah Jane Schonour, MA, is a special projects teacher with the Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia. She lives in Fairfax, Virginia.

Teaching Children Compassionately
How Students and Teachers Can Succeed with Mutual Understanding
Marshall B. Rosenberg

Summary
In this keynote address to a national conference of Montessori educators, Marshall Rosenberg describes his progressive, radical approach to teaching that centers on compassionate connection. Marshall describes the counterproductive role that power and punishment play in our schools, and challenges educators to motivate students instead "by a reverence for life." This practical application of Rosenberg's Nonviolent Communication (NVC) process offers educators the tools to create exceptional learning environments. This is an exceptional resource for teachers, school counselors, school administrators, child care providers and more!

Nonviolent Communication will help you:
- Maximize the individual potential of all students
- Improve trust and connection in your classroom community
- Strengthen student interest, retention and connection to their work
- Find cooperation without using demands
- Improve classroom teamwork, efficiency and results

Author Bio
Marshall Rosenberg, Ph.D., is the founder and educational director of the Center for Nonviolent Communication (CNVC). He has traveled throughout the world mediating conflict and promoting peace. www.CNVC.org
Teachers Who Change Lives
Andrew Metcalfe, Ann Game

Summary
Casting new light on the education process, this study argues that outstanding teachers do not mold students by pushing them towards external measurements of excellence but instead nurture their full potential by encouraging them to follow their passions. Some of Australia's educational elite—including Stephanie Alexander, Dawn Casey, Greg Chappell, Betty Churcher, Helen Garner, Shane Gould, and Michael Kirby—reveal the classroom experiences and influential teachers that helped shape their lives, inspiring readers to do the same.

Author Bio
Andrew Metcalfe and Ann Game are both associate professors in the School of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of New South Wales. In 2003 they were awarded the UNSW Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. They have been teaching and writing together for more than 15 years, and their previous books include The First Year Experience, The Mystery of Everyday Life, and the Amalfi Prize-nominated Passionate Sociology.

Al Siebert, Mary Karr

Summary
Whether enrolling in college for the first time or returning after an extended absence, this motivational guide provides adult students with a wealth of practical guidance. This thorough handbook explores not only how to succeed academically while balancing family, work, and other important responsibilities, but also addresses how students can learn to confront their fears, increase their self-confidence and resiliency, and create support groups. Containing essential information on financing education through loans, grants, and scholarships as well as practical tips for managing time, preparing for tests, taking effective notes, and using internet resources, this one-stop reference also includes action review checklists.

Author Bio
Al Siebert, PhD, is the author of award-winning The Resiliency Advantage and The Survivor Personality and the coauthor of Student Success: How to Succeed in College and Still Have Time for Your Friends. He has taught adult education classes and management psychology for more than 30 years at Portland State University. He lives in Portland, Oregon. Mary Karr, MS, formerly taught communications at Portland State University and was an adjunct professor at Marylhurst University who created and taught the first online credit course on listening in the nation. She lives in Fairview, Oregon.
Teaching Mathematics in Primary Schools
Robyn Zevenbergen, Shelley Dole, Robert J. Wright

Summary
A systematic, research-based introduction to the principles and practice of teaching mathematics at the primary school level, this inquiry moves beyond traditional lockstep approaches to teaching mathematics to emphasize how students can learn to think mathematically in terms of globalization and new technologies.

Author Bio
Robyn Zevenbergen, and Shelley Dole, are researchers in primary mathematics. Robert J. Wright is the author of Early Numeracy: Assessment for Teaching and Intervention and Teaching Number: Advancing Children’s Skills and Strategies.

How to Teach Math to Black Students
Student Workbook
Shahid Muhammad

Summary
Ideal for classroom use, this companion to the teachers’ textbook of the same name is geared toward African American students who have difficulty with math. The culturally relevant word problems aim to raise the racial achievement gap in mathematics by instilling confidence in struggling black students and to teach math in a less sterile, theoretical way. By invoking critical thinking skills, the workbook presents an essential understanding to basic math functions that can revolutionize a child’s ability to progress through upper grades.

Author Bio
Shahid Muhammad is a math department chair for a Chicago area school and a former professor at Grambling University. He is the author of a series of DVDs under the nickname "The Math Doctor." He lives in Chicago.
**Collins Academic Skills – Numbers**

*B2+*

Louis Rogers, Dawn Willoughby

**Summary**

Statistics and data for the non-specialist

At university you may be expected to analyse complex data and present your findings, whatever your area of study. Collins Academic Skills Series: Numbers gives you the skills you need to make sense of data and numbers and the confidence to use them effectively in your work.

