Libraries Support the National Education Goals

Librarians know that they have always played a key role in the education of Americans and that libraries are essential for a democratic and literate society. The emergence of the National Education Goals has created an opportunity for librarians to remind the educational community at large of their importance. To that end, the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources, has published Libraries for the National Education Goals.

Written by Barbara K. Stripling, Libraries for the National Education Goals synthesizes information derived from the ERIC database, journal literature, and the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Library Programs to show how library programs and services support such aims as preparing children for school, increasing the high school graduation rate, promoting literacy and lifelong education, and improving educational achievement in critical subjects.

The 120-page book is available for $10.00 plus shipping and handling from ACCESS ERIC, 1-800-USE-ERIC.

ERIC Digests Available on Internet

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has made nearly 700 full-text ERIC Digests available through a Wide Area Information Server (WAIS) system. Together, the sixteen ERIC clearinghouses publish about 150 Digests every year. Recent titles include, “Fax for Library Services,” “Preparing Children with Disabilities for School,” and “Ethical Practice in Adult Education.”

WAIS software allows users to access databases and other resources from a variety of sites through a single interface. Users search the chosen WAIS files by keyword, and results are presented in a list ranked for relevance. For users not running their own WAIS software, UNC offers a Simple WAIS (SWAIS) option to anyone on the Internet.

To access the ERIC Digests through Simple WAIS:
1. telnet unc.bbs.oit.edu
2. login as BBS
3. register using your first and last name
4. enter (and remember!) a password of your choice
5. select Simple WAIS from the main menu (choice 4)
6. select the ERIC Digests file from the alphabetical list (choice 90 as of this writing)

Screen instructions and the additional help screens (accessed with ?) will help you conduct a search.

New Products from the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information Resources

Digests and Minibibliographies

Digests are short reports on topics of current interest. Minibibliographies provide citations to articles and documents in the ERIC database. Both products are free with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Write the clearinghouse to order or to request a complete product list. Recent titles include:


Fax for Library Services, by Kathleen L. Spitzer. Digest No. EDO-IR-91-10.


CD-ROM in the Library: Users and Use. (Minibibliography.)

CD-ROM in the Library: Management Issues. (Minibibliography.)

Library Services and Cultural Diversity. (Minibibliography.)

Copyright Issues for Schools and Libraries. (Minibibliography.)

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