Exercise #1
Meet the Need

In this group exercise you will discuss how collections in a branch library can be tailored to meet the needs of specific user groups.

You are the new manager of the Southwood Branch Library, which has a collection of about 47,000 items including books for all ages, a small reference collection, 15 magazine subscriptions, the local newspaper, books for adults on tape and compact disc, and Internet access.

As a group, answer the following questions for your assigned segment of library users.

1. What kinds of materials could this user group need? What leads you to decide this?

2. How would you evaluate your current collection to see if you are meeting their needs?

3. What kinds of materials would you consider purchasing? If the budget were limited, how would you prioritize your purchases?

4. How would you promote use of these collections?

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