Learn how to

• interpret statistics and data
• conduct surveys
• evaluate and question results
• present numerical information clearly

Collins Academic Skills Series: Numbers will help you to make the most of your time at university.

• Clear information and practical exercises
• Information on academic expectations - understand the requirements of studying at university
• Helpful tips and summaries
• Answer key and glossary

Numbers is part of a new six-book series to help international students achieve academic success at college or university. It is designed to support students who are studying, or preparing to study, at an English-speaking institution.

Suitable for students whose level of English is Upper Intermediate / CEF level B2 / IELTS 5.5 and higher.

Other titles ...

---

**The Verbal Math Lesson Book 1**

*Step-by-Step Math Without Pencil or Paper*

Charan Langton, Michael Levin

**Summary**

Everyone thinks kids hate math. But the truth is, kids don’t hate math—they hate worksheets! Writing down equations takes fine motor skills that young children haven’t yet developed, making the process of learning math difficult and tedious. Math done mentally, or verbal math, makes math fun. Children see math problems as a game and a challenge. In the second edition of this pioneering educational bestseller, handwriting is removed from math problems to help children cement fundamental mathematical skills so that they may solve problems without having to do any writing at all. Developed as a supplement to traditional math education, the lesson is completely comprehensive, step-by-step, and leaves no area undone.

The first book of the series introduces children to the basic concept of adding and subtracting, and works its way up to math problems involving numbers with double digits. The book is meant for children between the ages of 4 and 7.

**Author Bio**

Michael Levin, MD, is a physician specializing in behavioral, attentional, and learning problems in young children. He maintains a private practice in which he sees young children for various developmental and learning problems. Charan Langton, MS, is an engineer. She writes an engineering and math-focused blog at www.complexoreal.com. They are the authors of *Big Words for Little Kids* and *The Reading Lesson*. They both live in San Ramon, California.
The Verbal Math Lesson Book 2
Step-by-Step Math Without Pencil or Paper
Charan Langton, Michael Levin

Summary
Everyone thinks kids hate math. But the truth is, kids don't hate math—they hate worksheets! Writing down equations takes fine motor skills that young children haven't yet developed, making the process of learning math difficult and tedious. Math done mentally, or verbal math, makes math fun. Children see math problems as a game and a challenge. In the second edition of this pioneering educational bestseller, handwriting is removed from math problems to help children cement fundamental mathematical skills so that they may solve problems without having to do any writing at all. Developed as a supplement to traditional math education, the lesson is completely comprehensive, step-by-step, and leaves no area undone.

The second book of the series is meant for children between the ages of 8 and 10.

Author Bio
Michael Levin, MD, is a physician specializing in behavioral, attentional, and learning problems in young children. He maintains a private practice in which he sees young children for various developmental and learning problems. Charan Langton, MS, is an engineer. She writes an engineering and math-focused blog at www.complextoreal.com. They are the authors of Big Words for Little Kids and The Reading Lesson. They both live in San Ramon, California.

The Verbal Math Lesson Book 3
Step-by-Step Math Without Pencil or Paper
Charan Langton, Michael Levin

Summary
Everyone thinks kids hate math. But the truth is, kids don't hate math—they hate worksheets! Writing down equations takes fine motor skills that young children haven't yet developed, making the process of learning math difficult and tedious. Math done mentally, or verbal math, makes math fun. Children see math problems as a game and a challenge. In the second edition of this pioneering educational bestseller, handwriting is removed from math problems to help children cement fundamental mathematical skills so that they may solve problems without having to do any writing at all. Developed as a supplement to traditional math education, the lesson is completely comprehensive, step-by-step, and leaves no area undone.

The second book of the series is meant for children between the ages of 10 and 12.

Author Bio
Michael Levin, MD, is a physician specializing in behavioral, attentional, and learning problems in young children. He maintains a private practice in which he sees young children for various developmental and learning problems. Charan Langton, MS, is an engineer. She writes an engineering and math-focused blog at www.complextoreal.com. They are the authors of Big Words for Little Kids and The Reading Lesson. They both live in San Ramon, California.
Tanglers, Too!
50 More Cooperative Problem-Solving Puzzles
Paul Fleisher

Summary
Tanglers, Too! will help your students develop problem-solving skills while developing their ability to work cooperatively. In addition to enhancing reading comprehension, Tanglers help reduce teacher-dependent behavior by teaching students to rely on their own abilities and understandings as well as those of their classmates. What is a Tangler? Many of the Tanglers are logic problems, and some are math word problems. Clues to the answer are on cards that are distributed to the group of 3-6 students. No one student has enough information to solve the puzzle alone. Students must share their information and work cooperatively to reach a solution.

