

CASE STUDY FOR CHAPTER 7

Webster Elementary School

Claudia Evans is the new librarian at Webster Elementary School. She is the professional responsible for the school's library and media center. The school serves 900 students in kindergarten through sixth grade. Webster Elementary School, though part of a large city school system, has a separate library budget, supplemented by grants awarded by the school's parent-teacher organization through its fund-raising activities. The library collection totals 30,000 volumes, 500 videos and multimedia kits, and fifteen current magazine subscriptions. The library has had an automated circulation system for three years. The library has limited space, and the collection gets heavy use. Each class visits the library at least once a week. Additional visits are scheduled when classes are assigned research projects. Teachers often borrow 25 to 30 books on the same topic for classroom use. Claudia knows that her predecessor routinely withdrew 400 volumes each year, primarily because of condition. The library has a total budget of \$7,500

for the year. Claudia has help with circulation and shelving from a school aid, who works in the library fifteen hours a week, and an additional ten hours per week of parent volunteer help.

Activity

Identify two or more collection-based and use- or user-based analysis methods that Claudia can employ to know her collection and its users. Develop a plan for applying each method, including an explanation of why each approach is being used, what information will be collected, how the information will be used, who the audience is, and a schedule for the projects. Balance Claudia's immediate need to get an overview of the collection, its use and users, and its success in satisfying its purposes while realizing that she has nine months to expend the annual budget allocation and expects to remain at this school for several years. Explain how the approaches proposed complement each other.