Science Media for the Elementary School Library

ROBERT E. MULLER

An optimum collection of nonprint media for the elementary school library should cover the subject matter in the science curriculum in sufficient depth to enrich and complement the book collection. It should help the teacher teach and the learner learn; and it should be economically feasible.

A "basic list," i.e., an essential or fundamental one, is an improbable assumption; instead, an "optimum collection," i.e., one capable of producing the best results, is presented—a list from which the individual selector can evaluate and choose those specifics which meet his particular need. (Isn't this what librarians inevitably do with other librarian's lists anyway?) Space limitations preclude the inclusion of detailed descriptions, annotations and commentary; the user can find these details in the producer's catalogs, a collection of which is essential to nonprint selection.

The subject groupings correspond to common elementary science curricular areas, and naturally there is some overlapping. In general, sets of materials rather than individual items are listed (1) to save space and thus include more items, and (2) because audiovisual materials are generally purchased this way (although often cataloged, housed and circulated as individual items).

The list includes 587 sound (FSS) and captioned (FS) filmstrips, 73 sets of study prints (13 by 18 inch color lithographs), 20 sets of 2 by 2 inch slides, 9 sets of overhead transparencies, and 2 phonodiscs. The total cost at current catalog prices would be $6,247.20 with phonodiscs; filmstrips with cassettes are generally higher in price.

A search of media bibliographies and reviews reveals a singular lack of new and up-to-date materials in several science areas. Biographies of scientists and inventors, prehistoric life, reptiles and amphibians, fish and sea life, astronomy and atomic energy all need new, contemporary treatments in more depth than is presently available.

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As always, local evaluation is essential to wise selection. A title may be good in every respect, but not particularly needed, while another title with perhaps many imperfections may be sorely needed. Selectors should also refer to Resources for Learning; A Core Media Collection for Elementary School¹ and to the eighth edition of The Elementary School Library Collection.²

References


A Collection of Nonprint Media for the Elementary School Library

Life Sciences

Nature Study
Basic Nature Study. SVE,* 1963. 10 FS $52.50
Concepts in Ecology. Centron, 1972. 4 FSS $52.50
Desert Life. Scott, 1972. 4 FS $26
Ecological Communities. Coronet, 1972. 6 FSS $55
Living Things in the City. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1968. 9 FS $54
Plant and Animal Relationships. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1965. 6 FS $36
Salt Water Communities. EMC, 1971. 3 FSS $61.50
Wild Young Desert. Lyceum, 1970. 2 FSS $30
Animal and Plant Communities. McGraw-Hill, n.d. 5 sets of 12 study prints $67.50
Discovering Vertebrates. Coronet, n.d. 5 sets of 8 study prints $58
Nature’s Communities. SVE, 1973. 6 sets of 8 study prints $48

Animals
Animal Life Histories. McGraw-Hill, 1966. 5 FS $34
Animals—Helpful and Harmful. Scott, 1962. 6 FS $34
Animals with Backbones. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1964. 7 FS $42
Animals without Backbones. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1964. 5 FS $30
Classification of Animals. Scott, 1962. 7 FS $47
Habitat Series. BFA, 1971. 5 FS $40
Investigating Vertebrates. Coronet, 1971. 5 FSS $55
Vanished and Vanishing Species. AIMS, 1972. 4 FSS $52

* A listing of producers may be found at the end of this list.

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**Science Media**

Animals of Land and Sea. SVE, 1969. 6 sets of 8 study prints $48
Inside Look at Animals. IMED, 1973. 14 study prints $14
Common Mammals Found in Eastern North America. SVE, 1972. 20 2x2 slides $9
Common Mammals Found in Western North America. SVE, 1972. 20 2x2 slides $9
Animal Families. SVE, 1957. 12 transparencies $60