Author Bio
Paul Fleisher, M.Ed., teaches gifted sixth, seventh, and eighth graders in the Richmond, Virginia public schools. He conducts many workshops on topics ranging from teaching through games to cooperative-learning techniques.

Teaching Mathematics in Primary Schools (2nd Edition)
Shelley Dole, Robyn Jorgensen

Summary
Teaching Mathematics in Primary Schools moves beyond traditional lock-step approaches to teaching mathematics to emphasize how students can learn to think mathematically in the new times of globalization and a technology-rich society. Based on current international research, the book focuses on learning outcomes and the general principles that underlie educational practices rather than any specific curriculum. Current approaches to mathematics education are explained and critiqued, and insights into why some students have difficulties with mathematics are provided. Teachers are shown how to encourage their students to develop deep learning in mathematics, and to relate mathematics to the rest of the curriculum. The authors firstly examine the philosophy behind mathematics and its impact on curriculum design, the history of learning outcomes, and theories on how students learn mathematics. They then present the key areas of mathematics teaching in detail: number, chance and data, measurement, space, and algebra. In each area, the emphasis is on problem-solving. Finally, they discuss pr...

Author Bio
Robyn Jorgensen is professor of education at Griffith University. Shelley Dole is senior lecturer in Mathematics Education at the University of Queensland.
Cognitive Connections
Multiple Ways of Thinking About Math
Robert Myers

Summary
Emphasizing students' experiences and talents, this guide gets kids thinking about math in stimulating new ways. Teachers can use effective strategies for teaching thinking skills by engaging students in activities that focus on math concepts. The book highlights fostering multiple intelligences by providing a wide range of 87 activities—from drawing, acting, singing, and dancing to constructing, writing, and interacting with others.

Author Bio
Robert Myers is the author of more than 30 educational books on creative thinking and character education, including Learning from Nature. He has taught at the elementary, middle school, and university levels. As a specialist in educational psychology, he has supervised student teachers and taught methods classes.

Big Ideas for Growing Mathematicians
Exploring Elementary Math with 20 Ready-to-Go Activities
Ann Kajander

Summary
Introducing sophisticated mathematical ideas like fractals and infinity, these hands-on activity books present concepts to children using interactive and comprehensible methods. With intriguing projects that cover a wide range of math content and skills, these are ideal resources for elementary school mathematics enrichment programs, regular classroom instruction, and home-school programs. Reproducible activity sheets lead students through a process of engaged inquiry with plenty of helpful tips along the way. A list of useful terms specific to each activity encourages teachers and parents to introduce students to the vocabulary of math. This second Big Ideas book covers more advanced concepts, with projects including "One in a Million," where children use grains of rice to model the probability of astronomical odds; "Triangular Tessellations," in which students investigate the geometry and variations created by repeating patterns; and "Fractions of Salaries," where kids use a real-world scenario to multiply and divide fractions.

Author Bio
Ann Kajander is the founder of the Kindermath Enrichment Project and a mathematics professor at Lakehead University.
Educating the Net Generation
How to Engage Students in the 21st Century
Bob Pletka

Summary
Educating the Net Generation: How to Engage Students in the 21st Century addresses the national problem of escalating high-school dropout rates and student disengagement, and offers solutions as to how to best involve students of the millennial generation. The book examines the unique characteristics of the Net Generation and explains how the educational expectations and needs of the Net Generation differ from their Gen-X parents and Baby Boomer grandparents. It also looks at why many students resist engaging in formalized education in schools and ultimately drop out.

Chapters featuring student interviews and photographs synthesize the perspectives of current high school students regarding their experiences, beliefs, and thoughts on learning, while a parallel set of parent interviews reveals what parents feel is important in their child’s education and how they would like to see schools engage their children in learning.

Recommendations for changes in school policy and the financial investment critical to turning the situation around are also included, along with an inventory/check...

Author Bio
Bob Pletka, Ed.D., is the creator of My So-Called Digital Life and an associate superintendent of Vista Unified School District in Southern California. He has been a teacher in the Lake Elsinore Unified School District, an associate professor in education at National University, and a director of instruction and technology for Covina Unified School District. He also served as a city commissioner for the city of Murrieta. Bob lives with his wife, 10-year-old son, and 13-year-old daughter in Southern California.

