



**Southern
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COLLECTION ASSESSMENT USING PRESCRIBED LISTS OF TITLES: A CASE STUDY



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Public library collections are usually built over many years. Library materials are acquired for the library through purchase or donation. When purchasing materials, library staff members often consult a number of sources to find the best material for the library collection. Some of these selection tools provide evaluative information and are selective in nature. Examples of these types of selection tools are book reviews, "best of" lists, and subject lists. Other tools, such as publisher's catalogues, are really just lists of books that are available for purchase, a type of alerting device.

Once established, public library collections must be assessed or evaluated from time to time. Collection assessment is an organized process for systematically analyzing and describing a library's collection. There are many ways to conduct assessments, but the techniques are usually either:

- collection-centered (counting holdings and checking lists to determine the collection's scope and depth) and
- client-centered (conducting user surveys and gathering information on how clients use the collection).

In a full assessment, different kinds of data can be collected including:

- quantitative (including counting numbers of titles, age of the collection, and circulation statistics)
- qualitative (such as percent of standard titles or items, observation by an outside expert).

The type of data used for a collection evaluation depends on the library's purpose and mission. If the library has very limited space and must keep growth to a minimum, data on turnover rates (how often items are circulated), acquisitions, and withdrawals will be necessary. A library that focuses on popular works would want information on circulation and in-house use per capita. Some examples of the types of quantitative and qualitative data you can collect include:

There are several ways to obtain assessment information. One method is "List checking". In this method, the collection is compared to authoritative lists of what is available and appropriate for a particular type of collection. There are hundreds of possible lists to use; some of the most common include *H.W. Wilson's Public Library Catalog*, *Fiction Catalog* and *Children's Catalog*. "Best of", Award-winning and Recommended Lists can also be used as checklists to make sure a particularly good book is not missed. Each year, the American Library Association produces lists of the various award-winning titles such as the Newbery Award, the Caldecott Award, and Notable Books. A number of public libraries, including the New York Public Library and the Toronto Public Library have produced their own "best-of" lists which are worth reviewing.

It is important to carefully interpret the qualitative data that result from checking lists. Consider who assembled the list and for what purpose. List checking can help the library staff understand the size and scope of possible materials, and it can be helpful in assessing what should be added to the collection. Misleading results can occur when published lists are written for a very different audience than the library's community, and when lists don't include works owned by the library that are as good or better for the local community than the materials on the list.

In 2004, the Library Development staff at the Southern Ontario Library Service compiled a list of materials that they would expect would be found in most Ontario public libraries. They collected the titles in three areas – adult fiction, juvenile fiction and picture book collections. The lists were used in a collection development study undertaken for one library. To assist them in placing their results in some context, we checked the lists against the collection in a similar sized library and then compared the results to the first results.

At that point, it was decided that we might be able to use the lists to check the collections in other Ontario public libraries and determine if the “hit rate” results would be the same, or similar in every library that we checked. Twenty library collections were tested in three categories: “Adult Fiction”, “Juvenile fiction” and Picture Books”

This study attempts to examine the efficacy of the “list checking” approach. For example, if a public library has a low percentage of hits on a prescribed list, is it the fault of the list or is it the fault of the collection? The study seeks to examine what variables might make for higher or lower hit rates on a given list.

Methods

Staff from the Southern Ontario Library Service (SOLS) compiled a comprehensive list of titles in three separate categories: Adult fiction, Juvenile fiction and Picture Books. The prescribed list was compiled using the following criteria and resources.

General titles – SOLS Consultants selected titles in a variety of genres, for a variety of ages and levels, with good Canadian representation. The books are not necessarily bestsellers, but have been well-reviewed. In this category, the titles should be reasonable for smaller libraries to purchase/find.

“Best Book” Lists – Resources used to identify titles included the following “best of” lists : *Booklist* Editors' Choice 2002; YALSA Best Books for Young Adults 2003; *School Library Journal's* Best Books 2002; ALA Notable 2002 and New York Public Library - "100 Favorite Children's Books" and "100 Picture Books Everyone should know" and Toronto Public Library's "100 Best Canadian Books for Today's Children and Teens Selected by the Children's Librarians of the Toronto Public Library" (July 2003).

Award-winning titles – Resources used to identify titles included lists of winners of the following awards: Giller; Governor General's Literary Awards; Canada Council's Children's Literature Prizes; Main Booker Prize for Fiction; CLA – Book of the Year for Children; Canadian Library Association Young Adult Canadian Book Award; Ontario Library Association – Silver Birch and Blue Spruce Awards; Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Illustrator's Award; Information Book Award - Sponsored by the Children's Literature Roundtables of Canada; Young Readers Choice Award - An award of the Pacific Northwest Library Association; Caldecott Medal; Newbery Medal; and Mr. Christie Book Awards.

The complete list of titles used in the study is provided as Appendix 3 of this report. The coding to show the original list from which the title was selected is available from SOLS.

The lists were checked against the collections in twenty Ontario public libraries. The lists were distributed to a group of libraries, so that a number of libraries without Web-based catalogues could participate in the study. These lists of hits were returned to SOLS for compilation. SOLS staff also used the Web-based catalogues in other libraries to record the number of hits in the library's collection against the prescribed list of titles. The hits for each of the twenty libraries were recorded in each of the three categories.

The resident population for the twenty libraries in the study ranged between 4,000 and 57,000. The libraries are not named in the study and the figures in the study are aggregated. The hit rate was analyzed against a number of library variables. The effect of the following variables on the hit rate were examined using a statistical analysis of the data:

- Collection size
- Population size
- Operating budget
- Materials expenditure
- Total taxable assessment
- Circulation
- Depreciated value of the collection
- Number of branches
- Local support per capita

In addition, the library staff was surveyed regarding: the selection resources used in collection development, the acquisition processes used and the staff level at the library responsible for selection.

Observations from the Data

a) Hit Rate Results

**Table 1 - Collection Development Project Results ¹
June 2004**

	Adult fiction list	Juvenile fiction list	Picture book list	Total	Pop. ²	Materials exp. ³	# of sites
Total number of titles on the standard list	120	277	193	590			
Held at Library A	97 (80.8%)	234 (84.5%)	148 (76.7%)	479 (81.2%)	28,000*	\$145,517	1
Held at Library B	92 (76.7%)	223 (80.5%)	157 (81.3%)	472 (80.0%)	60,000	\$213,935	2
Held at Library C	91 (75.8%)	180 (65.0%)	159 (82.4%)	430(72.9%)	25,000	\$107,227	4
Held at Library D	82 (68.3%)	199 (71.4%)	144 (74.6%)	425 (72.0%)	40,000	\$113,236	2
Held at Library E	92 (76.7%)	181 (65.3%)	150 (77.7%)	423 (71.7%)	15,000	\$82,837	1
Held at Library F	67 (55.8%)	195 (70.4%)	146 (75.6%)	408 (69.2%)	20,000	\$135,299	1
Held at Library G	88 (73.3%)	185 (66.8%)	131 (67.9%)	404 (68.5%)	20,000	\$58,566	1
Held at Library H	80 (66.7%)	185 (66.8%)	135 (69.9%)	400 (67.8%)	20,000	\$72,997	1
Held at Library I	79 (65.8%)	191 (69.0%)	127 (65.8%)	397(67.3%)	20,000	\$93,881	1
Held at Library J	84 (70.0%)	164 (59.2%)	132 (68.4%)	380 (64.4%)	20,000	\$65,165	6
Held at Library K	87 (72.5%)	150 (54.2%)	131 (67.9%)	368 (62.4%)	40,000	\$169,251	1
Held at Library L	76 (63.3%)	171 (62.0%)	115 (59.0%)	362 (61.4%)	15,000	\$58,198	3
Held at Library M	71 (59.2%)	143 (51.6%)	120 (62.2%)	334 (56.6%)	20,000	\$111,504	4
Held at Library N	70 (58.3%)	138 (49.8%)	100 (51.8%)	308 (52.2%)	30,000	\$115,000	3
Held at Library O	90 (75.0%)	102 (36.8%)	86 (44.6%)	278 (47.1%)	10,000	\$56,214	1
Held at Library P	53 (44.2%)	114 (41.2%)	82 (42.5%)	249 (42.2%)	10,000	\$19,048	2
Held at Library Q	52 (43.3%)	102 (36.8%)	81 (41.9%)	235 (39.8%)	15,000	\$80,449	1
Held at Library R	63 (52.5%)	84 (30.3%)	59 (30.6%)	206 (34.9%)	10,000	\$8,908	1
Held at Library S	65 (54.2%)	75 (27.1%)	50 (25.9%)	190 (32.2%)	15,000	\$41,432	1
Held at Library T	43 (35.8%)	81 (29.2%)	45 (23.3%)	169 (28.6%)	5,000	\$12,654	2
Averages (20 libraries)	63.77%	55.89%	59.5%	58.61%	20,903	88,065	

1. results based on using Internet-based catalogues for the individual libraries
2. For the purposes of this report, the population figures for the individual libraries have been rounded to the nearest 5000.
3. Materials expenditures as reported in 2002 Annual Survey

Table 2 shows the following descriptive statistics pertaining to the list hits against the holdings: mean, median, mode, standard error of the mean, range, highest, lowest, highest quartile and lowest quartile.

