

Introduction

The library media specialists are key to the development, implementation and coordination of the school's curriculum. The library media specialists are teachers, instructional partners, information specialists, and program administrators. They provide instruction to students and staff, select appropriate materials, and model strategies for locating, assessing and evaluating information within and beyond the library media center.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools' Library Media Instructional Program prepares students in grades K-5 to succeed in an information-based society. Library media specialists provide a sequential, integrated curriculum that emphasizes print and nonprint materials including electronic resources. The library media program reinforces the county's focus on reading through literature exploration and selection of materials for varying interest and ability levels. In a collaborative partnership with teachers and administrators, the library media specialist ensures that students have the opportunity to:

- Develop information seeking strategies
- Access, evaluate and apply information from a variety of sources
- Explore literature and reading
- Become lifelong learners.

The basis of this curriculum is Information Power: Building Partnerships for Learning, prepared by the American Association of School Librarians and the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, and the Maryland State Department of Education's Library Media Learning Outcomes.

The curriculum is designed to teach library media skills at appropriate levels. This document indicates grade levels where initial instruction should occur. In collaboration with the school's staff, the library media specialist will develop an instructional program based on the curriculum and the needs of the student population.

Subject area content provides the means to teach library media skills. The library media specialist works cooperatively with staff in planning units, implementing lessons and assessing student needs. This collaboration provides students with meaningful and authentic learning experiences that promote student achievement.