**Birds**

Audubon’s Birds of America. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1953. 6 FS $36
Bird Study. SVE, 1958. 5 FS $28.25
Birds—How they Live and Help Us. SVE, 1954. 4 FS $26.25
Place of Birds in Nature. Imperial, 1971. 2 FSS $22
Common Birds. SVE, 1968. 8 study prints. $8
Familiar Birds—Their Young and Nests. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8
Birds of the East. Outdoor Pictures, n.d. 50 2x2 slides $19.50
Birds of the West. Outdoor Pictures, n.d. 66 2x2 slides $19.50
Songbirds of America. Houghton Mifflin, n.d. 1 10” 33rpm phonodisc $6.95
Songbirds of America. Learning Arts. 1 12” 33rpm phonodisc $5.95

**Insects**

Collecting Insects and Other Small Animals. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1967. 5 FS $50
Helpful Insects. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1969. 5 FS $36
Insect Life Cycles. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1964. 5 FS $30
Insect Societies. Scott, 1966. 3 FS $17
Insects: How they Live and Grow. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1962. 5 FS $30
Investigating Insects. Coronet, 1972. 6 FSS $55
Common Insects. SVE, 1963. 8 study prints $8
Insects Harmful to Man. Encyclopaedia Britannica, n.d. 10 study prints $13.50
Moths and Butterflies. SVE, 1968. 8 study prints $8
Common Insects and Spiders. SVE, 1969. 20 2x2 slides $9
Common Insect Pests. SVE, 1973. 20 2x2 slides $9
Insects and Other Arthropods. SVE, 1970. 20 2x2 slides $9

**Fish and Sea Life**

How to Make a Fresh-Water Aquarium. Troll, 1971. 1 FS $6.50
How to Make a Salt-Water Aquarium. Troll, 1971. 1 FS $6.50
Science of the Sea. BFA, 1971. 8 FSS $84
Underwater Environment. Imperial, 1970. 4 FSS $44
Familiar Fresh-Water Fish. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8
Common Fresh-Water Fishes. SVE, 1973. 20 2x2 slides $9

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Reptiles and Amphibians
American Reptiles in Their Environment. Imperial, 1969. 2 FSS $22
Reptiles and Amphibians. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8
Amphibians and Reptiles. SVE, 1964. 20 2x2 slides $9
Common Reptiles and Amphibians. SVE, 1973. 20 2x2 slides $9
Common Snakes. SVE, 1973. 20 2x2 slides $9

Plants and Flowers
Flowering Plants: Their Structure and Function. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1967 5 FS $30
How Flowers Transfer Pollen. Imperial, 1970. 5 FSS $55
Introduction to Plants. SVE, 1964. 2 FSS $19
Leaf Functions. BFA, 1969. 5 FS $35
Learning About Plants. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1962. 6 FS $36
Plant Responses to Environmental Conditions. BFA, 1969. 5 FS $38
Plants: How They Live and Grow. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1962. 6 FS $36
Role of Fruits and Flowers. SVE, 1964. 2 FSS $19
Seed Plants. Coronet, 1969. 8 FSS $65
Wild Flowers of North America. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1968. 10 FS $60
Spring Wildflowers. SVE, 1963. 8 study prints $8
Fruits and Seeds. SVE, 1970. 20 2x2 slides $9
Plant Adaptation. SVE, 1971. 20 2x2 slides $9
Plant Parts. SVE, 1969. 20 2x2 slides $9
Plants That Do Not Flower. SVE, 1971. 20 2x2 slides $9

Trees
Forests of the Americas. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1967. 4 FS $24
Role of Trees in the Environment. Imperial, 1970. 4 FSS $44
This Unique Bit of Life . . . Trees and Our Environment. Guidance Associates, 1972. 1FSS $18
Trees. Coronet, 1970. 6 FSS $50
Broadleaf Trees. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8

Prehistoric Life
Fossils. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1967. 5 FSS $55
Life Long Ago. SVE, 1958. 6 FS $50
Prehistoric Life. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1953. 6 FS $36
Prehistoric Plants and Animals. AIMS, 1972. 6 FS $45
Learning about Dinosaurs. Encyclopaedia Britannica, n.d. 10 study prints $13.50
Introduction to Fossils. SVE, 1972. 40 2x2 slides $18