Table 2: Descriptive statistics from hits on the holdings

Statistic	Adult fiction Hits	Juvenile Fiction Hits	Picture Book Hits	Total Hits
Mean (in percentages)	63.77%	55.89%	59.5%	58.61%
Median (in actual hits)	79.5	167.5	129.0	374.0
Mode (in actual hits)	92	102 ^a	131	169 ^a
Std. Error of Mean	3.4	10.7	8.1	21.2
Range	54	159	114	310
Highest	97	234	159	479
Lowest	43	75	45	169
High Quartile	89.5	189.5	145.5	419.25
Low Quartile	65.5	105.0	83.0	256.25

a – Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown.

When looking at the descriptive statistics, it is better to begin by looking at each of the categories separately. The reason for this is that the number of titles on each of the three lists varies. The Adult fiction list has 120 titles, the Juvenile fiction list has 277 titles and the Picture Book list has 193 titles.

When one looks at the total hits, one has to realize that the “success rate” might be skewed slightly. For example, if one library has a very strong juvenile fiction list, then the overall percentage might be total number of hits over the three lists would be high, and perhaps not reflective of a weak adult fiction collection. i

At the same time, within the results, there are some variations that are quite significant.

Because the list had different numbers of titles, some comparisons can be best made using percentage. From lowest to highest, the average percentage of hits is Juvenile fiction 55.89%, Picture books 59.5% and Adult fiction 63.77%. Other statistical differences include:

- The range of hits with respect to the libraries Adult fiction collections is from a lowest of 43 (36%) hits to a high of 234 hits (81%) Range difference is 54.
- The range of hits with respect to the libraries Juvenile fiction collections is from lowest of 43 (75%) hits to a high of 97 hits (84%) Range difference is 159.
- The range of hits with respect to the libraries Picture Book collections is from lowest of 45(36%) hits to a high of 159 hits (82%) Range difference is 114.

b) Correlations

When conducting any study, one might expect certain results. With respect to the differential situation of the various libraries one might predict the relative hit rates. For example, it would seem probable that the libraries with the larger collections would generally have a larger rate of hits in the existing collection. With a larger number of titles the probability of making a match would be mathematically higher than a library with fewer titles. Similarly it is reasonable to predict the relative number of matches knowing the size of the materials budget. It would be reasonable to assume that the larger the materials budget, the more likely the particular library could afford current and relevant titles. It would therefore follow that the hit rates would be higher and the congruency of list titles to held titles would be high.

As part of this study, correlations were run with respect to a set of hypothetical expectation listed here:*

- The larger the collection, the higher the hit rate*
- The larger the resident population, the higher the hit rate
- The larger the total operating budget, the higher the hit rate
- The larger the total materials expenditure, the higher the hit rate
- The larger the total taxable assessments, the higher the hit rate
- The larger the depreciated value ** of the collection,*** the higher the hit rate
- The larger the circulation, the higher the hit rate
- The larger the local support per capita, the higher the hit rate

The overall hypothetical expectation was that the larger a library in terms of population, collections, materials budget and local dollar support, the larger the hit rate will be.

Notes:

* A correlation is the degree of relative correspondence between two sets of data. A correlation coefficient is a measure of the closeness of fit. In this case it is the Pearson R that is used. The number representing the coefficient ranges from 0 to 1, or 0 to minus 1 in case of a negative correlation. R=0.4 is a low correlation, R= .488 is a high correlation.

** Hit rate is the number of titles on the standard list that is held in a library collection

*** Depreciated value of a collection is the current dollar value given. It is used for comparison among other library collections. The depreciated value of the collection is based on model of depreciating assets over time. The Materials expenditures are evenly depreciated over a seven year period. After seven years the it is reduced to zero value. The seven year duration is based on twenty two collection evaluation studies where the circulations from the acquisition sharply declined after seven years.

An additional hypothetical expectation separate from the above has to do with single versus multiple branch systems. As a multiple branch system has to duplicate a quantity of titles across the branches there may be by necessity a sacrifice of additional titles. So the hypothetical expectation would read as follows.

- “The lower the number of branches in the library system, the higher the hit rate will be.”

Conversely it could be stated

- “The lower the number of branches in the library system, the higher the hit rate.”

The assumption is that each of the independent variables across the cases will have a strong correlation. For example, the higher support per capita the higher the hit rate. The correlation coefficient indicates the level of congruency of the independent variable to the hit rate. The Pearson Correlation coefficient was used.

For each of the collections and for each of the ten variables above a correlation analysis was undertaken against the number of hits.

Table 3, shown here, compiles all the correlations in the study along with the levels of significance where it applies. Fifteen Independent variables are used.

Table 3 – Correlations from the study

Adult Fiction	Juvenile fiction	Picture Books	Total Hits
Difference from hypothetical expectations	Difference from hypothetical expectations	Difference from hypothetical expectations	Difference from hypothetical expectations
Resident Population R = .508 (.05 sig.)	Resident Population R =.552 (.05 sig.)	Resident Population R = .609 (.01 sig.)	Resident Population R = .593 (.01 sig.)
Total operating budget R = .425	Total operating budget R =.587 (.01 sig.)	Total operating Budget R = .686 (.01 sig.)	Total operating budget R = .634 (.01 sig.)
Taxable Assessment R = .270	Taxable Assessment R = .281	Taxable Assessment R = .274	Taxable Assessment R = .290
Depreciated value R = .283	Depreciated value R =.593 (.01 sig.)	Depreciated value R = .667 (.01 sig.)	Depreciated value R = .632 (.01 sig.)
Local support R = .121	Local support R = .440	Local support R = .582 (.01 sig.)	Local support R = .503 (.05)
Total Materials expenditure R = .452 (.05 sig.)	Total Materials expenditure R = .596 (.01 sig.)	Total Materials expenditure R = .670 (.01 sig.)	Total Materials expenditure R =.635 (.01 sig.)
Total Volumes R = .385	Total Volumes R = .578 (.01 sig.)	Total Volumes R = .666 (.01 sig.)	Total Volumes R =.624 (.01 sig.)
Total Circulation R = .243	Total Circulation R = .608 (.01 sig.)	Total Circulation R = .668 (.01 sig.)	Total Circulation R = .644 (.01)
Multi or single branch R = -.155	Multi or single branch R = .042	Multi or single branch R = .057	Multi or single branch R = .018
Total operating budget/capita R = .157	Total operating budget/capita R =.552 (.05 sig.)	Total operating Budget/capita R = .415	Total operating budget/capita R = .356
Taxable Assessment /capita R = .091	Taxable Assessment/capita R = -.107	Taxable Assessment/capita R = -.173	Taxable Assessment/capita R = -.135
Depreciated value/capita R = .208	Depreciated value/capita R = .417	Depreciated value/capita R = .470 (.05 sig.)	Depreciated value/capita R = -.424
Local support/capita R = .094	Local support/capita R = .188	Local support/capita R = .371	Local support/capita R =.252
Total Materials expenditure/capita R = .209	Total Materials expenditure/capita R = .373	Total Materials expenditure/capita R = .424	Total Materials expenditure capita R = .384
Total Volumes/capita R = -.231	Total Volumes/capita R = -.018	Total Volumes/capita R = .044	Total Volumes/capita R = -.029
Total Circulation/capita R = .189	Total Circulation/capita R = .368	Total Circulation/capita R = .405	Total Circulation/capita R = .371
Multi or single branch R = -.155	Multi or single branch R = .042	Multi or single branch R = .057	Multi or single branch R = .018

The set of correlation coefficients again were run to test the theory that the larger the public library, the higher the hit rate for each of the independent variables. For many of the correlations, the coefficients indicated that there was a correlation between the variable and the number of the cumulated hits in the library systems. (The exception was the Single versus Multi branch variable.) While they were clearly correlations, some of them were at a statistically significant level. There were also a number of very weak correlations.

