Frequently Asked Questions: Curriculum Collection

The Curriculum Collection Website is  http://uwm.edu/libraries/curriculum/
The Curriculum Collection Book Lists LibGuide is  http://guides.library.uwm.edu/CCM_booklists

1. How can I search for items that are only in the Curriculum Collection at UW-Milwaukee?

Start with the search bar located on the Curriculum Collection website. A search from this bar will only bring up items that are housed in CCM unless the copy which we own is checked out. If our copy is unavailable, the catalog will bring up holdings from other campuses which you may request.

Beware: if you decide to limit the results, or to do another search entirely, make sure to change the type of search from Everything to Books & Media (UWM) in the drop down. The system defaults to the "Everything" setting.

2. Do you have book lists?

We have created several using LibGuides, and we are continually adding more. You can find a link to them on the Curriculum Collection website.

3. Can you help me find autobiographies and biographies for students in grades 1-3?

Most autobiographies and biographies are in the nonfiction section in the 921s. Biographical information about pairs or groups of people are generally found in the 920s. Check the catalog under the name of the person/people whose biography you are searching for to find exact call numbers.

4. How many books can I check out?

There is, for all intents and purposes, no limit on how many items you can have checked. We do, however, suggest that you return things when you're finished with them so that you don't run the risk of forgetting about them and accruing fines unnecessarily.

5. Where can I find picture books?

All of our picture books can be found in the stacks on the east end (or right side when facing the stacks from the Circulation Desk). On these shelves you will find all picture books labeled with "PICT" on the call number label and orange tape on the spine.

6. Which children’s books use different vernacular or dialects? (AAVE, Southern, Hispanic, Eastern, etc)

Helpful sources for African American, related dialects, and "Nonstandard English" are the CCM Reference books titled  Black Books Galore--2 editions (1998 and 2001) have different listings and if dialect use is heavy throughout the book the type of dialect will be noted. For Hispanic, Eastern, Pennsylvania Dutch and other types, the best alternative is to search the "group label" (Hispanic, Mexican American, Korean, etc.) as a key word search and add "vocabulary" or "language" as an additional search term.

7. Where are the PRAXIS books?

All PRAXIS test guides are shelved in the general stacks. The call numbers for them are in the area of LB 1762.
8. Where are the award winning books? Do you have lists?

CCM has a large collection of award winning titles, including recipients of the Américas, Caldecott, Newbery, Coretta Scott King, Stonewall, and Pura Belpre awards. The Reference Collection includes copies of the majority of the Caldecott, Newberry, and Américas winners — note: these copies do not circulate, but you can use them within the library.

We also have circulating copies of most of them. To view a list of the award winning titles, you can click on the link “Curriculum Collection Book Lists” on the Library page for the Curriculum Collection. The Guide has pages that include complete listings of the Américas, Newbery, & Caldecott winners, and separate lists for the ones for which have reference and/or circulating copies. All of the Coretta Scott King and Pura Belpre awards winners we have are in the circulating collection.

The circulating copies of the award-winners are dispersed throughout the main CCM Collection. To find them, you can start from the library's Curriculum Collection home page and conduct a search with the name of the literary award you want to find (the cataloging record for many of them include the awards they've won in the descriptions). Another way to find books from lesser known awards may be to perform a Google search and then look in the catalog for the titles on those lists. There are also some books on the CCM Reference Shelves and the Zs in the general library stacks that contain lists other awards and the winners, e.g. The Newbery/Printz Companion or The Ultimate Teen Book Guide.

In our collection, the Newbery and Caldecott winners have stickers on their spine – if you’re not looking for a specific title, you might just look in the stacks for them.

9. What / Where is the Historical Collection?

The Historical Collection no longer exists - it has been reintegrated into the collection, either into Special Collections or back into the CCM stacks. If you find something in the catalog still marked as being part of the Historical Collection, please bring it to the attention of the Curriculum Collection staff so that we can look into why it is still tagged that way.

10. Where are the bilingual and non-English books?

The vast majority of the bilingual and Non-English children’s books are found in the 400 Nonfiction section of the CCM Collection. For the most part, these books are organized by language (i.e. Spanish books with 460 call numbers). Those that are not categorized this way are likely to be small dictionaries/language-learning books or may contain multiple languages.

11. Do you have books of poetry for children?

Yes, we do! Many of our poetry books are located in the non-fiction section under the non-fiction call number which begins with 811 (includes all various forms of the call number, such as 811.01 or 811.54, etc.).
12. Where are the collections of Fairy Tales?