Conservation and Ecology
Case of the Bighorn Sheep. Schloat, 1971. 2 FSS $36
Ecological Crisis. SVE, 1971. 6 FSS $69
Ecology: Understanding the Crisis. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1972. 6 FSS $70.20
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Environmental Studies. Centron, 1972. 6 FSS $72.50
Pollution. Coronet, 1972. 6 FSS $55
What is Ecology? Schloat, 1972. 2 FSS $23
Discovering Our Environment. Coronet, 1972. 4 sets of 10 study prints $58

Physical Science

Discovering Rocks and Minerals. Coronet, 1970. 4 FSS $32.50
Earth's Resources. McGraw-Hill, 1972. 6 FS $41
Glaciers and the Ice Age. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1966. 4 FSS $44
Investigations in Science: Earth Science. BFA, 1971. 5 FSS $45
Man's Earth Home. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1970. 8 FS $57.60
Physiographic Changes. SVE, 1962. 6 FS $33.90
Rocks and Minerals. SVE, 1962. 4 FS $22.60
Common Rocks and Rock-Forming Minerals. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8
Earth Science Series. Instructional Aids, 1968. 18 sets of 6 study prints $125.10
Volcanoes. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1972. 10 study prints $13.50
Erosion of the Earth's Crust. SVE, 1971. 20 2x2 slides $9
Landforms on the Earth's Crust. SVE, 1970. 20 2x2 slides $9
Weathering and Erosion. SVE, 1971. 20 2x2 slides $9
Geology. SVE, 1966. 18 transparencies $87

Water and Oceans

Man and the Ocean. Nystrom, 1971. 5 FSS $75
Ocean is Many Things. Imperial, 1969. 6 FS $42
Oceanography. Coronet, 1971. 6 FSS $55
Water and How We Use It. Coronet, 1972. 6 FSS $55
Land Forms of Running Water. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8

Weather and Seasons

Atmosphere. EMC, 1971. 4 FSS $69
Basic Weather. SVE, 1960. 4 FS $22.50
Changing Seasons. SVE, 1971. 4 FSS $36.50
Exploring All the Seasons. Imperial, 1970. 4 FSS $44
Four Seasons in the City. Hudson Photographic Industries, 1969. 4 FSS $57
Meteorology. Eye Gate House, 1969. 4 FSS $37
Seasons, Weather and Climate. Scott, 1952. 5 FS $28
Understanding the Atmospere. Scott, 1961. 6 FS $40
Understanding Weather and Climate. SVE, 1965. 6 FSS $52.50
Day and Night and the Seasons. Encyclopaedia Britannica, n.d. 10 study prints $18.50
Familiar Cloud Forms. SVE, 1964. 8 study prints $8
Weather Instruments. Instructional Aids, 1967. 6 study prints $7

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Climate and Clouds. SVE, 1970. 20 2x2 slides $9
Signs of the Seasons. SVE, 1971. 4 sets of 20 2x2 slides each $9
Meteorology. SVE, 1964. 9 transparencies $34.50

**Astronomy and Space**

Astronomy in the Space Age. Eye Gate House, 1969. 8 FSS $61
Man on the Moon. Doubleday Multimedia, 1972. 5 FSS $93
Man Reaches the Moon. Imperial, 1969. 2 FSS $22
Space. SVE, 1973. 6 FSS $43
Space Science for Elementary Grades. Centron, 1970. 4 FSS $72.50
Story of Space Flight. Coronet, 1972. 4 FSS $55
Traveling in Space. Doubleday Multimedia, 1972. 5 FSS $63
What's Out There? Scott, 1971. 7 FS $47
Understanding Our Earth and Universe. SVE, 1965. 6 FSS $52.50
Exploring Space. SVE, 1968. 4 sets of 8 study prints $32
Astronomy. SVE, 1964. 11 transparencies. $54.50
Universe. Instructo, 1966. 7 transparencies. $35

