



## Guide to Children's Literature

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The following reference sources provide information relevant to children's literature. They are available in the reference collection, stacks or via the web as indicated. This is not a comprehensive listing.

[Anthology Indexes](#)  
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### Guides and Handbooks

***Beacham's Guide to Literature for Young Adults*** Ref Z 1037 .A1 G85 1989  
A multi-volume compilation of analytical essays and study activities for fictional and biographical works written for young adults. A short biography about the author of each analyzed work is included.

**[Cambridge Guide to Children's Books in English](#)** Ref PR 990 .C36 2001  
A reference providing a critical overview of children's book written in English from pre-Norman times to the present. The reference contains entries listed by authors, titles, topics and technical terms.

***Children's and Young Adult Literature Handbook: a research and reference guide***  
Stacks Z1037 .A1 G475 2005  
This reference is designed to serve as a selection guide and collection development aid for librarians, as well as a navigation tool for researchers.

***Masterplots II Juvenile and Young Adult Literature Series.***  
Ref Z 1037 .A1 M377 1991  
This reference provides in-depth information about literary works of interest to young adults. Biographies, autobiographies and fiction are included. Entries contain lengthy descriptions of content and an analysis of themes.

***Oxford Companion to Children's Literature*** Stacks PN 1008.5 .C37 1984  
A comprehensive reference source covering both British and American children's literature. Entries are alphabetically arranged and are cross-referenced. There is biographical information on authors and the history of children's literature publishing.

## Encyclopedias

***Continuum Encyclopedia of Children's Literature*** Ref PN 1008.5 .C66 2001

A comprehensive single-volume reference describing the development and current trends in children's literature throughout the world. There are 97 topical entries and 1,200 biographical entries on authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults.

***International Companion Encyclopedia of Children's Literature***

Stacks PN 1008.5 .I57 2004

Scholarly essays on children's literature with a British emphasis.

## Dictionaries

***Children's Literature Dictionary*** Ref PN 1008.5 .L38 2002

This dictionary contains a complete and concise definition of 325 terms relevant to children's literature. The terms are arranged in a cross-referenced index of entries by subject. The organizational structure also uses See and See Also references within the dictionary entries.

The following five dictionaries contain entries that include titles, authors, characters and settings based on books of fiction for young audiences. All books included have either won or been finalists for major awards for children's literature.

***Dictionary of American Children's Fiction, 1859-1959: Books of Recognized Merit*** Ref PS 374 .C454 H45 1985

***Dictionary of American Children's Fiction, 1960-1984: Recent Books of Recognized Merit*** Ref PS374 .C454 H45 1986

***Dictionary of American Children's Fiction, 1985-1989: Books of Recognized Merit*** Ref PS 374 .C454 H45 1993

***Dictionary of American Children's Fiction, 1990-1994: Books of Recognized Merit*** Ref PS 374 .C454 H45 1996

***Dictionary of American Children's Fiction, 1995-1999: Books of Recognized Merit*** Ref PS 374 .C454 H45 2002

***Dictionary of British Children's Fiction: Books of Recognized Merit***

Ref PR 830 .C513 H4 1989

A two volume reference set that describes children's literature of the British Isles. The books included in this reference are those books that have won or been finalist for major awards in children's literature. The reference contains entries listed by titles, authors, characters and some miscellaneous entries.

## Biographical Sources

***Authors and Illustrators of Children's Books: Writings on Their Lives and Works***

Stacks PN 1009 .A1 H58

Biographical information for 50 children's book authors and illustrators along with literary criticisms of their works.

***Authors of Books for Young People*** Stacks PN 497 .A97 1990

This biographical reference includes brief entries on nearly 4,000 children's authors and illustrators.

***Black Authors and Illustrators of Books for Children and Young Adults: A Biographical Dictionary*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 R63 1999

A collection of brief biographical and bibliographical entries for 274 African-American authors and illustrators of children's books.

***Children's Fiction 1900-1950*** Stacks PR 888 .C513 1998

This reference book covers 206 celebrated writers of children's fiction from 1900 -1950. The reference focuses on artwork produced during this period, especially "dust wrappers" and "dust jackets."

***Directory of Indiana Children's Authors and Illustrators*** Ref Z 1037 .D57 1997

This directory lists 169 living authors and illustrators with Indiana connections. Each entry contains demographic information, a short biography and a listing of their published books. An author index and a geographic index is included in the directory.

***Dictionary of Literary Biography*** Ref PN 451 .D53

Each of the following volumes contains biographical sketches of authors, illustrators or poets, bibliographies and descriptions and critical analyses of each individual's works.