The Adult Fiction category had the least number of statistically significant correlations, with 2 occurrences. Both of these were at the lower significance level of .05. It also had the highest incidents of very weak correlations.

Both the smaller collection categories had higher incident of significance than the adult fiction. The Juvenile fiction had seven incidents of significance and The Picture books had eight such incidents. In every case within the two smaller collections every incident of significance was at the higher level of significance .01. Clearly the smaller collections in this study are more likely to follow the congruency model.

The two strongest predictors of hit rate congruency are “resident population” and “total materials expenditure.” These are the only independent variables that registered significance in every collection category.

Testing the hypothetical expectations against the hit rate

We want to test the hypothetical expectations against the hit rate. We want to see if the largest libraries get the most hits on the list. We want to look at each of the 8 expectations listed above to see if each of the hypothetical expectations conform to or differ from expected hit rate. In the interest of making the work in this study accessible, we have chosen to use a list of descriptive statement demonstrating percents. This was done in place of employing the often misunderstood correlation coefficients which are usually used.

These are statements describe the degrees of agreement or difference from the individual hypothetical expectations.

The first example that you will see is:

“Of the libraries **below** the median **resident population size** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits”

Since each of these statements revolves around the intersection of two medians, these statements are always reciprocal. We could as easily have stated it as “Of the Libraries above the resident population size in the study, 40% were above the median count of hits. For the sake of manageable reading; the statement is always framed in the same way. It can always be read in the reciprocal. Change the “below” in the existing statement and put in the reciprocal number. We cannot however start with the median count of hits as this is the dependent variable.

The chart below summarizes the variables that change the hypothetical expectations for each statement. The whole set of these statements demonstrate the degree of difference from the hypothetical expectation. The entire set of statements is in Appendix 1.

Table 4 – Variables that change the hypothetical expectations

Adult Fiction	Juvenile fiction	Picture Books	Total Hits
Difference from hypothetical expectations	Difference from hypothetical expectations	Difference from hypothetical expectations	Difference from hypothetical expectations
Resident population	Resident population	Resident population	Resident population
Total operating budget	Total operating budget	Total operating budget	Total operating budget
Total library materials	Total library materials	Total library materials	Total library materials
Taxable assessment	Taxable assessment	Taxable assessment	Taxable assessment
Depreciated value	Depreciated value	Depreciated value	Depreciated value
Local support	Local support	Local support	Local support
Total materials expenditure	Total materials expenditure	Total materials expenditure	Total materials expenditure
Total volumes	Total volumes	Total volumes	Total volumes
Total circulation	Total circulation		
Depreciated collection value per capita			
Little or no difference from hypothetical expectation.	Little or no difference from hypothetical expectation.	Little or no difference from hypothetical expectation	Little or no difference from hypothetical expectation
Multi or single branch	Multi or single branch	Multi or single branch	Multi or single branch
Local support		Local support	Local support per capita
Circulation per capita	Circulation per capita	Circulation per capita	Circulation per capita
Volumes per capita	Volumes per capita	Volumes per capita	Volumes per capita
Materials expenditure per capita	Materials expenditure per capita	Materials expenditure per capita	Materials expenditure per capita

Table 5 is divided into two parts. The section of the table on the **left** shows the relative hits on the total of all three lists, per 1,000 population. The section of the table on the **right**, shows the relative hits on the total of all three lists per 1,000 items held. The resident population in both tables is rank-ordered showing the lowest population at the top and highest population at the bottom.

Table 5: Relative hits per 1000 population and the relative hits per 1000 items held

Resident Population Rank Order Ascending	Total Hits Per 1,000 Population	Total Actual Hits	Resident Population Rank Order Ascending	Total Hits Per 1,000 Volumes	Total Actual Hits
3,750	54.93	206	3,750	21.05	206
4,096	41.26	169	4,096	8.57	169
7,735	32.19	249	7,735	13.04	249
12,994	30.78	400	12,994	8.66	400
13,087	21.24	278	13,087	6.45	278
13,721	13.85	190	13,721	4.94	190
15,086	28.04	423	15,086	7.34	423
15,420	23.48	362	15,420	5.54	362
15,697	30.52	479	15,697	10.62	479
15,993	14.69	235	15,993	3.84	235
17,948	18.61	334	17,948	4.95	334
19,970	20.23	404	19,970	5.11	404
20,513	19.35	397	20,513	7.16	397
21,431	19.04	408	21,431	4.37	408
22,752	16.70	380	22,752	4.13	380
26,714	16.10	430	26,714	3.95	430
27,291	11.29	308	27,291	3.23	308
39,950	10.64	425	39,950	3.25	425
42,855	8.59	368	42,855	3.08	368
57,555	8.20	472	57,555	2.67	472

The above charts relate to scale and capacity. The two tables above give some perspective on relative capacity within the individual cases. The actual hits on the list from smaller library populations are, on the whole, lower than larger libraries. However comparing the cases in per capita terms, the chart above to the left demonstrates the hits per capita to be generally higher than the larger libraries.

Similarly, the library system, with a higher number of holdings, is able to generate more hits in absolute terms. The hits on the list within individual libraries therefore are generally lower in the systems with smaller holdings. The above **right** table demonstrates that the libraries with smaller holdings generally have a larger total hits per volume than larger libraries. In other words, the ration between the hits and the holdings are generally smaller in the in the holding within the cases and conversely the larger libraries have a wider ratio between holdings and hits.

c) Follow-up survey results

In addition to the list checking that was done for this study, the libraries were also asked a series of questions about their collection building patterns. The questions are printed in this report as Appendix 2. Unfortunately only 8 of the 20 libraries responded to the follow-up survey, so the results cannot be correlated with the hit rates.

However, there are a couple of general observations. The library with the highest overall hit rate uses vendor lists, in this case, the Library Services Centre as well as reviews from *The Globe and Mail*, *Quill & Quire*, *Library Journal* and *Booklist* for 75% of the selections. The library with the third highest overall results uses vendor lists, in this case, Library Services Centre, Library Bound and Jack the Bookman, for 90% of their selection.

One of the libraries near the bottom of the list, in terms of overall hits, is a very small library with a limited budget. That library uses vendor lists for 50% of the selection, professional journals for 25% and previews from distributors for the remaining 25%. In this case, it may not be the tools that have limited the overall hit rate, as much as stretching a small budget to cover the collection development needs of the community.

Trying to stretch the materials budget can have other impacts. In the follow-up study, libraries were also asked about the percentage of the materials budget spent on adult fiction, juvenile fiction and picture books. Of those responding, there was a range of percentages. The library with the highest overall “hit rate” reported that they spent 40% of their materials budget on adult fiction. The library with the third highest overall hit rate, only spent 30% of the materials budget on fiction. Their hit rate for adult fiction materials was 5% lower than the other library.

The eighth highest library for “adult fiction hits” reported that they spent 50% of their materials budget on adult fiction materials, but only 3.4% on junior fiction and 6.6% on picture books. Interestingly, while they remained in 8th place for “hits” on picture books, they moved down to 11th place for hits of juvenile fiction.

The fourth highest library for overall hits reported that they spent 26% of the materials budget on adult fiction and 15% on junior fiction. Perhaps as a result of this pattern of spending, they were only the ninth highest library in terms of adult fiction hits and third highest in terms of junior fiction materials.

Again overall dollars has an impact as one of the libraries with the low hit rates for adult fiction did spend 34% of the budget on adult fiction materials, but that only amounted to \$8000 in total.

Summary

1. Interpretation of results

In this study, each of the three lists had a different number of titles. One other approach is to use the same number of titles on each of the three lists. This would allow you to more easily compare the overall results from one library to another. In the present study, the most reliable results came from within each of the individual categories of titles. That is, the measure of success for an individual library for each category when compared to the mean or median for that individual category. For this reason, collection section hits should not be compared to other collection sections, as smaller sections are prone to wide shifts .

2. What are the predictors of high hit rate

The assumption in the study is that each of the independent variables across the cases will have a strong correlation. The taxable assessment variable is frequently used as a measure of the relative wealth of a community. Our expectation, for example, was that the higher the “local dollar support” is, the higher the number of hits on the titles list will be. In terms of the variables predicting the relative number of hits on the titles list, the level of taxable assessment in a community was not a factor. From this study, the “taxable assessment” variable is one of the poorest predictors of hit rates. Instead, the most powerful predictors of hits on the titles lists were the independent variables: “residential population size”, followed by “materials expenditure.”