**Energy and Matter**

Atom and Its Nucleus. Scott, 1955. 7 FS $47
Atoms and Their Energy. Filmstrip House, 1971. 4 FS $32
Introduction to Matter and Energy. SVE, 1967. 5 FSS $45
Investigating Relationships in Matter. Mealey, 1971. 4 FSS $64
Properties of Matter. BFA, 1969. 5 FSS $60
Structure of Matter. Filmstrip House, 1968. 4 FSS $30
Structure of the Atom. Filmstrip House, 4 FSS $30

**Electricity and Magnetism**

Electricity. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1968. 7 FS $42
Electricity at Work. SVE, 1970. 6 FSS $49.50
Investigating Electricity. Coronet, 1973. 6 FSS $45
Magnets. Scott, 1960. 6 FS $34
Understanding Electricity. SVE, 1966. 4 FS $34.50
Magnetism and Electricity. SVE, 1967. 12 transparencies. $48

**Light, Color, Sound, Heat**

Color and its Perception. Coronet, 1971. 3 FSS $25
Heat, Light and Sound. Scott, 1959. 7 FS $40
Hot and Cold. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1969. 6 FS $36
Learning About Sounds. Encyclopaedia Britannica, 1970. 5 FSS $58.50
Light. BFA, 1970. 6 FS $48
Light. SVE, 1967. 6 transparencies $23
Sound. SVE, 1967. 6 transparencies $27

**Mechanics and Machines**

Inventions and Technology that Shaped America. Learning Corp. of America, 1971. 3 sets of 6 FSS each $59
Investigating Simple Machines. Coronet, 1971. 6 FSS $53
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Work of Simple Machines. SVE, 1964. 5 FSS $45
Machines. SVE, 1967. 6 transparencies $27

Science Processes

How to Read Science. Filmstrip House, 1972. 4 FSS $35

Producers

AIMS Instructional Media Services, Box 1010, Hollywood, Cal. 90028
Audio-Visual Enterprises, 611 Laguna Blvd., Pasadena, Cal. 91105
BFA Educational Media, 2211 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica, Cal. 90404
Centron Educational Films, 1621 West 9th St., Lawrence, Kans. 66044
Coronet Films, 65 E. South Water St., Chicago, Ill. 60601
Doubleday Multimedia, Box 11607, Santa Ana, Cal. 92705
EMC Corp, 180 E. 6th St., St. Paul, Minn. 55101
Encyclopaedia Britannica, 425 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60611
Eye Gate House, 1406-01 Archer Ave., Jamaica, N.Y. 11435
Filmstrip House, 432 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10016
Houghton Mifflin Co., 110 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. 02107
Hudson Photographic Industries, Irvington-on-Hudson, N.Y. 10533
Instructional Materials and Equipment Distributors, Box 49695, Los Angeles, Cal. 90049
Imperial Film Co., Box 1007, Lakeland, Fla. 33802
Instructional Aids, Box 191, Mankato, Minn. 56001
Instructo Corp., Paoli, Pa. 19301
Learning Arts, Box 917, Wichita, Kans. 67201
Learning Corp. of America, 711 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022
Lyceum, Box 487, Altadena, Cal. 91001
McGraw-Hill Films, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10020
Joseph Mealey and Associates, Box 233, Timonium, Md. 21093
A.J. Nystrom and Co., 3333 Elston Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60618
Outdoor Pictures, Box 277, Anacortes, Wash. 98221
Warren Schloat Productions, 150 White Plains Rd., Tarrytown, N.Y., 10591
Scott Educational Division, 104 Lower Westfield Rd., Holyoke, Mass. 01040
Society for Visual Education (SVE), 1345 Diversey Parkway, Chicago, Ill. 60614
Troll Associates, 320 Rt. 17, Mahwah, N.J. 07430
Visual Publications, Box 297, Champlain, N.Y. 12919