Collections Fairy Tales are generally located in the 398s in the non-fiction section, but individual tales will be located in the appropriate area – e.g. picture book versions of a single Hans Christian Anderson story will be in the Picture Book section using Anderson's "shelf number" of A544, or if we have Board Book it will be in the corresponding spot there.

13. Is this a quiet study area?

Yes and No. The glassed-in area behind the Music Library stacks is a designated quiet study space. While people should not be working in groups there, it is not a silent space because sounds from other sections of the floor may potentially carry into it. The area that is now the Digital Humanities Lab is often quite noisy because they use microphones and have public events—and there is no complete sound barrier. In addition, the areas around the Music and Curriculum stacks are, in fact, group study tables. So while it is usually quieter than other parts of the building, the only really quiet study areas are the Lower Level East Wing by compact shelving. Much of 2-West and 3-West are quiet areas as well. We do ask that conversation should not disturb other patrons, headphones must always be worn when listening to audio, and the volume should be kept low. Please go to the foyers or the Grind to carry on cell phone conversations.

14. Where are the textbooks?

Student and Teacher’s editions of K-12 Textbooks are located near the west end of the CCM Collection stack, just after the Nonfiction area. They are arranged in order by subject, publisher, and year. We also carry a few supplemental readers, study guides, and workbooks that are available for check out.

We do not generally have textbooks for UWM classes—if your teacher has said that there will be a textbook on reserve for your use, it will be in the Media and Reserve Library.

15. Can you help me find books on teaching (Shakespeare, Math, Drama, Reading, etc).

Books on teaching specific subjects can be found in the general stacks. To search for books about teaching specific subjects, it would be best to use Search@UW and limit to Books & Media at UWM.

16. Where are the books about education?

The majority of books about teaching and learning styles are in other parts of the library. They are, for the most part, the LB and LC stacks, located on the third floor of the West Wing.

17. Are there Curriculum Guides in the Curriculum Collection?

No. Not as such. There are books in the L section of the library that may include some, but we do not have a specific collection of them. Many guides, however, can be found online.

18. Do we have any books on careers aimed at young adults?

Not for every career, and not all of what we have is up-to-date. There are some books about careers scattered throughout the non-fiction section. Because most of them are on the older side, your best bet for the most up-to-date information is the US Government's Occupational Outlook Handbook, which is free and available online at http://www.bls.gov/ooh/
19. Is it true that you have graphic novels?

Yes, we do! The graphic novels in Curriculum are interfiled with the rest of the books. If they are non-fiction then they'll be with their subject, if they are fiction they'll be by author just like any other book. Look for a green (non-fiction) or red (fiction) sticker on the spine that says graphic novel.

There are many more (those which focus on more adult themes) in the general stacks and in the browsing collection by the Media and Reserve Library, as well as some non-circulating series in the Special Collections Library on the fourth floor of the East Wing.

20. Where can I find books geared towards late-kindergarten, early first grade children?

These books are not separated within the collection in that fashion. You can search Curriculum Collection from the website, using “Children’s and Young Adult Books” or fill in “picture books” as a limiting search factor. You can also check the word count, picture references to the text, and number of pages to accurately gauge the grade level. Books in fiction and non-fiction that are intended for beginning readers have a sticker on the spine like this.

21. How can I find out about what kinds of multicultural books you have available?

These books are also completely integrated into the general CCM stacks, with no separate section. Many are not be tagged with a broad category like “multicultural,” so a search using that term may not yield a precise or complete result. What you can do is start from the Curriculum Collection page and perform searches using terms that are related to the aspect of culture you’re looking into (i.e. “kwanza”; “Africa”; “African-American”; “tradition”; “holiday” and so forth). Keep changing up your terms until you find something that works for you.

We also have a small collection of reference books that may help you discover multicultural books. These include titles like Multicultural Picture Books, Across Cultures: A Guide to Multicultural Literature for Children, and Black Books Galore! Many more reference guides can be found in the general stacks in the Z section.

22. Are there any books on math and science that are not textbooks?

Yes. Our math and science nonfiction texts can be found in the section ranging between the 500 and 700 call numbers. If looking for fiction titles, search by keyword and possibly add a second limiting factor of “picture books”.

23. Are there Big Books?

Yes, there are: they are shelved on the outermost shelf facing the Digital Humanities lab (not the study carrels), closest to the wall and the reading nook with the window.

24. Where are the Board Books?

Board books are on the second shelving unit from the right, just before the picture books.