In the chart of libraries, the number of sites for each library system was provided. As a multiple branch system has to duplicate a quantity of titles across the branches, there may be, by necessity, a need to sacrifice additional titles, and, therefore, one would expect that fewer hits would appear on the titles list. This study shows however that there is absolutely no correlation between the single branch site and multiple site systems with respect to hits on the titles list. The variable of single site versus multiple sites in a system is a very poor predictor of hit rate.

The actual hits on the list from smaller library populations are, on the whole, lower than larger libraries as expected. However, comparing the cases in per capita terms, the hits per capita are generally higher than the larger libraries.

Library systems, with a higher number of holdings, are usually able to generate more hits in absolute terms. In general terms, the hits on the list within individual libraries are generally lower in the systems with smaller holdings. However, as was demonstrated in this study, this was not always the case, and a number of libraries with smaller holdings had a larger total hits per volume than larger libraries.

Perhaps, the explanation is that where the budgets are limited, there is a higher need to go to specified sources either from or from a jobber list or other resources. Where the budget has more latitude or the number of acquisition items is high, there is a more idiosyncratic approach to collection development.

3. Using the titles list approach for collection assessment

When reviewing the results, it is important to keep in mind that the exercise of checking the collection for the recommended titles is as much value as the number of successful hits. It is an excellent opportunity to explore certain segments of the collection in depth, evaluating the condition, datedness and appropriateness of the material on the shelves as well as identifying gaps to be filled. It also affords the opportunity to learn about titles worth purchasing retrospectively and find out how those titles were missed by the library in the first place.

A valuable exercise for any library would be to take the three lists of titles and compare the lists against the present library holdings. When completed, the hit rate could be compared to results shown in this study. It would be interesting to see whether the library's collection is at or below the median level for the twenty libraries in the original study. The next step would be to check your population and materials budget against the libraries in the study to see whether the hit rate results are similar for another library serving a similar population and with a similar size of materials budget.

Appendix 1 – Statements regarding hit rate on the lists

With respect to the Adult fiction counts:

Some differences from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries **below** the median **resident population size** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **total operating expenditures** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **total materials expenditures** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median total taxable assessments per capita** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median depreciated value of the collection** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries with above the **median circulation per** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries with above the **median volume held** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.

Little or no difference from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries with **more than one branch** in the study, 44% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median total local support per** in the study, 50% were over the median count of hits.

With respect to the juvenile fiction counts:

Some differences from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries **below** the **median total local support per capita** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median resident population size** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **total operating expenditures** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median depreciated value of the collection** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **circulation per** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **Volumes held** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **Materials expenditure** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.

Little or no difference from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries **with more than one branch** in the study, 46% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median total taxable assessments** in the study, 50% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median total taxable assessments per capita** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.

With respect to the Picture Book counts:

Some differences from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries **below** the median **materials expenditures** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **resident population served** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.

- Of the Libraries below the median **Depreciated value of the collection per capita** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **total expenditures**, the median in the study, 70% were above the median count
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **Taxable assessment per capita** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **volumes held per capita** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries below the median **circulation per capita** in the study, 70% were under the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **local support per capita** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the **median total local support** in the study, 60% were over the median count of hits.

Little or no difference from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries with **multiple sites** in the study, 44% were under the median count of hits.

With respect to the total hits in the study

Some differences from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries **below** the median **Resident population served** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **depreciated value of collection Per capita** in the study, 70% were below the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **depreciated value of collection Per capita** in the study, 70% were below the median count of hits
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **depreciated value of the collection Per capita** in the study, 70% were below the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **above** the median **total operating expenditures** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **volumes held per capita** in the study, 60% were above the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **Circulation Per capita** in the study, 60% were below the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **Taxable assessment Per capita** in the study, 60% were above the median count of hits

Little or no difference from hypothetical expectations

- Of the Libraries **below** the median **local support per capita** in the study, 70% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **below** the median **materials expenditures per capita** in the study, 56% were over the median count of hits.
- Of the Libraries **with multi branches** in the study, 55.6% were below the median count of hits.

Appendix 2 – Questions for follow-up study

These questions were sent to each of the participating libraries as a follow-up to the initial “hit rate” work. Of the participating libraries, nine responded to this part of the survey.

1. How is selection done in your library? For example, use Vendor lists (e.g. Library Services Centre), use reviews in professional journals (e.g. *Library Journal*), preview all materials (e.g. from a distributor or at Chapters/Indigo)
Note: If you use a combination of methods, please indicate an approximate percentage for each method used.
2. Does your library subscribe to any professional reviewing journals, e.g. Library Journal? If so, which ones:
- 3 a) Do you use the on-line reviews such as *CM:Canadian Materials* at <http://www.umanitoba.ca/cm/>
- 3b) Do you use the collection development articles provided through SOLS' Library Literature Service?
- 4.a) Who is responsible for selection of children's materials? For example, one person or a committee, children's librarian, adult service librarian
- 4b) Does that person/those people have an Master degree in Library Science, Library Techniques diploma, EXCEL Certificate or no formal library training :
- 5) If you are a multi-branch site, is selection in these three areas (adult fiction, junior fiction and picture books) made at the main branch or at each individual branch?
- 6) For your collection, please complete the following table (all figures can be estimated)
- 7) Do you monitor your interlibrary loan budget to detect and address gaps in the collection? Do you have a policy in which you purchase a title after a certain number of interlibrary loan requests?

Appendix 3 – Collection Development Standard Lists

Juvenile Fiction

Author	Title
Alexander, Lloyd	<i>The Book of Three</i>
Alexander, Lloyd	<i>The Gawgon and the Boy</i>
Alexander, Lloyd	<i>The High King</i>
Almond, David	<i>Heaven Eyes</i>
Alvarez, Julia	<i>Before we were free</i>
Ames, Mildred	<i>Anna to the Indefinite power</i>
Anderson, Laurie Halse	<i>Catalyst</i>
Anderson, M. T.	<i>Feed</i>
Armstrong, Jennifer (ed.)	<i>Shattered: stories of children and war</i>
Auch, Mary Jane	<i>Ashes of roses</i>
Avi	<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i>
Avi	<i>Poppy</i>
Avi	<i>True confessions of Charlotte Doyle</i>
Babbit, Natalie	<i>Tuck Everlasting</i>
Banks, Lynne Reid	<i>Secret of the Indian or Mystery of the cupboard</i>
Bardi, Abby	<i>The book of Fred: a novel</i>
Barker, Clive	<i>Abarat</i>
Bauer, Joan	<i>Squashed</i>
Bechard, Margaret	<i>Hanging on to Max</i>
Bedard, Michael	<i>A darker magic</i>
Bedard, Michael	<i>Redwork</i>
Bell, William	<i>Stones</i>
Bell, William	<i>Zack</i>
Bellairs, John	<i>The House with a clock in its walls</i>
Black, Holly	<i>Tithe: a modern faerie tale</i>
Blackwood, Gary	<i>Year of the hangman</i>
Blume, Judy	<i>Are you there God, Its me, Margaret</i>
Bradford, Karleen	<i>Dragonfire</i>
Bradford, Karleen	<i>There will be wolves</i>
Breslin, Theresa	<i>Remembrance</i>
Brooks, Kevin	<i>Martyn pig</i>
Brooks, Martha	<i>Being with Henry</i>
Brooks, Martha	<i>Bone dance</i>
Brooks, Martha	<i>True confessions of a heartless girl</i>
Bruchac, Joseph	<i>Skeleton Man</i>
Bruchac, Joseph	<i>The winter people</i>
Buffie, Margaret	<i>Who is Frances Rain?</i>
Bunting, Eve	<i>Nasty Stinky Sneakers</i>
Burnford, Sheila	<i>The incredible journey</i>
Byars, Betsy	<i>Summer of the Swans</i>
Chabon, Michael	<i>Summerland</i>
Chambers, Aidan	<i>Postcards from no man's land</i>
Christopher, John	<i>The white mountains</i>
Clark, Joan	<i>The Dream Carvers</i>
Clark, Joan	<i>The hand of Robin Squires</i>
Clarke, Pauline	<i>The Return of the Twelves</i>
Cleary, Beverley	<i>Dear Mr. Henshaw</i>
Clements, Andrew	<i>Things not seen</i>
Cohn, Rachel	<i>Gingerbread</i>
Cooney, Caroline	<i>Driver's Ed</i>
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Boggart</i>
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Dark is Rising</i>
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Grey King</i>