- Volume 22 ***American Writers for Children, 1900-1960***
- Volume 42 ***American Writers for Children Since 1900***
- Volume 52 ***American Writers for Children Since 1960***
- Volume 61 ***American Writers for Children Since 1960: Poets, Illustrators, and Nonfiction Authors***
- Volume 141 ***British Children's Writers, 1880-1914***
- Volume 160 ***British Children's Writers, 1914-1960***
- Volume 161 ***British Children's Writers, Since 1960***
- Volume 163 ***British Children's Writers, 1800-1880***

The following references books contain a collection of biographical and autobiographical sketches of authors and illustrators of children's books. Photographs are included for authors and examples of illustrator's work are frequently shown. A list of the authors or illustrators works is found at the end of the entries.

***The Junior Book of Authors*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 J8 1951

***More Junior Authors*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 J8 1963

***Fourth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 J8 1978

***Fifth Book of Junior Author and Illustrators*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 J8 1983

***Sixth Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 J8 1989

***Seventh Book of Junior Authors and Illustrators*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 J8 1996

***Something About the Author*** Ref PN 451 .S6 1971-

This multi-volume reference set contains biographical information on authors and illustrators of children's books. Each entry gives highlights related to personal and career information, writings of the author or illustrators and interesting sidelights and many entries include biographical/critical sources.

***St. James Guide to Children's Writers*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 T9 1999

This reference includes more than 700 English-language authors and illustrators of children's literature. The majority of the book focuses on literature created after 1900. Each entry includes a short biography, a complete list of published works and signed literary essays.

**St. James Guide to Young Adult Writers** Ref PN 1009 .A1 T94 1999

This reference includes comprehensive information on almost 500 authors and illustrators of young adult literature. Each entry includes a short biography, a complete list of published works and signed literary essays.

**Writers for Children: Critical Studies of Major Authors Since the Seventeenth Century** Ref PN 1009 .A1 W73 1988

This reference contains critical essays on selected classics in children's literature from the seventeenth to the early twentieth century.

**Yesterday's Authors of Books for Children: Facts and Pictures about Authors and Illustrators of Books for Young People, From Early Times to 1960.**

Ref PN 451 .Y4

This two volume reference set uses quotations and diary entries to provide an overview of the lives and works of children's authors and illustrators before 1961. Many pictures and illustrations are included in the volumes.

### **Bibliographies**

**Best Books for Children: Preschool Through Grade 6** Ref Z 1037 .G48 2006

Brief annotations of recommended fiction and nonfiction books. The books are arranged by author within subject areas. Indexes for author, illustrator, title and subject/grade level are included.

**Best Books for Young Adult Readers** Ref Z 1037 .C176 1997

Brief annotations of recommended fiction and nonfiction books. The books are arranged by author within subject areas. Indexes for author, title and subject/grade level are included.

**The Best in Children's Books: the University of Chicago Guide to Children's Literature 1973-1978** Ref Z 1037 .A1 S92

**1979-1984** Ref Z 1037 .A1 S93 1986

**1985-1990** Ref Z 1037 .A1 S96 1991

These volumes contain selected recommended reviews that appeared in the *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*. There are six indexes included which include title, developmental, values, curricular use, reading level and subject.

**Elementary School Library Collection: A Guide to Books and Other Media**

Ref Z 1037 .E4 1996

This resource is a collection development aid that lists more than 10,000 titles of children's material available in various formats. The book is divided into three areas, a Classified Catalog, Indexes and Appendixes. The Classified Catalog contains bibliographic information for each title in the collection. Author, title and subject indexes are provided. There are appendixes for materials for preschool children, books for independent reading as well as an author's series and a publisher's series.

**Plays for Children and Young Adults: An Evaluative Index and Guide, Supplement 1, 1989-1994** Stacks PN 1627 .K37 1991

This resource provides reviews for 3,560 plays for children, ages 5-18, published between 1975 and 1989. The plays are indexed by title, subject, genre and playing time.

***The Young Adult Reader's Advisor*** Ref Z 1037 .Y674 1992

A two volume set that lists the best in literature and language arts, mathematics and computer science, social sciences and history and science and health.

### **Award Winning Books**

***Children's Books: Awards and Prizes*** Ref Z 1037 .A2 W47a 1996

This reference is a listing by the name of the award of almost all the American and important international and foreign English language children's book awards. There is a brief description of the history of each award and the criterion for selection is included.

The following volumes consist primarily of the speeches given by the recipients of the Caldecott or Newbery awards. Some background information about the books is presented prior to the text of the speech. There are also biographical or autobiographical sketches included for each person.

