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# Introduction

## Purpose

**Selecting Children’s Literature, Grades 4-6**, is designed to complement the two main curriculum documents that describe the prescribed curriculum for English language arts,

- Foundation for the Atlantic Canada English Language Arts Curriculum (1996)
- English Language Arts: A Curriculum Guide, Grades 4 - 6 (1998)

**Selecting Children’s Literature, Grades 4-6** provides annotations and a list of suggested books for novel study. There is a comprehensive cross section of fantasy/science fiction, realistic and historical fiction, poetry and informational books, traditional and contemporary literature. Lists of professional literature and Web sites are intended to assist teachers in acquiring additional information about children’s literature as well as approaches to teaching and learning.

**Foundation for the Atlantic Canada English Language Arts Curriculum (1996)** states that “Principals and other school administrators can support learning and teaching English language arts by working with English language arts teachers to ensure that the variety of resources and experiences available meets the needs of all learners” (p. 44). It points out that “Teachers are responsible for ensuring student access to a range of learning resources” (p. 44). **Selecting Children’s Literature, Grades 4-6** provides valuable assistance to classroom teachers, principals, and resource teachers/librarians as they build quality literature collections within individual classrooms and school resource centres. The books that have been annotated and linked can help teachers integrate children’s literature into various content areas of the grades 4-6 curriculum.