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Creech, Sharon	<i>Ruby Holler</i>
Creech, Sharon	<i>Walk Two Moons</i>
Cresswell, Helen	<i>Ordinary Jack</i>
Crowe, Chris	<i>Mississippi trial, 1955</i>
Cummings, Priscilla.	<i>A Face First</i>
Curtis, Christopher Paul	<i>Bud, not Buddy</i>
Cushman, Karen	<i>The Midwife's Apprentice</i>
Dahl, Roald	<i>The Twits</i>
Danziger, Paula	<i>Forever Amber</i>
Datlow, Ellen (ed.)	<i>Green man: tales from the Mythic Forest</i>
de Lint, Charles	<i>Seven wild sisters</i>
Desai Hidier, Tanuja.	<i>Born confused</i>
Dessen, Sarah	<i>This lullaby</i>
Dickinson, Peter	<i>Eva</i>
Dickinson, Peter	<i>The Ropemaker</i>
Dorris, Michael	<i>Morning Girl</i>
Doyle, Brian	<i>Angel square</i>
Doyle, Brian	<i>Mary Anne Alice</i>
Doyle, Brian	<i>Spud Sweetgrass</i>
Doyle, Brian	<i>Uncle Ronald</i>
Duncan, Lois	<i>Down a dark hall</i>
Ellis, Deborah	<i>Looking for X</i>
Ellis, Deborah	<i>Parvana's journey</i>
Ellis, Sarah	<i>Back of beyond</i>
Ellis, Sarah	<i>Girl's own</i>
Ellis, Sarah	<i>Pick-up sticks</i>
Ellis, Sarah	<i>The baby project</i>
Etchemendy, Nancy	<i>Cat in glass and other tales of the unnatural</i>
Fama, Elizabeth	<i>Overboard</i>
Farmer, Nancy	<i>A girl called disaster</i>
Farmer, Nancy	<i>The ear, the eye and the arm</i>
Farmer, Nancy	<i>The house of the scorpion</i>
Ferris, Jean	<i>Once upon a marigold</i>
Fitzhugh, Louise	<i>Harriet the spy</i>
Fleischman, Paul	<i>Bull Run Family</i>
Fleischman, Paul	<i>Seek.</i>
Fleischman, Paul	<i>Whipping Boy</i>
Frank, E. R.	<i>America</i>
Frank, Hillary	<i>Better than running at night</i>
Freymann-Weyr, Garret	<i>My heartbeat</i>
Friesen, Gayle	<i>Janey's girl</i>
Froese, Deborah	<i>Out of the fire</i>
Funke, Cornelia	<i>The thief lord</i>
Gaiman, Neil	<i>Coraline</i>
Gantos, Jack	<i>Hole in my life</i>
Gantos, Jack	<i>What would Joey do?</i>
Gardiner, John Reynolds	<i>Stone Fox</i>
George, Jean Craighead	<i>Julie of the wolves</i>
Giff, Patricia Reilly	<i>Pictures of Hollis Woods</i>
Giles, Gail	<i>Shattering glass</i>
Goobie, Beth	<i>Before wings</i>
Gregory, Nan	<i>Wild girl & Gran</i>
Grey, Luli	<i>Falcon's egg</i>
Grimes, Nikki	<i>Bronx masquerade</i>
Haas, Jessie	<i>Runaway Radish</i>
Hahn, Mary Downing	<i>The time of the witch or As ever, Gordy</i>
Halam, Ann	<i>Dr. Franklin's island</i>
Hamilton, Virginia	<i>The House of Dies Drear</i>
Hesse, Karen	<i>Letters from Rifka</i>

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Hesse, Karen	<i>Out of the dust</i>
Hesse, Karen	<i>Witness (in poems)</i>
Hewitt, Marsha and Claire Mackay	<i>One proud summer</i>
Hiaasen, Carl	<i>Hoot</i>
Hill, Kirkpatrick	<i>Minuk: ashes in the pathway</i>
Holeman, Linda	<i>Raspberry house blues</i>
Holeman, Linda	<i>Search of the Moon King's daughter</i>
Holubitsky, Katherine	<i>Alone at ninety foot</i>
Horrocks, Anita	<i>What they don't know</i>
Horvath, Polly	<i>Everything on a Waffle</i>
Houston, James	<i>Tikta'liktak</i>
Howe, Deborah and James Howe	<i>Bunnacula</i>
Hughes, Monica	<i>Keeper of the Isis light</i>
Hunter, Bernice Thurman	<i>Booky: a trilogy</i>
Hurwitz, Johanna	<i>Russell and Eliza*</i>
Ibbitson, John	<i>Jeremy's war: 1812 (as 1812: Jeremy and the General)</i>
Ibbotson, Eva	<i>Journey to the River Sea</i>
Jennings, Paul	<i>Unreal</i>
Johnston, Julie	<i>Adam and Eve and Pinch-Me</i>
Johnston, Julie	<i>Hero of lesser causes</i>
Johnston, Julie	<i>In spite of killer bees</i>
Jordan, Sherryl	<i>The hunting of the last dragon</i>
Juster, Norton	<i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i>
Kacer, Kathy	<i>Clara's War</i>
Kacer, Kathy	<i>The secret of Gabi's dresser</i>
Katz, Welwyn	<i>Witchery Hill</i>
Kidd, Sue Monk	<i>The secret life of bees</i>
King-Smith, Dick	<i>Babe, the Gallant Pig</i>
Koertge, Ron	<i>Stoner & Spaz</i>
Konigsburg, E.L.	<i>From the mixed up files of Mrs. Basil Frankweiler</i>
Konigsburg, E.L.	<i>The view from Saturday</i>
Korman, Gordon	<i>I want to go home</i>
Korman, Gordon	<i>Son of the mob</i>
Kovalski, Maryann	<i>Rain, rain</i>
Laurence, Margaret	<i>The olden days coat</i>
Lawrence, Iain	<i>The lightkeeper's daughter</i>
Lawrence, Iain	<i>The wreckers</i>
Leavitt, Martine	<i>The dollmage</i>
LeGuin, Ursula	<i>Catwings or Catwings return</i>
L'Engle, Madelaine	<i>A wrinkle in time</i>
Levine, Karen	<i>Hana's suitcase</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>
Little, Jean	<i>Orphan at my door: the home child diary of Victoria Cope</i>
Little, Jean	<i>Willow and Twig</i>
Lottridge, Celia	<i>Ticket to Curlew</i>
Lowry, Lois	<i>Number the stars</i>
Lowry, Lois	<i>The Giver</i>
Lunn, Janet	<i>Lisa</i>
Lunn, Janet	<i>Root cellar</i>
Lunn, Janet	<i>Shadow in Hawthorn Bay</i>
Lunn, Janet	<i>The hollow tree</i>
MacIntyre, R.P.	<i>Takes: stories for young adults</i>
MacLachlan, Patricia	<i>Sarah, Plain and Tall</i>
Mahy, Margaret	<i>The Haunting</i>
Major, Kevin	<i>Eating between the lines</i>
Major, Kevin	<i>Hold fast</i>
Martel, Suzanne	<i>The king's daughter</i>
Matas, Carol	<i>After the war</i>
Matas, Carol	<i>Daniel's story</i>

