Collection Development Planning: Creating the Mosaic

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NC DPI
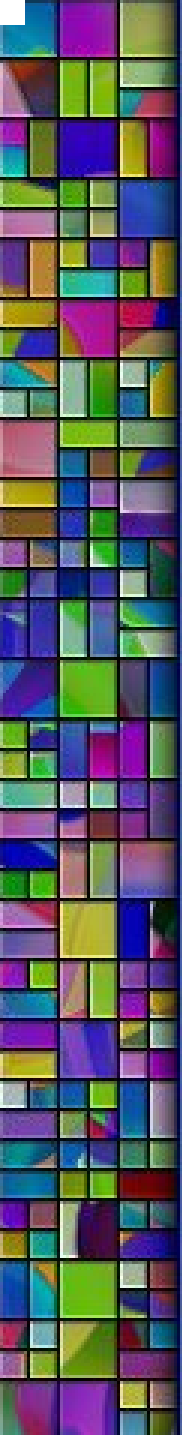
The Challenge

Deliver

1. The right information
2. To the right person
3. At the right time
4. In the right format
5. And in the right location

Loertscher, David V. and May Lein Ho.
Collection Mapping in the LMC, 1996.

IMPACT:
Guidelines for NC Media and Technology Programs, 2005

Creating the Collection "Mosaic"

- Assessing the current collection
- Analyzing collection data results
- Developing a plan

Role of the MTAC

- Input on selection
- Input on collection development planning
- Assistance with weeding

Assessment Determines If the Collection:

- Meets curricular and instructional needs
- Meets the needs of diverse learners
- Meets interests, reading levels, developmental levels
- Meets school improvement goals
- Meets the needs of the total school program

Making the Case

Using output measures requires much more than mastering formulas and collecting data. A good understanding of what information each measure conveys, judicious selection of which measures to use, and careful construction of your case are all necessary for presenting convincing data to support a proposal and their use can guide your planning.

Bradburn, Frances. *Output Measures for School Library Media Programs,*1999.

Assessment Methods: Quantitative

- Statistics by materials type
- Analysis by copyright date
- Circulation statistics
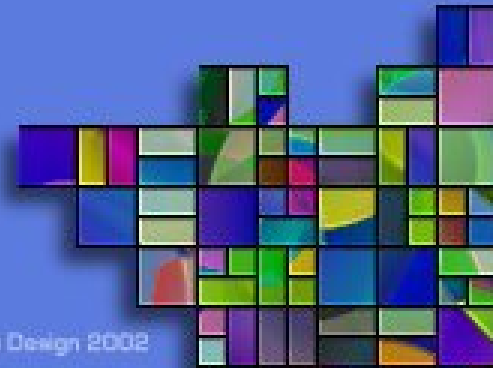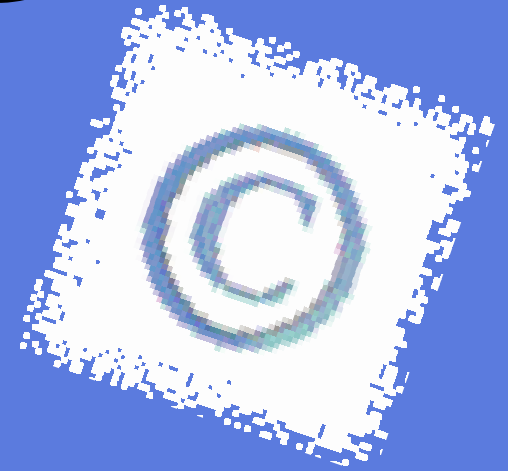
Automated Assessments

- Follett Titlewise

  http://www.flr.follett.com

- Sagebrush

  http://www.sagebrushcorp.com

Assessment Methods: Qualitative

- Direct examination for alignment with curriculum topics, instructional units, etc.

- Comparison with standard selection sources, bibliographies, etc.

- Input from students and staff

Weed Before You Start!

- Weeding criteria (copyright date, condition, reading/interest level, etc.)
- Weeding guidelines
- "Big Five"
  - Science
  - Health and Technology
  - Geography and History
  - Gov't/Economics
  - Reference

The Collection Development Plan: Presenting the Information

- Analyze the data gathered to identify gaps and weaknesses

- Prioritize areas of need

- Develop a long-term plan (5 years) to address areas of need and keep the collection current

Approaches to Creating a Collection Development Plan

- Mapping the collection
- Resource alignment
- Systematic random sampling

Collection Mapping

- Collect data on number/copyright dates of items

- Examine quality of resources (e.g. for instructional units)

- Create a bar graph/pie chart of the collection

Resource Alignment

- Collect data on number/copyright dates of items

- Use Collection Analysis Form to identify resource strengths and weaknesses

- Prioritize needs – divide over several years

- Determine needed funds

- Prepare accompanying narrative with rationale

Random Sampling

"…a sample can be used to make generalizations about the entire collection. The sample must be representative…carefully chosen so it contains all of the characteristics of the library collection."

Doll, Carol A., and Pamela P. Barron.
Collection Analysis for the School Library
Media Center: A Practical Approach, 1991.

The Collection Plan…

- Cycles through the entire collection during the 5 years
- Addresses time-sensitive resources for currency (reference, science, geography, etc.)
- Addresses fiction and picture books each year
- Should be reviewed annually

Questions

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