

Age of Collection: Analysis and Goal Setting

Evaluating a book collection involves subjective, professional decisions to determine the value of an item in terms of curriculum, student and teacher needs, demand, and replacement capability. In general, a book may be considered “current” if it meets the criteria below. Using Destiny’s **Age of Collection** Report for your school, determine what weeding considerations, if any should be made. Analyze the available data and reflect on the collection’s strengths and areas for improvement.

Range	CREW Guidelines	Avg Age	Weeding Consideration (Y/N)	Priority 1, 2, 3	Notes (Goals/objectives?)
000-099 Generalities	Published in the last 5 to 15 years. Circulates frequently. Is the offering representative of new and innovative technology offerings?				
100-199 Philosophy	Published in the last 5 to 15 years. Circulates frequently.				
200-299 Religion	Published in the last 5 to 15 years. Circulates frequently.				
300-399 Social Sciences	Retains balance on controversial subjects. Evaluate demand, accuracy, and currency. Maintain local history.				
400-499 Language	Keep basic. Is it representative of spoken languages at school site?				

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500-599 Pure Science	Reflects the current status of science and technology with in the last 5 years; other areas, 10 years.				

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600-699 Applied Science	Reflects the current status of science and technology with in the last 5 years; other areas, 10 years.				
700-799 Arts and Recreation	Keep a basic collection, especially art history. Keep catalogs up-to-date. Keep well-illustrated items. Avoid dated techniques and/or equipment.				
800-899 Literature	Collection includes a retrospective variety of poetry and other literary genre deemed to have lasting value. Keep a basic collection, especially criticism; discard minor, unassigned writers; check indexes.				
900-999 Geography	Guidebooks older than 5 years are misleading and inaccurate and should be pulled. For other 900's, use 5-15 years. Discard dated <i>viewpoints</i> .				
920, 92 Collective Biographies & Biographies	Retains balance on controversial subjects. Evaluate demand, and accuracy. Maintain local history.				
Audiovisual & Computer Software	Weed worn or out-of-date items; keep software up to 6 years, videocassettes up to 5 years.				

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Fiction and Easy	Keep high demand; evaluate literary merit; classics should be replaced as new, more attractive editions become available				

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Periodicals	Keep for one year. Involve staff in recommendation process for periodical subscriptions. Collaborate on how to recycle, reuse, or place older issues throughout the school & classrooms.	N/A			
Professional Materials & Reference	Keep 8-10 years. * Encyclopedias: new editions every 5 years. * Atlases: based on the 2000 census * Indexes: as annual or cumulations appear, discard old copies.				
Vocational & Careers	Published within the last 2-5 years. Date items as added to collection to assist weeding. Nonsexist; reflects current employment opportunities.	N/A – These are located through out the collection.			
Part B					
Reflections: Use the data gathered above to answer the following questions:					
1. After looking at the data, what conclusions can you draw about your collection?					
2. What are the weeding priorities for the coming school year?					
3. What are the purchasing priorities for the coming school year?					