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McCaughrean, Geraldine.	<i>The kite rider</i>
McDonald, Megan	<i>Judy Moody Gets Famous!</i>
McGaw, Laurie (illustrator)	<i>Polar the Titanic bear</i>
McGraw, Eloise	<i>The Moorchild</i>
McKay, Hilary	<i>Saffy's angel</i>
McKay, Sharon	<i>Charlie Wilcox</i>
McNaughton, Janet	<i>The saltbox sweater</i>
McNaughton, Janet	<i>The secret under my skin</i>
McNaughton, Janet	<i>To dance at the Palais Royale</i>
McNicholl, Sylvia	<i>Bringing up Beauty</i>
Miller, Mary Beth	<i>Aimee</i>
Moeri, Louise	<i>Save Queen of Sheba</i>
Montgomery, L.M.	<i>Anne of Green Gables</i>
Moore, Christopher	<i>Lamb: the gospel according to Biff, Christ's childhood pal</i>
Morgenstern, Susie	<i>A Book of Coupons</i>
Myers, Walter Dean	<i>Motown and Didi</i>
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<i>The Boys Start the War</i>
Naylor, Phyllis Reynolds	<i>Shiloh</i>
Nicholson, William	<i>Slaves of the Mastery</i>
Norton, Mary	<i>The Borrowers*</i>
Oates, Joyce Carol	<i>Big mouth & ugly girl</i>
O'Brien, Robert C	<i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH</i>
O'Brien, Robert C	<i>Z for Zachariah</i>
O'Dell, Scott	<i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i>
Oppel, Kenneth	<i>Silverwing</i>
Oppel, Kenneth	<i>Sunwing</i>
Park, Linda Sue	<i>A Single Shard</i>
Park, Linda Sue	<i>When my name was Keoko: a novel of Korea in World War II</i>
Paterson, Katherine	<i>The Master Puppeteer</i>
Paterson, Katherine	<i>The same stuff as stars</i>
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Harris and Me: Summer Remembered</i>
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Hatchet</i>
Pearson, Kit	<i>Awake and dreaming</i>
Pearson, Kit	<i>The sky is falling</i>
Peck, Richard	<i>A Year Down Yonder</i>
Pinkwater, Daniel Manus	<i>Lizard music</i>
Placide, Jaira	<i>Fresh girl</i>
Plum-Ucci, Carol	<i>What happened to Lani Garver</i>
Powell, Randy	<i>Three clams and an oyster</i>
Pullman, Philip	<i>The Ruby in the Smoke</i>
Raskin, Ellen	<i>The Westing Game</i>
Reynolds, Susan Lynn	<i>Strandia</i>
Richardson, Bill	<i>After Hamelin</i>
Richler, Mordecai	<i>Jacob Two-Two's First Spy Case</i>
Roberts, Ken	<i>The thumb in the box</i>
Roberts, Willo Davis	<i>The View from the Cherry Tree</i>
Rockwell, Thomas	<i>How to eat fried worms</i>
Rodgers, Mary	<i>Freaky Friday</i>
Rottman, S. L.	<i>Stetson</i>
Rylant, Cynthia	<i>Missing May</i>
Sachar, Louis	<i>Holes</i>
Sachar, Louis	<i>Wayside school gets a little stranger</i>
Santana, Patricia	<i>Motorcycle ride on the sea of tranquility</i>
Savage, Deborah	<i>Kotuku</i>
Schwartz, Virginia Frances	<i>If I just had two wings</i>
Scieszka, Jon	<i>Knights of the Kitchen Table</i>
Scrimger, Richard	<i>Nose from Jupiter</i>
Sebold, Alice.	<i>The lovely bones: a novel</i>
Seidler, Tor	<i>The Wainscott Weasel</i>

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Seldon, George	<i>A Cricket in Times Square</i>
Sheppard, Mary C.	<i>Seven for a secret</i>
Slade, Arthur	<i>Dust</i>
Smith, Kevin and Phil Hester	<i>Green arrow: quiver</i>
Smith, Sherri L	<i>Lucy the giant</i>
Smucker, Barbara	<i>Underground to Canada</i>
Snyder, Zilpha Keatley	<i>The Egypt Game</i>
Sobol, Donald	<i>Encyclopedia Brown: Boy Detective</i>
Speare, Elizabeth	<i>Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>
Spinelli, Jerry	<i>Maniac Magee</i>
Stewart, Sean	<i>Nobody's son</i>
Stinson, Kathy	<i>King of the castle</i>
Taylor, Cora	<i>Julie</i>
Taylor, Cora	<i>Summer of the mad monk</i>
Taylor, Mildred	<i>Roll of thunder, hear my cry</i>
Taylor, Mildred	<i>The Land</i>
Taylor, Sidney	<i>All of a kind family</i>
Tolan, Stephanie	<i>Surviving the Applewhites</i>
Toten, Teresa	<i>The game</i>
Trembath, Don	<i>Tuesday Cafe</i>
Trottier, Maxine	<i>The tiny kite of Eddie Wing</i>
Truss, Jan	<i>Jasmin</i>
Van Pelt, James.	<i>Strangers and beggars: stories</i>
Walters, Eric	<i>Camp X</i>
Walters, Eric	<i>Rebound</i>
Walters, Eric	<i>Stars</i>
Walters, Eric	<i>Trapped in ice</i>
Waugh, Sylvia	<i>Earthborn</i>
White, E. B.	<i>Charlotte's Web</i>
Wieler, Diana	<i>Bad boy</i>
Wieler, Diana	<i>RanVan the defender</i>
Wilder, Laura Ingalls	<i>Little House on the Prairie</i>
Wilson, Budge	<i>The leaving</i>
Wilson, Eric	<i>The Emily carr mystery: a Liz Austen mystery*</i>
Wishinsky, Frieda	<i>Crazy for chocolate</i>
Withrow, Sarah	<i>Bat summer</i>
Withrow, Sarah	<i>Box girl</i>
Woodson, Jacqueline	<i>Hush</i>
Wright, Betty Ren	<i>The Doll House Murders</i>
Wynne-Jones, Tim	<i>Lord of the fries</i>
Wynne-Jones, Tim	<i>Some of the kinder planets</i>
Wynne-Jones, Tim	<i>Stephen Fair</i>
Wynne-Jones, Tim	<i>The boy in the burning house</i>
Wynne-Jones, Tim	<i>The maestro</i>
Yee, Paul	<i>Ghost train</i>
Yee, Paul	<i>Tales from Gold Mountain</i>
Yolen, Jane and Robert J. Harris	<i>Girl in a cage</i>

Picture book titles

Aardema, Verna (retold)	<i>Why mosquitos buzz in people's ears: A West African Tale</i>
Agee, Jon	<i>Milo's Hat Trick</i>
Alexander, Lloyd	<i>The Fortune Tellers</i>
Allard, Harry	<i>Miss Nelson is Missing</i>
Appelt, Kathi	<i>Bubba and beau, best friends</i>
Asch, Frank	<i>Happy birthday Moon</i>
Ashley, Bernard	<i>Little soldier: a novel</i>
Aylesworth, Jim	<i>Old Black Fly</i>
Bailey, Linda	<i>Gordon Loggins and the three bears</i>
Bailey, Linda	<i>The best figure skater in the whole wide world</i>
Banks, Kate	<i>Close your eyes</i>
Barclay, Jane	<i>How cold was it</i>
Barton, Byron	<i>My car or Machines at work*</i>
Bedard, Michael	<i>The clay ladies</i>
Beddows, Eric	<i>The rooster's gift</i>
Bemelmans, Ludwig	<i>Madeline</i>
Bianchi, John	<i>Snowed In at Pokeweed Public School</i>
Bogart, Jo Ellen	<i>Gifts</i>
Bouchard, David	<i>The dragon New Year</i> (illus. by Huang, Zhong-Yang)
Bourgeois, Paulette	<i>Franklin in the dark</i>
Brett, Jan	<i>Town mouse, country mouse or The mitten*</i>
Briggs, Raymond	<i>Ug: boy genius of the Stone Age</i>
Brown, Marcia	<i>Stone soup</i>
Brown, Margaret	<i>Good night moon</i>
Burningham, John	<i>Mr. Gumpy's Outing</i>
Burton, Virginia	<i>Mike Mulligan and his steam stovel</i>
Campbell, Ron.	<i>Dear Zoo</i>
Carle, Eric	<i>Papa, Please get the moon for me</i>
Carle, Eric	<i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i>
Clement, Gary	<i>The great Poochini</i>
Cousins, Lucy	<i>Maisie goes swimming or the Little Dog Laughed and other nursery rhymes</i>
Crews, Donald	<i>Freight Train</i>
Crews, Donald	<i>Inside Freight Train.</i>
Cronin, Doreen	<i>Giggle, giggle, quack</i>
deBrunoff, Jean	<i>The story of Babar, The Little Elephant</i>
Denton, Kady McDonald	<i>Til all the stars gave fallen</i>
Denton, Kady McDonald	<i>A child's treasury of nursery rhymes</i>
dePaola, Tomie	<i>Strega Nona</i>
Dunrea, Olivier	<i>Gossie</i>
Edwards, Wallace	<i>Alphabeasts</i>
Ehlert, Lois	<i>Waiting for Wings</i>
Emberley, Ed	<i>Go Away, Big Green Monster</i>
Fagan, Cary	<i>Gogol's coat</i>
Falconer, Ian	<i>Olivia Saves the Circus.</i>
Fernandes, Eugenie	<i>Sleepy little mouse</i>
Fernandez, Laura and Jacobson, Rick	<i>The magnificent piano recital</i>
Fitzgerald, Joanne	<i>Dr. Kiss says yes</i>
Fox, Mem	<i>Time for bed or Whoever you are</i>
Freeman, Don	<i>Corduroy</i>
Gag, Wanda	<i>Millions of cats</i>
Galdone, Paul	<i>Henny Penny or Little Red Riding Hood or The Monkey and the Crocodile</i>
Gay, Marie Louise	<i>Stella, star of the sea</i>
Gay, Marie-Louise	<i>Stella, queen of the snow</i>
Gay, Marie-Louise	<i>Yuck a love story</i>
Gay, Marie-Louise	<i>Stella, fairy of the forest</i>

