
Though this book is UK-based and intended for public librarians, it would equally serve any youth librarian, school librarians included. It does suffer from the difficulty of being current and contemporary in an ever-changing information environment, but it is relevant and useful to have some 'lighthouse' pointers to begin a range of search options as we serve youth clientele.

The chapters start from the general and work toward the specific. Section 1 looks at books, dictionaries, online libraries, search engines and the like. Some of the guides are to hard copy sources, but most refer to online sources. Sources have been chosen on the basis of their usefulness and clarity for the intended audience (mostly children/YAs, though some are directed to librarians and parents). Sources, which involve subscriptions mostly, have not been included, because many are commonly available free at public libraries. Early sections encompass general knowledge such as discoveries, inventions, flags, money, Olympics, population, space exploration, weather and weights and measures. General interest is also covered in Part 4, which deals with hobbies, leisure and a great variety of sports.

Parts 2 and 3 focus on sources to meet the needs of school-based enquiries. The discussion necessarily informs the UK curriculum, but there is much in common with youth enquiries around the globe. The areas covered include art sources, design and technology, English literature, geography, history, ICT, maths, languages, music, PE, science and religious education. These parts also offer sources on pastoral care issues such as alcohol, bereavement, bullying, drugs, smoking, home education, sexual health, special needs education and work experience.

Each chapter begins with 'typical' reference questions which librarians in public and school libraries face regularly, followed by an overview of the subject. While there is a relationship with the curricula for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland and subject-specific chapters, this is a minor focus in the overall work. In all of the 'Where to Look' parts of each chapter there is a mixture of hard copy and websites.

The book has a detailed index so that any crossovers, like music, have nine different page references to explore in the book. Even for library enquiries in Australia and New Zealand there are useful book references and websites/databases which are not nation-specific or curriculum-specific, and this volume would be useful to have on hand on the reference desk for fast reference enquiries.

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