The Fear of Maths
How to Overcome It: Sum Hope 3
Steve Chinn

Summary
Employing a practical and empathetic approach, this mathematics resource advocates for a new teaching methodology that removes any anxiety associated with math. Covering topics such as addition, multiplication tables, fractions, probabilities, algebra, and ratios, this book enables readers to feel in control and to understand, for the first time, how math can be used in one’s daily life. With techniques that link facts, procedures, and ideas, both teachers and students will find this easily accessible work provides a stable foundation upon which an advanced understanding of mathematics can be built.

Author Bio
Steve Chinn founded Mark College, an award-winning school for dyslexics, where his research on teaching mathematics has made him an internationally respected expert. He is the author of several books, including Mathematics for Dyslexics and The Trouble with Maths.
Excel for Teachers

Colleen Conmy, Bill Hazlett, Bill Jelen, Adrienne Soucy

Summary
Addressing a classroom teacher's need to simultaneously manage a classroom full of students, meet state-mandated assessment standards for students, and track students' performance against a rubric, this overview of Excel shows how to put its features to use immediately in a classroom. Tracking attendance, grades, and books in the school library, creating reports to share with parents at parent-teacher conference time, and teaching basic charting concepts in a mathematics class are among the possible uses of Excel covered in this guide.

Author Bio
Adrienne Soucy began her educational career by working with special education students and gifted and talented classes in sixth, seventh, and eighth grades, then moved to the elementary level and first grade students. She currently works as a literacy coordinator reading specialist for at-risk students. She lives in South Bend, Indiana.

Bill Jelen the principal of MrExcel.com and is the author of Mr. Excel on Excel and Guerilla Data Analysis Using Microsoft Excel. He lives in Uniontown, Ohio.

Slaying Excel Dragons DVD

53 Lessons to Make Excel Fun

Mike Girvin

Summary
Designed as an all-encompassing tutorial on how to master Microsoft Excel, this DVD and e-book package contains the complete electronic version of Slaying Excel Dragons as well as 53 videos that buttress the accompanying text. Created for anyone with no prior Excel experience, this tutorial gives firm command of the software, from basic topics such as formatting through advanced topics such as pivot tables and lookup formulas. The corresponding videos, which are all 15 minutes in length and are compatible with Windows or Macs, provide additional instruction or even an alternative means of absorbing the lesson. An ideal resource for students, professors, those entering the job market, or anyone wanting to learn or hone their Excel skills, this e-book and DVD package also includes "homework" files to ensure each lesson is fully realized.

Author Bio
Mike Girvin teaches finance, accounting, and statistics using Excel at Highline Community College. He has more than 1,400 Excel how-to videos on YouTube.com and has been teaching people how to use Excel for the past nine years. He lives in Seattle, Washington.
Super Searchers Go to School
Sharing Online Strategies with K-12 Students, Teachers, and Librarians
Joyce Kasman Valenza, Reva Basch, Doug Johnson

Summary
Using an expert interview approach to K-12 research, this book shares ideas from professional researchers on the improvement of teacher awareness of critical information skills and the importance of information fluency. How educators and librarians can intrude respectfully when research becomes a largely self-serving pursuit, what the developmental issues are in teaching searching, and what a best practice looks like are discussed. Other topics covered include motivating learners to care about improving their searching skills, selecting high quality resources, and how to engage an entire community, including classroom teachers, administrators, and parents.

Author Bio
Joyce Kasman Valenza is a librarian and the techlife@school columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. She is the author of Power Research Tools and Power Tools Recharged and is a regular contributor to Classroom Connect, VOYA, Learning and Leading with Technology, and School Library Journal. She lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Citizen Science Guide for Families
Taking Part in Real Science
Greg Landgraf

Summary
People of all ages and backgrounds can discover how to contribute to real scientific research with this handy guide. It defines citizen science, providing an overview of the social and community aspects behind the idea. The book is organized by topic and features links to library resources and descriptions of books appropriate to the subject. In addition, a section devoted to ongoing citizen-science programs includes detailed descriptions for parents and children to identify projects appropriate to their interests, abilities, commitment levels, and locations. Accessible for the whole family, this invaluable resource provides the tools for building strong families as well as improving the global community.