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Gillmor, Don	<i>The Fabulous song</i>
Gilman, Phoebe	<i>The wonderful pigs of Jillian Jiggs</i>
Gilmore, Rachna	<i>A screaming kind of day</i>
Godkin, Celia	<i>When the Giant Stirred: Legend of a Volcanic Island</i>
Graham, Bob	<i>Jethro Byrd, fairy child</i>
Gregory, Nan	<i>How Smudge Came</i>
Harrison, Troon	<i>Courage to fly</i>
Hartry, Nancy	<i>Jocelyn and the ballerina</i>
Helmer, Marilyn	<i>Fog cat</i>
Henkes, Kevin	<i>Owen</i>
Henkes, Kevin	<i>Sheila Rae's Peppermint Stick</i>
Hill, Eric	<i>Where's Spot?</i>
Hoban, Russel	<i>Bread and Jam for Frances</i>
Hoban, Tana	<i>Is it red? Is it yellow? Is it blue? An adventure in colour</i>
Hughes, Shirley	<i>Alfie's 123 or Alfie's feet</i>
Hutchins, Pat	<i>Rosie's Walk</i>
Inkpen, Mick	<i>Kipper's A to Z: An Alphabet Adventure.</i>
Isadora, Rachel	<i>Ben's trumpet</i>
Jam, Teddy	<i>Fishing summer</i>
Jam, Teddy	<i>Night cars</i>
Jenkins, Emily	<i>Five Creatures.</i>
Johnson, Crockett	<i>Harold and the purple crayon</i>
Jonas, Ann	<i>Round trip</i>
Kalman, Maira	<i>Fireboat: the heroic adventures of the John J. Harvey</i>
Keats, Ezra Jack	<i>The snowy day</i>
Keats, Ezra Jack	<i>Whistle for Willie</i>
Keens-Douglas, Richardo	<i>The nutmeg princess</i>
Khalsa, Dayal Kaur	<i>Tales of a gambling grandma</i>
Kimber, Murray	<i>Josepha: a prairie boy's story</i>
Kimmel, Eric	<i>The gingerbread man or Iron John</i>
Kovalski, Maryann	<i>Omar on ice</i>
Kraus, Robert	<i>Leo the late bloomer</i>
Krauss, Ruth	<i>The carrot seed</i>
Kurtz, Jane & Christopher Kurtz	<i>Water hole waiting</i>
Kusugak, Michael Arvaarluk	<i>Baseball bats for Christmas</i>
Langstaff, John	<i>Over in the meadow</i>
Lawrence, John	<i>This little chick</i>
Lawson, Julie	<i>Bear on the train</i>
Lawson, Julie	<i>Emma and the silk train</i>
Lawson, Julie	<i>The dragon's pearl</i>
Leedahl, Shelley	<i>The bone talker</i>
Lesynski, Loris	<i>Boy soup</i>
Levert, Mireille	<i>Sleep tight, Mrs. Ming</i>
Levert, Mirielle	<i>An island in the soup</i>
Lightburn, Ron and Sheryl McFarlane	<i>Waiting for the whales</i>
Lillegard, Dee	<i>Tiger, tiger</i>
Lionni, Leo	<i>Little blue and little yellow</i>
Lionni, Leo	<i>Swimmy</i>
Little, Jean	<i>Emma's Yucky Brother</i>
Little, Jean	<i>Emma's magic winter</i>
Little, Jean	<i>Once upon a golden apple</i>
Lobel, Arnold	<i>Fables</i>
Macaulay, David	<i>Angelo</i>
Macaulay, David	<i>Black and white</i>
Manson, Ainslie	<i>Just like new</i>
Martin, Bill Jr.	<i>Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see?</i> (Illustrated by Eric Carle)
Martin, Bill Jr. and John Archambault	<i>Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom</i> (Illustrated by Lois Ehlert)
Mayer, Mercer	<i>There's a nightmare in my closet</i>
McClintock, Barbara	<i>Dahlia</i>

Collection Assessment Using Prescribed Lists of Titles: A Case Study

McCloskey, Robert	<i>Blueberries for Sal</i>
McCloskey, Robert	<i>Make way for ducklings</i>
McKibbon, Hugh	<i>The token gift</i>
McKissack, Patricia C.	<i>Goin' Someplace Special</i> Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
McLellan, Stephanie	<i>The chicken cat</i>
McMullan, Kate	<i>I stink!</i>
Milich, Zoran	<i>The city abc book</i>
Mollel, Tololwa (illus. by Paul Morin)	<i>The orphan boy</i>
Mosel, Arlene	<i>Tikki, Tikki Tembo</i>
Muller, Robin	<i>Badger's new house</i>
Muller, Robin	<i>The magic paintbrush</i>
Munsch, Robert	<i>Paper bag princess</i>
Napier, Matt	<i>Z is for Zamboni: A Hockey Alphabet</i>
Newman, Marjorie	<i>Mole and the baby bird</i>
Nichol, Barbara	<i>Dippers</i>
Noble, Trinka	<i>The Day Jimmy's Boa ate the wash</i>
Numeroff, Laura .	<i>If you give a mouse a cookie</i> (Illustrated by Felicia Bond)
Oxenbury, Helen (illust.)	<i>We're going on a bear hunt</i> (retold by Michael Rosen)
Parish, Peggy	<i>Amelia Bedelia</i> or <i>Thank you, Amelia Bedelia</i>
Potter, Beatrix	<i>The tale of Peter Rabbit</i>
Rathman, Peggy	<i>Good night Gorilla</i>
Rathman, Peggy	<i>Officer Buckle and Gloria</i>
Reid, Barbara	<i>The party</i>
Rey, H. A.	<i>Curious George</i>
Reynolds, Marilyn	<i>The name of the child</i>
Richler, Mordecai	<i>Jacob Two-Two meets the hooded fang</i>
Rohmann, Eric	<i>My Friend Rabbit</i>
Root, Phyllis	<i>Oliver finds his way</i>
Rounds, Glen (illustrator)	<i>I know an old laddie who swallowed a fly</i>
Ruurs, Margriet	<i>Emma's cold day</i>
Rylant, Cynthia	<i>When I was young in the mountains</i>
Say, Allen	<i>Grandfather's journey</i>
Schwartz, Roslyn	<i>The Mole sisters and the rainy day</i>
Sendak, Maurice	<i>Where the wild things are</i>
Seuss, Dr.	<i>Horton Hatches an Egg</i>
Shannon, David	<i>Duck on a bike</i>
Siddals, M	<i>Millions of snowflakes</i>
Simont, Marc	<i>The Stray Dog.</i>
Sis, Peter	<i>Komodo!</i>
Slobodkina, Esphyr	<i>Caps for sale</i>
Smucker, Barbara	<i>Selina and the shoo-fly pie</i>
Spicer, Maggee and Robert Thompson	<i>Fishes in the ocean</i>
Steig, William	<i>Abel's island</i>
Steig, William	<i>Doctor De Soto</i>
Steig, William	<i>Sylvester and the magic pebble</i>
Steptoe, John	<i>Mufaro's beautiful daughters: An African tale</i>
Stevens, Janet and Susan Stevens Crummel	<i>And the Dish Ran Away with the Spoon</i>
Stinson, Kathy	<i>Red is best</i>
Stojic, Manya	<i>Snow</i>
Taback, Simms	<i>Joseph has a little overcoat</i>
Taylor, Joanne	<i>Full moon rising</i>
Thompson, Richard	<i>The follower</i>
Thornhill, Jan	<i>The Rumor: A Jataka Tale from India</i>
Trembath, Don	<i>Frog face and the three boys</i>
Trottier, Maxine	<i>Claire's gift</i>
Ungerer, Tomi	<i>The Three Robbers</i>
Van Allsburg, Chris	<i>Jumanji</i>
Van Allsburg, Chris	<i>The Polar Express</i>

