

## AMERICAN READER COLLECTION

### I. Purpose and Program Description

#### A. Library's Collection Development Objectives

The American Reader Collection seeks to document, through the collecting of readers, the history and evolution of reading instruction in America. Our objective is to supplement, as opportunity presents itself, the existing collection of readers. This collection will support courses related to education history and scholarship in this area.

#### B. The selector for material to be included in the American Reader Collection shall be designated "Adjunct Curator" of the collection and will normally be the general library's education selector.

#### C. Areas of Specialization

1. McGuffey Readers and similar primers.
2. Dick and Jane readers and their contemporaries.
3. Noah Webster spellers and subsequent spelling books.

### II. General Selection Guidelines

#### A. Treatment of Subject Depth

The adjunct curator will seek to maintain the collection depth at level 2.

#### B. Specific Delimitations

1. Sampling will be used (selections out of series, random books, etc.)
2. Whole series may be collected sparingly.
3. Readers are primary focus and not other curriculum subject areas.
4. Collection will include English language materials only.
5. Primary focus will be English North American readers with perhaps some British readers.
6. Materials should be at least twenty years old for inclusion.
7. Collection is limited to monographs.

## Notes

- A. The initial collection consists of about ninety linear feet of books transferred from general stacks to the Rare Collections. Additional books will be added over time.
- B. BYU is a partner in Utah's "Textbook Adoption Program." This program supplies the HBLL with a yearly supply of educational textbooks, including reading books. Samples of these texts are added to the general collection before discarding the yearly inventory. Every two to three years the general library reader collection will be reviewed by adjunct curator for possible transfer to Special Collections "American Reader Collection" and must be approved by the Special Collections Board of Curators.
- C. Additions of over ten linear feet to the American Reader Collection by transfer from the general stack or by donation must be approved by the Special Collections Board of Curators.

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