

BOOKS

By DICK MILLER
Highland School Librarian

The following list--SEVEN WAYS THE SCHOOL LIBRARY HELPS YOUR CHILD--has been published and is available from the Publications Division of the National Education Association. It was prepared in cooperation with the American Association of School Librarians and the cost is \$1 for 35 copies.

1. **THE READING HABIT.** The reading habit is one of the most useful assets your child can possess. It is the key to success in school and to the enrichment of life. A child who learns HOW to read does not automatically become a continuous reader, unless he has access to interesting and challenging materials. In the school library, children who have been taught HOW to read get the reading habit.

John Hersey, best-selling author, spoke out recently on behalf of school libraries and the joys of reading. He said: "School is where the book habit grows, if ever it does, and elementary school is where the habit is born, if at all."

2. **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.** A good school library helps your child improve achievement in English and other basic subjects. A 1963 Project Talent report by the University of Pittsburgh found that an adequate school library is one of the most important factors contributing to student achievement in English.



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In science too, the school library is of great importance. Hilary Deason, director of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, said: "A good school library is essential to the teaching of science in the elementary school." Both the child and the teacher need a constant flow of new and well-written science materials. The eager science student is discouraged by outdated, outgrown science textbooks. In all subjects--modern languages, mathematics, social studies, health education--the school library helps to extend knowledge and achievement.

3. **SUCCESS IN COLLEGE.** Your child is much more likely to succeed in college if he has had systematic training in the use of a school library. This news comes from the Dean of Freshmen at a major university, where studies of admission tests show a high correlation between scores on a library orientation test and success in doing college work.

At another leading university, the Dean of Freshmen has emphasized the importance of library training in high school: "This kind of skill . . . can save a freshman one to two semesters of course work here."

4. **CHOICE OF A CAREER.** Few decisions are more important to your child than his choice of a career. In this area, the school library can offer substantial help.

The librarian works closely with the entire school staff to interpret your child's growth patterns and supply guidance when needed. The librarian is a unique member of the school team, ideally situated and trained to follow your child's needs and progress over a period of several years. The librarian's observations of reading tastes and abilities often supply clues to the best choice of a career.

5. **TALENT SEARCH.** Is your child gifted in a particular way? Does he excel in science, art, music, or sports?

The school librarian is often the one to discover that a child--your child--has some talent that needs encouragement and development. This development of talent is important not only to you and your child but to the country as a whole.

Experiences in schools across the nation reveal that gifted children reach their maximum potential when they have the resources of an excellent school library. Schools that specialize in the education of gifted children provide from 10 to 25 library books per student.

6. **INDEPENDENT STUDY.** In the school library, your child learns to study independently. The library can supply whatever materials he needs--books, magazines, pamphlets, maps,

Piano Classes At Doolittle Center



IN ORDER to enhance the cultural growth of our youngsters, classes in music theory and piano lessons are being offered at Doolittle Center on Tuesday and Thursday evenings with Mrs. Grace McGlothen as instructor.

Many people can very well remember the successful piano recital held last May showing how much progress the boys and girls made in less than a year. An operetta was also presented as an added attraction. It is hoped that another program of this nature or better will be presented in early May. Parents are urged to send their children to classes regularly. For further information, please call Doolittle Center, 385-1221, ext. 365.

PIANO CLASS--Seated (l-r) Bonita Wickliffe (at piano), Michael Buckles, Vanessa Roberson, Geraldine White, Jessie Howard and Debra Buckles. Standing (l-r) Grace McGlothen, Instructor, Willie Ormond, Jacqueline Schneider, Hattie Carter, Lorenzo Ormond, Jerrina McKinney, Margaret Schneider, Eloise Jenson and Patricia Wilson.

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pictures, films, records, and other nonbook materials.

The school library provides a wide range of materials for class projects, individual reports, and new units on different subjects. The librarian guides and assists your child in finding the right material at the right time. Your child may use these materials to prepare a class assignment or to explore a fresh interest on his own.

Textbooks and programed instruction supply the central core of instruction, which must be supplemented and enriched by the school library. Independent study begins in the primary grades and yields many dividends if stressed throughout your child's school career.

7. **THE EXPLOSION OF KNOWLEDGE.** We live in a world of change and innovation. Among the everyday words a child uses are words unknown to his grandparents when they were children--astronaut, detergent, laundromat, megaton, sputnik, television. These words exemplify a world which has changed more in the past 50 years than in the preceding 500 years.

In the next 50 years, the changes may be even more drastic and dramatic. The child today must prepare for a world of tomorrow which few people can imagine.

Today it is not enough for your child to learn a specific body of knowledge. He must prepare himself for a lifetime of re-education and re-training. For this unknown and exciting future, the school library is an essential tool. It is flexible and practical. It is one of the most effective "teaching machines."

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