***Caldecott Medal Books, 1938-1957 with the Artist's Acceptance Papers and Related Materials Chiefly from the Horn Book Magazine***

Ref Z 1037 .A2 M49

***Newberry and Caldecott Medal Books: 1956-1965, with Acceptance Papers, Biographies and Related Materials Chiefly for the Horn Book Magazine***

Ref Z 1037 .A2 K5 1965

**1966-1975** Ref Z 1037 .A2 K5 1975

**1976-1985** Ref Z 1037 .A2 K5 1986

***Newberry Medal Books, 1922-1955 with their Authors Acceptance Papers and Related Materials Chiefly from the Horn Book Magazine***

Ref Z 1037 .A2 M5

***The Coretta Scott King Awards, 1970-2004*** Ref Z 1037 .A2 C67 2004 (also Online)

Celebrates 35 years of African-American contributions to children's literature with annotated listings of works by winners of the Coretta Scott King Award from 1969 through 2004. Biographies and photos of writers and illustrators are included, and a 16-page color section features illustrations from award-winning books.

***The Newbery and Caldecott Awards: A Guide to the Medal and Honor Books***

Ref Z 1037 .A2 N474 2005

This book describes the prestigious medals awarded for children's literature by the American Library Association. A list of all the winners is included along with author, illustrator and title indexes.

***Newbery and Caldecott Medalists and Honor Book Winners: Bibliographies and Resource Materials through 1991*** Ref Z 1037 .A2 B76 1992

This reference is a guide to the 327 authors and illustrators who have received the 529 Newbery and Caldecott Medals and Honor Book recognitions since the awards were initiated. Each author/illustrator entry lists the awards received, a bibliography and background reading suggestions.

### **Characters**

***Characters in Children's Literature*** Ref Z 1037 .A1 J78 1997

A reference describing more than 1,700 characters from 230 works of children's fiction. One hundred and fifty-two major 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century authors of works of historical, literary and educational importance are represented. The essay on each title starts with a brief plot synopsis followed by a description of the main characters.

***Characters in Young Adult Literature*** Ref Z 1037 .A1 G47 1997

This reference describes more than 2,000 characters from 232 literary works by 148 authors. The essay on each title begins with a brief plot synopsis followed by a description of the main characters.

***Who's Who in Children's Books: A Treasury of the Familiar Characters of Childhood*** Ref PN 1009 .A1 F575

The book describes favorite characters from children's literature. There are illustrations and pictures included in the book.

### **Book Reviews**

***Book Review Digest*** 1905-2002/03 Index Z 1219 .C96

This is a selective listing which includes excerpts from reviews of many types of books. Entries are listed alphabetically by author and there is a subject/title index.

***Book Review Index*** 1965-1984 and 1985-1992 (cumulative index), 1993- Index Z 1035 .A1 B6

A comprehensive listing of book reviews. Citations are given for popular, scholarly and technical books. Reviews are listed alphabetically by the author and there is a title index. There are two cumulative index sets and annual indexes after 1992.

***Children's Book Review Index: Master Cumulation*** 1965-1984 and 1985-1994 Ref Z 1037 .A1 C475 1985

This index lists reviews for over 55,000 children's books. It is arranged alphabetically by author and also contains a parallel title index if the author is not known.

***Children's Literature Review*** Ref Z 1037 .A1 C55

This index includes excerpts from reviews, criticism and commentary on books for children and young people. It includes cumulative author, nationality and title indexes.

### **Anthology Indexes**

***Fiction, Folklore, Fantasy, and Poetry for Children, 1876-1985: Author Index, Illustrator Index, Title Index, Awards Index*** Ref Z 1037 .A2 F53 1986

This two volume set is a comprehensive listing of over 133,000 entries for works of fiction in children's literature.

***Index to Children's Plays in Collections*** Stacks PN 1627 .K7

***Index to Children's Plays in Collections, 1975-1984*** Stacks PN 1627 .T73 1986

These volumes index over 1040 plays utilizing author, title and subject entries along with a cast analysis section.

***Index to Children's Poetry*** Ref PN 1023 .B7

This index along with the two supplements lists children's poetry using subject, title, author and first line entries.

***Index to Fairy Tales, Myths, and Legends*** Ref Z 5983 .F17 E2 1926

Main volume and two supplements

***Index to Fairy Tales, 1949-1972: Including Folklore, Legends & Myths Collections***

Ref Z 59 .F17 I73

**1973-1977** Ref Z 5983. F17 I732 1985

**1978-1986** Ref Z 5983. F17 I732 1989

**1987-1992** Ref Z 5983 .F17 S67 1993

The indexes are title indexes. Beginning with the 1949-1972 volume, titles and subjects are indexed with authors included only when specifically mentioned in the collection.