Author Bio
Greg Landgraf is a writer and editor. His extensive print, online, and video work includes positions with American Libraries magazine and Vance Publications, where he edited two trade magazines. He lives in Chicago.
The Art of Teaching Primary Science
Vaille Dawson, Grady Venville

Summary
Offering a systematic introduction to the fundamentals of primary science instruction, this reference offers proven techniques for engaging students both within and outside the classroom. The research-based approach explores the ways teachers can combine their knowledge with children’s innate curiosity about the natural world. Reflecting current research in science education, the theoretical underpinnings and classroom-tested strategies address the fundamental issues in teaching science in primary and early childhood years. The techniques for planning, teaching, research, and assessment cover key issues of science instruction-including scientific literacy, assimilating science and technology, and activities beyond the classroom-making this an excellent resource for teachers.

Author Bio
Vaille Dawson is senior lecturer of science education at Edith Cowan University. Grady Venville is a professor of science education at the University of Western Australia. Both have extensive experience as teacher educators and are the editors of The Art of Teaching Science.

On Teaching Science
Principles and Strategies That Every Educator Should Know
Jeffrey Bennett

Summary
Focusing on solutions specific to science and math education both for K-12 and college, this book explores how students learn in general and helps teachers develop successful techniques for the classroom.

On Teaching Science is a short, practical guide to key principles and strategies that will help students learn in any subject at any level but with special focus on the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) subjects. Though aimed primarily at current and future teachers, the ideas covered will be of interest to anyone involved in education, including parents, school administrators, policymakers, community leaders, and research scientists. The book describes how important it is to instill the notion that learning requires study and effort; presents big picture ideas about teaching; provides general suggestions for successful teaching; and includes pedagogical strategies for success in science teaching. With a combination of personal experience and research-based studies to discuss the current state of education in the United States, the author shows how it can be ...

Author Bio
Jeffrey Bennett, winner of the 2013 American Institute of Physics Science Communication Award, is an astrophysicist and educator who proposed the idea for and helped develop the Voyage Scale Model Solar System—the first science-oriented exhibit approved for permanent installation on the National Mall in Washington, DC. He is the lead author of college textbooks in four subjects-astronomy, astrobiology, mathematics, and statistics—and has written critically acclaimed books for the general public including Beyond UFOs and On the Cosmic Horizon. He is also the author of children’s books, including those in the Science Adventures with Max the Dog series and The Wizard Who Saved the World. He lives in Boulder, Colorado.
Elementary Nutrition and Activity Journal
Betty Kern

Summary
Developed to encourage a healthier lifestyle among youth, this log allows preteens to make connections between the exercise they get, the food they eat, and how it all affects their health. Utilizing the government's new food pyramid, the guide reveals students' nutritional needs and helps them categorize food choices according to the food groups in the pyramid. They can then apply this information as they make healthier food choices daily and record their eating habits in the journal. Including chapters on sleep basics and meals and snacks, the handbook also focuses on setting and achieving fitness goals that will help students qualify for awards in the President's Challenge Award Program.

Author Bio
Betty Kern, MS, CSCS, is a professional educator with more than 15 years of experience and certifications in mathematics and physical education. She is a certified strength and conditioning specialist (CSCS) through the National Strength and Conditioning Association. She is the author of Middle School Physical Education Activity and Nutrition Journal and Personal Wellness for the Christian College Student. She lives in Mogadore, Ohio.

Intermediate Nutrition and Activity Journal
Betty Kern

Summary
This workbook follows the format of the Nutrition and Activity Journal, but its stats and figures are geared towards 6th-8th graders. The log allows preteens to make connections between the exercise they get, the food they eat, and how it all affects their health.

Author Bio
Betty Kern is a professional educator with more than 15 years experience, holding certifications in mathematics and physical education and a Master's degree in exercise physiology and adult fitness. She is a certified strength and conditioning specialist through the National Strength and Conditioning Association. She lives in Mogadore, Ohio.
A Simple Guide to Getting in to College
Heather Case

Summary
Distilling the college admission process down to less than 100 pages, A Simple Guide to Getting in to College provides real, effective advice from high school college admissions counselors without gimmicks or tricks. Containing no unnecessary clutter and requiring no tedious reading, the book offers step-by-step instructions on how to navigate the entire process, from acing college admissions tests, selecting the appropriate colleges, and writing an exceptional essay to completing the applications, scheduling campus visits, and lining up financial aid.

Author Bio
Heather Case works as a college counselor at an independent school in Indiana. She also works with students and their families as an independent consultant and teaches online courses at www.SimpleGuidetoGettingIn.com. She lives in Fort Wayne, Indiana.