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Waddell, Martin	<i>Farmer Duck</i>
Wallace, Ian	<i>Chin Chiang and the dragon's dance</i>
Wallace, Ian	<i>Duncan's way</i>
Walsh, Ellen S.	<i>Mouse Paint</i>
Wells, Rosemary	<i>Morris' Disappearing Bag</i>
Wiesner, David	<i>The Three Pigs</i>
Wiesner, David	<i>Tuesday</i>
Williams, Vera	<i>A chair for my mother</i>
Wilson, Budge	<i>A fiddle for Angus</i>
Wishinsky, Frieda	<i>Give Maggie a Chance</i>
Wishinsky, Frieda	<i>No frogs for dinner</i>
Wolfe, Frances	<i>Where I live</i>
Wood, Audrey	<i>The Napping House</i>
Wynne-Jones, Tim	<i>Zoom at sea</i>
Yee, Paul	<i>Roses sing on new snow</i>
Yerxa, Leo	<i>Last leaf first snowflake to fall</i>
Zelinsky, Paul	<i>Rumpelstiltskin Retold and illustrated</i>
Zelinsky, Paul	<i>The Wheels on the bus</i>
Zemach, Harve	<i>The Judge: An untrue tale</i>
Zeman, Ludmila	<i>The last quest of Gilgamesh</i>
Zion, Gene	<i>Harry the Dirty Dog</i>

Adult fiction titles

Aquin, Hubert	<i>Next episode</i>
Atwood, Margaret	<i>Alias Grace</i>
Atwood, Margaret	<i>The blind assassin</i>
Barker, Pat	<i>The ghost road</i>
Barnes, Linda	<i>The Big Dog</i> (mysteries)
Barry, Sebastian	<i>Annie Dunne</i>
Batten, Jack	<i>Riveriera Blues</i> or <i>Blood count</i> (Canadian)
Bird, Sarah	any title
Boswell, Robert	<i>Century's son</i>
Bradford-Taylor, Barbara	<i>Her own rules</i>
Bragg, Melvyn	<i>The soldier's return</i>
Brookner, Anita	<i>The next big thing</i> *
Buchanan, Edna	<i>The Ice Maiden</i> (mysteries)
Burnard, Bonnie	<i>A good house</i>
Carey, Peter	<i>True history of the Kelly gang</i>
Chaon, Dan	<i>Among the missing</i>
Chesbro, George C	<i>An incident at blood tide</i> (Mungo mysteries)
Cisneros, Sandra	<i>Caramelo</i>
Clarke, Austin	<i>The polished hoe</i>
Coetsee, J.M.	<i>Disgrace</i>
Cohen, Matt	<i>Elizabeth and after</i>
Cornwell, Bernard	<i>Harlequin</i>
Cornwell, Bernard	Sharpe series
Cornwell, Bernard	<i>The winter king</i>
Crusie, Jennifer	<i>Crazy for you</i> *
deLint, Charles	<i>Onion girl</i>
Dobyns, Stephen	<i>Church of the dead girls</i>
Dunn, Mark	<i>Ella Minnow Pea</i>
Dunnett, Dorothy	Lymond series
Dunnett, Dorothy	Niccolo series
Eco, Umberto	<i>Baudolino</i>
Erdrich, Louise	<i>The Last report on the Miracles at Little No Horse</i>
Faber, Michel	<i>The crimson petal and the white</i>
Foster, Alan Dean	<i>The approaching storm</i> or <i>Primal shadows</i> (science fiction)

Collection Assessment Using Prescribed Lists of Titles: A Case Study

Franzen, Jonathan	<i>The Corrections</i>
Fraser, George M	<i>Flashman</i> (adventure)
Friedman, Rosemary	<i>The long, hot summer</i>
Gibson, William	<i>Pattern recognition</i> or <i>All tomorrow's parties</i>
Godwin, Parke	<i>Waiting for the galactic bus</i> or <i>The snake oil wars</i>
Gold, Glen David	<i>Carter beats the devil</i> (magic & history)
Gough, Laurence	<i>A cloud of suspects</i> or <i>Funny money</i> (Canadian mystery)
Hayter, Sparkle	<i>What's a girl gotta do</i>
Heyer, Georgette	<i>Simon the coldheart</i> or <i>April Lady</i>
Hiebert, Paul	<i>Sarah Binks</i>
Hijuelos, Oscar	<i>A simple Habana melody</i>
Hollingshead, Greg	<i>The roaring girl: stories</i>
Hornby, Nick	<i>How to be good</i>
Howard, Audrey	<i>The juniper bush</i> or <i>A place called hope</i>
Huff, Tanya	<i>Blood trail</i> or <i>The fire's store</i>
Humphreys, Helen	<i>The lost garden</i>
Jin, Ha	<i>The crazed</i>
Johnston, Wayne	<i>Colony of unrequited dreams</i>
Kadare, Ismail	<i>Spring flowers, spring frost</i>
Kay, Guy Gavriel	<i>The Summer Tree</i> (or any in the Fionavar tapestry)
Kaye, John	<i>The dead circus</i>
Kelman, James	<i>How late it was, how late</i>
Kennedy, William	<i>Roscoe</i>
Kinsella, W.P.	<i>Shoeless Joe</i> (baseball stories)
Lehane, Dennis	<i>Shutter Island</i> (mysteries)
Lin, Ed	<i>Waylaid</i>
Lipman, Elinor	<i>The way men act</i>
Lodge, David	Theraphy: a novel
Marshall, William	<i>Manila Bay</i> (Yellowthread Street mysteries)
Martel, Yann	<i>Life of Pi</i>
McCammon, Robert R.	<i>Boy's life</i>
McDermott, Alice	<i>Child of my heart</i>
McEwan, Ian	<i>Amsterdam</i>
Merullo, Roland	<i>In revere, in those days</i>
Mistry, Rohinton	<i>A fine balance</i>
Mistry, Rohinton	<i>Family matters</i>
Munro, Alice	<i>The love of a good woman: stories</i>
Naipaul, V. S.	<i>Half a life</i>
O'Brien, Edna	<i>In the forest</i>
Ondaatje, Michael	<i>Anil's ghost</i>
O'Neill, Jamie	<i>At swim, two boys</i>
Otsuka, Julie	<i>When the Emperor was divine</i>
Otto, Whitney	<i>How to make an American quilt</i>
Palahniuk, Chuck	<i>Choke</i>
Pears, Iain	<i>The dream of Scipio</i>
Pearson, T. R.	<i>Polar</i>
Pratchett, Terry	<i>Jingo</i> (Discworld series)
Pym, Barbara	<i>Civil to strangers</i> or <i>A glass of blessings</i>
Rankin, Ian	<i>A question of blood</i>
Richards, David Adams	<i>Mercy among the children</i>
Richler, Mordecai	<i>Barney's version: a novel</i>
Roy, Arundhati	<i>The god of small things</i>
Rushdie, Salman	<i>The ground beneath her feet</i>
Russell, Mary Doria	<i>The sparrow</i>
Russo, Richard	<i>Straight man</i>
Sawai, Gloria	<i>A song for Nettie Johnson</i>
Schoemperlen, Diane	<i>Forms of devotion</i>
Selby, Mary	<i>That awkward age</i>
Seth, Vikram	<i>An equal music</i>

Collection Assessment Using Prescribed Lists of Titles: A Case Study

Seth, Vikram	<i>Suitable boy</i>
Shaw, Rebecca	<i>Talk of the village</i>
Shields, Carol	<i>Swann</i>
Shields, Carol	<i>The stone diaries</i>
Shields, Carol	<i>Unless</i>
Smiley, Jane	<i>Good faith</i> or <i>Horse Heaven</i>
Smith, Lee	<i>The last girls</i>
Spragg, Mark	<i>The fruit of stone</i>
Spruill, Steven	<i>Before I wake</i> or <i>My soul to take</i>
Stephenson, Neal	<i>Cryptonomicon</i>
Street, Pamela	<i>Doubtful company</i>
Swift, Graham	<i>Last orders</i>
Tartt, Donna	<i>The little friend</i>
Tepper, Sheri S.	<i>The visitor</i> or <i>The Fresco</i>
Thorne, Nicola	<i>Old money</i>
Trevor, William	<i>The story of Lucy Gault</i>
Trott, Susan	<i>The Holy man</i> or <i>The Housewife and the Assassin</i>
Updike, John	<i>Seek my face</i>
Urquhart, Jane	<i>The underpainter</i>
Vanderhaeghe, Guy	<i>The Englishman's boy</i>
Vassanji, M.G.	<i>The book of secrets</i>
Warner, Marina	<i>The Leto bundle</i>
White, Gillian	<i>Grandfather's footsteps</i>
Whitnell, Barbara	<i>The view from the summer house</i>
Wiebe, Rudy	<i>A discovery of strangers</i>
Wilhelm, Kate	<i>Skeletons</i> or <i>Desperate measures</i>
Wright, Richard B.	<i>Clara Callan</i>