***Index to Poetry for Children and Young People, 1964-1969: A Title, Subject, Author, and First Line to Poetry in Collections for Children and Young People***

Ref PN 1023 .B72 1972

**1970-1975** Ref PN 1023 .B72 1978

**1976-1981** Ref PN 1023 .B72 1984

**1982-1987** Ref PN 1023 .B72 1989

**1988-1992** Ref PN 1023 .B72 1994

**1993-1997** Ref PN 1023 .B72 1999

These indexes are a continuation of ***Index to Children's Poetry***. Entries are listed by subject, title, author and first line of the title.

***Motif-Index of Folk-Literature: A Classification of Narrative Elements in Folktales, Ballads, Myths, Fables, Mediaeval Romances, Exempla, Fabliaux, Jest-Books, and Local Legends*** Ref GR 67 .T52

This six volume set is an alpha-numeric classification system for the motifs found in traditional narrative literature.

***The Storyteller's Sourcebook: A Subject, Title, and Motif Index to Folklore Collections for Children*** Stacks GR 74.6 .M3 1982

This volume indexes 556 folktale collections and 389 picture books using motifs, tale title, subject, ethnic and geographic indexes.

***Subject Index to Poetry for Children and Young People*** Stacks PN 1023 .S6

Indexes 263 anthologies published through 1975.

## Electronic Databases

### [Biography Resource Center](#)

Provides full-text biographical information on people from throughout history, around the world, and across all disciplines and subject areas.

### [ERIC](#)

The Educational Resource Information Center (ERIC), contains digests along with references for additional information and citations and abstracts from educational and education-related journals.

### [LexisNexis Academic](#)

Provides full-text access and/or indexing and abstracting to information in a wide range of subject areas including reviews about books, movies, music, and plays.

### [Literary Index](#)

A master index to the major literature products published by Thomson Gale. It combines and cross references author names (including pseudonyms and variant names) and titles in one source.

### [Literature Criticism Online](#)

Online compilation of Thomson Gale Literary Criticism series including *Children's Literature Review*.

### [Literature Resource Center](#)

A complete literature reference database. Rich in biographical, bibliographical, and critical content, it is the premier Internet resource for information on literary figures from all time periods writing in such genres as fiction, nonfiction, poetry, drama, history, journalism, and more.

### [MLA International Bibliography](#)

Language and literature bibliography of journal articles, books and dissertations.

Additional databases can be found by searching the [Databases by Subject](#) Web page under *Literature*.

## Selected Children's Literature Resources on the Web

Go to the [Useful Reference Links](#) on the Indiana University Kokomo Library Web page. Look under the *Children's Literature* category.

## Children's Literature Related Periodicals

Below is a partial listing of periodicals available in the library that relate to children's literature. Periodicals can be found in four different formats (current, bound, microform and Web). The *Indiana University Kokomo Periodical Holdings List* must be consulted for complete information. All journal titles are listed in IUCAT. If a journal is available online, IUCAT will provide a live URL hyperlink. All links labeled "Kokomo" are accessible. Other links not labeled "Kokomo" may also be available.

<i>ALAN Review</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Booklist</i>	Z 1035 .A49
<i>Book Links</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Book Report</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books</i>	Z 1037.A1 C4
<i>Children's Literature in Education</i>	Z 1037 .A1 C5
<i>Cricket</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Highlights</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Horn Book Magazine</i>	Z1037 .A1 A15
<i>Journal of Adolescent &amp; Adult Literacy</i>	LB 1050 .J6
<i>Journal of Research in Childhood Education</i>	LB 1028 .J69
<i>Journal of Youth Services in Libraries</i>	Z 718.1 .A1 J69
<i>Knowledge Quest</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Ladybug</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Language Arts</i>	LB 1576 .A1 E6
<i>Library Journal</i>	Z 671 .L7
<i>Library Media Connection</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Lion and the Unicorn</i>	PN 1009 .A1 L54
<i>Mailbox Bookbag</i>	Z 1037 .A1 M35
<i>MultiCultural Review</i>	Z 711.8 .J68
<i>Plays</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Publisher's Weekly</i>	Z 1219 .P9
<i>School Library Journal</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>School Library Media Research</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>School Library Media Quarterly</i>	Electronic Journal
<i>Wilson Library Bulletin</i>	Z 1217 .W75
<i>Young Adult Library Services</i>	Electronic Journal